

## English Previous Year Paper

### Comprehension:

Read the given passage and answer the four questions that follow:-

**[Q1-Q4]** Over the past few decades, India has undergone a significant economic transformation, emerging as one of the world's fastest growing major economies. This shift began in the early 1990s with economic liberalisation policies that reduced trade barriers, deregulated industries and encouraged foreign investment. These reforms spurred rapid growth, leading to a substantial reduction in poverty and the rise of a sizable middle class.

The technology sector, particularly information technology (IT) and software services, has been a cornerstone of this growth. Cities like Bengaluru, Hyderabad and Pune have become global IT hubs, hosting numerous multinational corporations and startups. This boom has not only created millions of jobs but also positioned India as a leader in the global digital economy.

Infrastructure development has also played a crucial role. The expansion of road networks, modernisations of ports and development of airports have improved connectivity within the country and with the global market. Initiatives like the Goods and Services Tax (GST) have streamlined the taxation system, fostering a more unified national market.

However, challenges remain. Income inequality persists with a significant portion of the population still lacking access to quality healthcare, education, and sanitation. The agricultural sector, which employs a large segment of the workforce, faces issues such as low productivity and vulnerability to climate change.

Looking ahead, India's focus is on sustainable development, leveraging renewable energy sources and fostering innovation. With a young and dynamic population, the country aims to balance economic growth with social equity, ensuring that the benefits of progress reach all its citizens.

Q1. Choose the correct synonym for "**Fostered**" as used in the passage:-

- (a) Encouraged
- (b) Persisted
- (c) Leveraged
- (d) Expanded

Q2. The primary objective of India's future economic strategy is \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) expanding military industries and modernising them
- (b) reducing dependency on foreign trade
- (c) focusing on sustainable development and innovation
- (d) prioritising urban development over rural areas

Q3. The factor that has improved India's global market connectivity is:

- (a) The modernisation of infrastructure such as roads, ports, and airports.
- (b) The promotion of traditional handicrafts and its promotion.
- (c) The increase in domestic airline travel promotion and ticket prices.
- (d) The expansion of the film industry, its production and direction.

Q4. The most suitable title for the passage can be \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) The Indian Diaspora and their Contribution
- (b) The Development Strategy Adopted in India
- (c) Overproduction in the Indian Agricultural Sector
- (d) Economic Transformation in Modern India

### Comprehension:

**[Q5-Q8]** Read the given passage and answer the four questions that follow:-

It was a typical morning in Malgudi, with the sun casting its golden glow over the rooftops and the river Sarayu glistening in the distance. The streets were alive with their usual bustle, vendors calling out their wares, bullock carts creaking along, and bicycles weaving through narrow lanes. At the heart of this commotion sat Swaminathan, perched on the steps of his school, waiting for his friends.

Swami's morning had begun with a small adventure. His grandmother had asked him to fetch jasmine flowers from the garden, but in his excitement, he had accidentally trampled on a patch of newly planted marigolds. His father had scolded him, as fathers do, but Swami took it in stride, knowing that the day held greater promise.

At school, the lessons dragged on. Swami's mind wandered to the cricket match planned for the evening. Rajan, the team captain had promised to bring a new ball and Swami could hardly contain his excitement. When the bell finally rang, releasing the boys from their classrooms, Swami bolted out with the energy of a colt, heading straight for the cricket field.

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The Sarayu river bank came alive in the evening, with children playing and elders discussing village gossip. Swami felt a deep sense of belongingness here, among his friends and the familiar sights of Malgudi. Life, though simple, was rich in its own peculiar way, and Malgudi held a charm that made every ordinary moment feel extraordinary.

Q5. Select the correct meaning of the idiom "took it in stride" as used in the passage.

- (a) To do something to support an idea or situation.
- (b) To move at a great speed to keep abreast of others.
- (c) To calmly deal with something unpleasant.
- (d) To not be able to contain one's excitement and stride out.

Q6. Identify the reason Swaminathan was excited during school hours.

