

READING MANUAL

SESSION (2017-18)

CLASS: XI

This manual belongs to:

Name :

Class :

Roll No. :

PREFACE

The Central Board of Secondary Education professes the importance of reading as an indispensable skill in the development of language proficiency in students. Inculcating good reading habits in students has always been considered a stepping stone for creating individuals who not only decode information but also interpret critically, analyse effectively and evaluate objectively.

In this technology savvy world where reading as an activity is considered time consuming and thus is potentially endangered to fade into insignificance, the Reading Manual serves to facilitate the students' perception of the world by offering a wide variety of write ups. The learning material chosen for the manual went through a rigorous process of scanning, selection and deselection, and compilation taking into account the relevance and contemporariness of the content. The selection aims to provide exposure to a variety of issues ranging from the domains of education, psychology, medicine, resource management and environment, to social, ethical, political and visionary. It takes into account the interest, learnability and feasibility of learners while sensitising them about the immediate environment and developing language skills.

All selected texts have been taken from authentic and reliable sources including leading newspapers, magazines and websites, and have been meticulously edited to suit the needs of the learners.

It is hoped that this manual acts as a catalyst in enabling learners to comprehend, reorganise and synthesise information as part of the larger objective of learning and imbibing language.

WORKSHEET 1

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

1. The New Year is the time for resolution. Mentally, at least most of us could compile formidable lists of 'do's and 'don'ts'. The same old favourites recur year in and year out with the children, do a thousand and one job about the house, be nice to people we don't like, drive carefully, and take the dog for a walk every day. Past experience has taught us that certain accomplishments are beyond attainment. If we remain deep rooted liars, it is only because we have so often experienced the frustration that results from failure.
2. Most of us fail in our efforts at self improvement because our schemes are too ambitious and we never have time to carry them out. We also make the fundamental error of announcing our resolution to everybody so that we look even more foolish when we slip back into our bad old ways. Aware of these pitfalls, this year I attempted to keep my resolution to myself. I limited myself to two modest ambitions, to do physical exercise every morning and to read more in the evening. An overnight party on New Year's Eve provided me with a good excuse for not carrying out either of these new resolutions on the first day of the year, but on the second, I applied myself assiduously to the task.
3. The daily exercise lasted only eleven minutes and I proposed to do them early in the morning before anyone had got up. The self discipline required to drag myself out of bed eleven minutes earlier than usual was considerable. Nevertheless, I managed to creep down into the living room for two days before anyone found me out. After jumping about in the carpet and twisted the human frame into uncomfortable positions. I sat down at the breakfast table in an exhausted condition. It was this that betrayed me.
4. The next morning the whole family trooped into watch the performance. That was really unsettling but I fended off the taunts and jibes of the family good humouredly and soon everybody got used to the idea. However, my enthusiasm waned, the time I spent at exercises gradually diminished. Little by little the eleven minutes fell to zero. By January 10th, I was back to where I had started from. I argued that if I spent less time exhausting myself at exercises in the morning. I would keep my mind fresh for reading when I got home from work. Resisting the hypnotizing effect of television, I sat in my room for a few evenings with my eyes glued to a book.
5. One night, however, feeling cold and lonely, I went downstairs and sat in front of the television pretending to read. That proved to be my undoing, for I soon got back to the old bad habit of dozing off in front of the screen. I still haven't given up my resolution to do more reading. In fact, I have just bought a book entitled 'How to Read a Thousand Words a Minute'. Perhaps it will solve my problem, but I just have not had time to read it.

WORKSHEET 1

A. On the basis of your reading the passage, answer the following questions:

- a. Why, according to the author, most of us fail in our efforts for self-improvement?
- b. Why is it a mistake to announce our resolution to everybody?
- c. Why did the writer not carry out his resolution on New Year's Day?
- d. What effect does television have on the narrator?
- e. Does the narrator find his resolution too ambitious to be fulfilled? Comment.