- (a) He had a secret plan to skip class and go rejoicing with his friends.
- (b) His day had begun with an interesting adventure.
- (c) He was looking forward to the cricket match in the evening.
- (d) He was expecting a visit from his relatives.

Q7. Identify the literary device used in the line-- '*Swami bolted out with the energy of a colt, heading straight for the cricket field*'.

- (a) Personification
- (b) Transferred Epithet
- (c) Metaphor
- (d) Symbolism

Q8. Choose the reason Swami felt a deep sense of belongingness at the Sarayu riverbank.

- (a) He enjoyed spending time in nature and listening to the gossip of adults.
- (b) The presence of his friends and the familiar extraordinary charm of Malgudi was comforting.
- (c) It was just the right place-- charming and quiet, where he could complete his homework.
- (d) He believed the riverbank was a lucky spot for success at cricket matches.

### Comprehension:

**[Q9-Q12] Read the given passage and answer the four questions that follow:-**

Maya sat by the window of her apartment in Boston, watching the snowfall coat the streets in silence. The winter here was nothing like the winters she had known as a child in Kolkata, where the chill in the air was softened by the warmth of family gatherings. She thought of her mother's kitchen, the scent of frying luchi and the distant hum of the morning news on the radio. Here, the mornings were different-- quiet, lonely, and marked by the distant sound of car engines outside.

The phone rang, jolting her from her thoughts. It was her father, calling from India. "When are you coming to visit us?" he asked, his voice tinged with both hope and sadness. Maya hesitated. It had been two years since her last trip home and with each passing year, the distance seemed to grow-- not just geographically but emotionally.

She glanced at the bookshelves in her living room, filled with English novels and photographs of friends from college. Somewhere between these shelves and the memories of her childhood, Maya felt split in two, as if she belonged fully to neither world.

Later that evening, as she prepared dinner, she tried recreating one of her mother's recipes. The spices didn't taste the same, the aroma felt incomplete. But as she sat down to eat, she felt a fleeting connection to home, as if she had carried a piece of it with her despite the miles.

Q9. The contrast between Maya's present surroundings and her memories of Kolkata highlights:

- (a) The inevitability of cultural assimilation in a new and foreign environment.
- (b) The struggle of maintaining one's cultural identity while adapting to a different place.
- (c) The insignificance of nostalgia in shaping one's present in alien and different surroundings.
- (d) The ease with which one can recreate the essence of home in a foreign land.

Q10. Maya's hesitation in responding to her father's question about visiting home suggests:

- (a) Her indifference towards returning to Kolkata as she was alienated and distanced.
- (b) A firm decision never to visit home again without a feeling of regret or connection.
- (c) A lack of emotional connection with her family and not feeling sequestered.
- (d) The deepening emotional and geographical distance between her past and present.

Q11. Find a word in the passage that has the same meaning as "momentary".

- (a) Distant

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- (b) Softened
- (c) Fleeting
- (d) Marked

Q12. Although maya feels divided between two worlds, \_\_\_\_\_ makes her feel that she carries a piece of India within her.

- (a) the cultural nostalgia of traditional Indian food
- (b) sense of alienation from her mother
- (c) her failure to cook a meal like her mother
- (d) the photographs and books on her shelf

Q13. Rearrange the given parts in the correct sequence to form a meaningful sentence:-

- (A) temperatures have led to rising sea levels, causing
- (B) devastating effects on coastal communities
- (C) as greenhouse gas emissions continue to grow, increasing
- (D) making urgent climate action necessary worldwide

Choose the **correct** answer from the options given below:

- (a) (C), (A), (B), (D)
- (b) (A), (C), (B), (D)
- (c) (B), (C), (D), (A)
- (d) (C), (A), (D), (B)

Q14. Choose the correct antonym for the word: **Lugubrious**

- (a) Mournful
- (b) Lucrative
- (c) Luculent
- (d) Joyful

Q15. Rearrange the given parts in the correct sequence to form a meaningful sentence:-

- (A) automation and artificial intelligence tools
- (B) businesses are rapidly adopting digital technologies to
- (C) streamline operations and improve productivity through
- (D) transforming industries across the global economy

Choose the **correct** answer from the options given below:

- (a) (D), (C), (A), (B)
- (b) (C), (B), (D), (A)
- (c) (A), (B), (D), (C)
- (d) (B), (C), (A), (D)

Q16. Choose the correct antonym for the word: **Abstruse**

- (a) Easy
- (b) Obscure
- (c) Cryptic
- (d) Mysterious

Q17. Choose the correct synonym for the word: **Obdurate**

- (a) Flexible
- (b) Gentle
- (c) Stubborn
- (d) Weak

Q18. Fill in the blank with the correct phrasal verb from the options given below:-

The government had to \_\_\_\_\_ new safety measures to control the rising number of road accidents.

- (a) rule out
- (b) rely on
- (c) pull up
- (d) run into

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Q19. Match the Phrasal Verbs given in **List-I** with their meanings in **List-II**

<b>List-I</b>	<b>List-II</b>
<b>(Phrasal Verbs)</b>	<b>(Meanings)</b>
(A) Run through	(I) To escape or flee
(B) Rule out	(II) To meet someone unexpectedly
(C) Run away	(III) To go over quickly or briefly
(D) Run into	(IV) To eliminate a possibility

Choose the **correct** answer from the options given below:

- (a) (A) - (II), (B) - (I), (C) - (IV), (D) - (III)
- (b) (A) - (IV), (B) - (III), (C) - (II), (D) - (I)
- (c) (A) - (III), (B) - (IV), (C) - (I), (D) - (II)
- (d) (A) - (IV), (B) - (I), (C) - (III), (D) - (II)

Q20. Rearrange the given parts in the correct sequence to form a meaningful sentence:-

- (A) inflation, affecting global markets and investment
- (B) leading to financial instability in many countries
- (C) economic uncertainty has increased due to
- (D) patterns, as central banks struggle to control prices

Choose the **correct** answer from the options given below:

- (a) (B), (D), (C), (A)
- (b) (C), (D), (B), (A)
- (c) (A), (C), (D), (B)
- (d) (C), (A), (D), (B)

Q21. Fill in the blank with the correct verb from the options given below:-

Some animals have a remarkable ability to \_\_\_\_\_ to changing environments.

- (a) invert
- (b) accept
- (c) adapt
- (d) avert

Q22. Match the words given in **List-I** with their meanings given in **List-II**:-

<b>List-I</b>	<b>List-II</b>
<b>(Words)</b>	<b>(Meanings)</b>
(A) Aid	(I) A person who assists someone
(B) Aide	(II) To aid the commission of an offence
(C) Aerial	(III) Help or assistance
(D) Abet	(IV) Existing or suspended in the air

Choose the **correct** answer from the options given below:-

- (a) (A) - (III), (B) - (I), (C) - (IV), (D) - (II)
- (b) (A) - (IV), (B) - (III), (C) - (II), (D) - (I)
- (c) (A) - (I), (B) - (II), (C) - (IV), (D) - (III)
- (d) (A) - (III), (B) - (IV), (C) - (I), (D) - (II)

Q23. Fill in the blank with the correct word from the options given below:-

No one questioned the \_\_\_\_\_ of his statement as he was known to be a man of integrity

- (a) voracity
- (b) villainy
- (c) virtuosity
- (d) veracity

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Q24. Fill in the blank with the correct word or phrase from the options given below:-

I asked Megha earlier if she thought it would rain and she said, 'I \_\_\_\_\_.'

- (a) hope
- (b) hope it
- (c) hope not
- (d) don't hope

Q25. Rearrange the given parts in the correct sequence to form a meaningful sentence:-

- (A) ocean conservation efforts are critical for
- (B) and preserving natural habitats for future generations
- (C) overfishing, ensuring sustainability of global fish populations
- (D) biodiversity, protecting marine ecosystems from pollution and

Choose the **correct** answer from the options given below:

- (a) (A), (D), (C), (B)
- (b) (D), (B), (C), (A)
- (c) (B), (A), (D), (C)
- (d) (C), (B), (D), (A)

Q26. Choose the correct antonym for the word: **Malignant**

- (a) Malaise
- (b) Toxic
- (c) Rare
- (d) Benign

Q27. Complete the sentences given in **List-I** with the appropriate words given in **List-II**:-

<b>List-I</b>	<b>List-II</b>
<b>(Sentences)</b>	<b>(Words)</b>
(A) Asha's _____ behaviour made her unpopular in her class.	(I) benevolent
(B) Being _____ Archana donated generously to charities.	(II) diligent
(C) Arti gave a _____ response about her feelings in an interview to the weekly publication.	(III) arrogant
(D) Ashish is a _____ student who studies every day.	(IV) candid

Choose the **correct** answer from the options given below:-

- (a) (A) - (I), (B) - (II), (C) - (IV), (D) - (III)
- (b) (A) - (II), (B) - (I), (C) - (IV), (D) - (III)
- (c) (A) - (III), (B) - (I), (C) - (IV), (D) - (II)
- (d) (A) - (III), (B) - (IV), (C) - (I), (D) - (II)

Q28. Match the words in **List-I** with their meanings in **List-II**:-

<b>List-I</b>	<b>List-II</b>
<b>(Words)</b>	<b>(Meanings)</b>
(A) Art related to ornate, good handwriting	(I) Graphology
(B) Study of the collection of coins, tokens, paper money etc.	(II) Calligraphy
(C) Study of celestial bodies	(III) Numismatics
(D) Study of handwriting	(IV) Astronomy

Choose the **correct** answer from the options given below:-

- (a) (A) - (IV), (B) - (III), (C) - (II), (D) - (I)
- (b) (A) - (II), (B) - (III), (C) - (IV), (D) - (I)
- (c) (A) - (I), (B) - (II), (C) - (IV), (D) - (III)
- (d) (A) - (III), (B) - (IV), (C) - (I), (D) - (II)

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Q29. Fill in the blank with the correct word from the options given below:-

Anshika spoke so \_\_\_\_\_ that the audience was completely captivated.

- (a) eloquently
- (b) reluctantly
- (c) condescendingly
- (d) hastily

Q30. Match the Idioms given in **List I** with their meanings given in **List II**

<b>List I</b>	<b>List II</b>
<b>Idioms</b>	<b>Meanings</b>
(A) Build castles in the air	(I) To assume success too soon
(B) Count your chickens before they are hatched	(II) To be very careful in a sensitive situation
(C) Walk on eggshells	(III) To go against popular opinion
(D) Swim against the tide	(IV) To have unrealistic dreams

- (a) (A) - (III), (B) - (IV), (C) - (II), (D) - (I)
- (b) (A) - (I), (B) - (IV), (C) - (III), (D) - (II)
- (c) (A) - (IV), (B) - (I), (C) - (II), (D) - (III)
- (d) (A) - (II), (B) - (IV), (C) - (I), (D) - (III)

Q31. Choose the correct synonym for the word: **Profligate**

- (a) Thrifty
- (b) Restrained
- (c) Prompt
- (d) Extravagant

Q32. Fill in the blank with the correct form of verb from the options given below:-

These grapes \_\_\_\_\_ sour in comparison to what I had yesterday.

- (a) is tasting
- (b) taste
- (c) tasted
- (d) have tasted

Q33. Complete the sentences given in **List-I** with the appropriate prepositions given in **List-II:-**

<b>List-I</b>	<b>List-II</b>
<b>(Sentences)</b>	<b>(Prepositions)</b>
(A) He received immense appreciation in literary circles for his accurate translation of the new novel _____ French to English.	(I) to
(B) I apologised _____ Nina for the misunderstanding caused because of me.	(II) of
(C) Many of Europe's great cathedrals were made _____ the Medieval period.	(III) from
(D) Antarctica is the realm _____ penguins, killer whales, seals and many shipwrecks.	(IV) during

Choose the **correct** answer from the options given below:-

- (a) (A) - (II), (B) - (III), (C) - (I), (D) - (IV)
- (b) (A) - (III), (B) - (I), (C) - (IV), (D) - (II)
- (c) (A) - (I), (B) - (II), (C) - (IV), (D) - (III)
- (d) (A) - (III), (B) - (IV), (C) - (I), (D) - (II)

Q34. Fill in the blank with the correct word from the options given below:-

From the group leader's tone, I could \_\_\_\_\_ that he was unhappy with the management's decision.

- (a) defer

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- (b) refer
- (c) manifest
- (d) infer

Q35. Fill in the blank with the correct word from the options given below:-  
The CEO remained \_\_\_\_\_ in his attitude, refusing to change his stance despite pressure.

- (a) reticent
- (b) stubborn
- (c) hesitant
- (d) indecisive

Q36. Fill in the blanks in the sentences given in **List-I** with the appropriate phrases given in **List-II**:-

<b>List-I</b>	<b>List-II</b>
<b>(Sentences)</b>	<b>(Phrases)</b>
(A) _____ attacks among fan associations in Karnataka, many of the stars have joined politics.	(I) In addition to
(B) _____ her actual birthday celebration, Queen Elizabeth also had an official birthday celebration.	(II) Among the many
(C) _____ reasons that make Sharbani a favourite student is that she also shows genuine respect to her seniors.	(III) As long as
(D) _____ the company continues to make profit, the management will not resort to layoffs.	(IV) Despite the intensity of

Choose the **correct** answer from the options given below:-

- (a) (A) - (III), (B) - (II), (C) - (I), (D) - (IV)
- (b) (A) - (II), (B) - (III), (C) - (IV), (D) - (I)
- (c) (A) - (IV), (B) - (I), (C) - (II), (D) - (III)
- (d) (A) - (III), (B) - (IV), (C) - (I), (D) - (II)

Q37. Rearrange the given parts in the correct sequence to form a meaningful sentence:-

- (A) influence, requiring increased support from
- (B) people, due to academic pressure and social media
- (C) policymakers, to address the growing mental health crisis
- (D) mental health disorders are rising among young

Choose the **correct** answer from the options given below:

- (a) (A), (C), (D), (B)
- (b) (C), (B), (D), (A)
- (c) (D), (B), (A), (C)
- (d) (B), (D), (A), (C)

Q38. Rearrange the given parts in the correct sequence to form a meaningful sentence:-

- (A) encryption, shaping the future of computing and technology
- (B) pace, promising unprecedented processing power
- (C) quantum computing is advancing at a rapid
- (D) for calculations, enabling breakthroughs in science and data

Choose the **correct** answer from the options given below:

- (a) (C), (D), (A), (B)
- (b) (A), (B), (D), (C)
- (c) (C), (B), (D), (A)
- (d) (D), (A), (B), (C)

Q39. Rearrange the given parts in the correct sequence to form a meaningful sentence:-

- (A) industry, offering digital payment solutions and financial

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(B) and driving the future of financial transactions  
 (C) fintech innovations are reshaping the banking  
 (D) services, improving accessibility for underserved populations  
 Choose the **correct** answer from the options given below:

- (a) (A), (C), (B), (D)
- (b) (C), (A), (D), (B)
- (c) (B), (A), (D), (C)
- (d) (C), (B), (D), (A)

Q40. Rearrange the given parts in the correct sequence to form a meaningful sentence:-

(A) ensuring global preparedness and response strategies  
 (B) global pandemics have highlighted healthcare  
 (C) systems, to prevent future outbreaks and rapid spread  
 (D) vulnerabilities, emphasising the need for stronger health

Choose the **correct** answer from the options given below:

- (a) (A), (C), (D), (B)
- (b) (B), (D), (C), (A)
- (c) (D), (A), (B), (C)
- (d) (C), (B), (D), (A)

Q41. Choose the correct synonym for the word: **Inequitable**

- (a) Eradicable
- (b) Unfairness
- (c) Inevitable
- (d) Unpermissible

Q42. Match the proverbs given in **List-I** with their meanings given in **List-II**

<b>List-I</b> <b>(Proverbs)</b>	<b>List-II</b> <b>(Meanings)</b>
(A) At the drop of a hat	(I) Very rarely
(B) Cost an arm and a leg	(II) Immediately, without hesitation
(C) Let the cat out of the bag	(III) Very expensive
(D) Once in a blue moon	(IV) Reveal a secret

Choose the **correct** answer from the options given below:

- (a) (A) - (IV), (B) - (III), (C) - (I), (D) - (II)
- (b) (A) - (II), (B) - (III), (C) - (IV), (D) - (I)
- (c) (A) - (I), (B) - (II), (C) - (IV), (D) - (III)
- (d) (A) - (III), (B) - (IV), (C) - (I), (D) - (II)

Q43. Complete the sentences given in **List-I** with the appropriate words given in **List-II**:-

<b>List-I</b> <b>(Sentences)</b>	<b>List-II</b> <b>(Words)</b>
(A) The Ashoka team had to _____ the project due to lack of funds.	(I) devoured
(B) Regular exercise can _____ your overall health.	(II) repress
(C) After the long trek, we _____ our meal within minutes.	(III) enhance
(D) The government tried to _____ the protests of the people against its new tax policies.	(IV) abandon

Choose the **correct** answer from the options given below:-

- (a) (A) - (II), (B) - (I), (C) - (IV), (D) - (III)
- (b) (A) - (IV), (B) - (II), (C) - (III), (D) - (I)
- (c) (A) - (I), (B) - (II), (C) - (IV), (D) - (III)
- (d) (A) - (IV), (B) - (III), (C) - (I), (D) - (II)

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Q44. Choose the correct antonym for the word: **Ubiquitous**

- (a) Omnipresent
- (b) Universal
- (c) Common
- (d) Rare

Q45. Fill in the blank with the correct phrase from the options given below:-

Desert flowers can be invisible for years, \_\_\_\_\_ appear suddenly after heavy rain.

- (a) actually, but
- (b) alternatively or
- (c) consequently and
- (d) nevertheless, so

Q46. Fill in the blanks in the sentences given in **List-I** with the words from **List-II**:-

<b>List-I</b>	<b>List-II</b>
<b>(Sentences)</b>	<b>(Words)</b>
(A) The fire spread _____ in the forest.	(I) wisely
(B) Ankush agreed _____ to help with the project.	(II) rapidly
(C) Our parents saved money _____ for future emergencies.	(III) eagerly
(D) The children waited _____ for their favourite show to start.	(IV) reluctantly

Choose the **correct** answer from the options given below:-

- (a) (A) - (I), (B) - (III), (C) - (II), (D) - (IV)
- (b) (A) - (IV), (B) - (II), (C) - (III), (D) - (I)
- (c) (A) - (II), (B) - (IV), (C) - (I), (D) - (III)
- (d) (A) - (III), (B) - (IV), (C) - (I), (D) - (II)

Q47. Choose the correct synonym for the word: **Grouse**

- (a) Grievance
- (b) Plaudits
- (c) Conceit
- (d) Endorsement

Q48. Choose the correct antonym for the word: **Defiance**

- (a) Recalcitrance
- (b) acquiescence
- (c) impudence
- (d) Stubborn

Q49. Fill in the blank with the correct idiom from the options given below:-

Despite all the difficulties, she never gave up because she believed that \_\_\_\_\_ .

- (a) a penny for your thoughts
- (b) hit the nail on the head
- (c) every cloud has a silver lining
- (d) burn the midnight oil

Q50. Choose the correct synonym for the word: **Spurious**

- (a) false
- (b) Joyful
- (c) veritable
- (d) embrace