B. Answer the following questions by writing the most appropriate option in your answer scripts:

- a. Having experienced the frustration that results from failure, we have become
 - i. deep rooted liars
 - ii. shallow believers
 - iii. more perceptive
 - iv. strengthened our imagination
- b. Keeping a resolution seems, to the narrator, a very
 - i. vital commitment
 - ii. interesting exercise
 - iii. tedious task
 - iv. rewarding experience
- c. The narrator's attitude at the end of the passage is
 - i. uninterested and bored
 - ii. bright and optimistic
 - iii. hesitant and irresolute
 - iv. condescending and derogatory
- d. The name of the book which the narrator plans to read suggests
 - i. irony
 - ii. comedy
 - iii. tragedy
 - iv. pun

C. Find words from the passage which are closest in meaning to the following:

- a. Achievements (para 1)
- b. Drawbacks (para 2)
- c. Offered (para 3)
- d. Draining (para 4)

D. Make notes of the above passage using an acceptable format including abbreviations and suitable headings and subheadings.

Write a summary of the above passage in not more than 80 words.

WORKSHEET 2

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

1. The rapid growth of the Indian economy over the past three decades has led to a substantial expansion of India's "middle class". This has triggered a robust debate over who in India actually belongs to the "middle class", its size, composition, and political and social behaviour. This is a debate with serious implications for economic growth and governance since a range of scholarship in diverse settings has shown that the middle class is an important driver of a country's economic, political and social development. But is the middle class anything more than simply a large group whose income makes it neither rich nor poor? Are differences within the middle class, especially in income, education and cultural and social capital, so wide as to render moot any ideological or behavioural coherence to this group?
2. This also happens to be a debate with no easy answers because social class is a conceptually complex measure; there is neither a universally accepted definition of middle class nor widely available data on the income of Indian households, as opposed to their consumption patterns. But even if acceptable measures and hard data could be marshalled, they would still be ill-equipped to nail down a rather elusive concept: whether Indians actually believe and behave as if they are part of the middle class. Self-identification of class status is important because it suggests the possibility that Indians may behave in ways that are actually at odds with material realities.
3. To investigate this, the latest Lok survey asked respondents from across the country whether they considered their family to be a "middle class" family. Nearly half (49 per cent) of all survey respondents believed their family is a middle class family. There was, as one would expect, great variation in responses across states. For instance, while 68 per cent of respondents in Karnataka believed their family belonged to the middle class, just 29 per cent of respondents in Madhya Pradesh felt the same. Self-identification as middle class is expectedly more prevalent among urban respondents (56 per cent) but the share of rural individuals claiming to be middle class is also remarkably high (46 per cent).
4. Historically, the "middle class" construct has been a production of the forces of industrialisation and urbanisation. Middle class belonging also increases with educational attainment: the more educated one is, the more likely they are to claim to be middle class. However, 47 per cent of individuals with less than 10th standard education—those we typically do not associate with middle class status—still claim such an affiliation. Those numbers are surprisingly large and, as with income, urban-rural differences are notable.
5. When asked whether they believed their household's economic conditions are getting better, 62 per cent of self-proclaimed "middle class" respondents answered in the affirmative, compared to 48 per cent for those who feel they are not among the middle class. Three structural changes occurring in India — service-sector led economic growth, rapid expansion of urbanisation and higher education — are undoubtedly resulting in a massive expansion of the middle class, however defined. The political and social

consequences will depend on whether this middle class emerges simply as a social formation or as a self-conscious political force, whether progressive or possibly even reactionary.

WORKSHEET 2

A. On the basis of your reading the passage, answer the following questions:

- a. The writer does not associate the middle class with ideological or behavioural coherence. Comment.
- b. What are the revelations of the Lok Survey, as expounded in the passage?
- c. Why is it difficult to determine the exact nature of 'middle class' and its claimants?
- d. Why is self-identification of class status important?

B. Answer the following questions by writing the most appropriate option in your answer scripts:

- a. Which factor is not seen as a trigger for the growth of middle class by the writer?
 - i. education
 - ii. urbanization
 - iii. gender
 - iv. industrialization
- b. Middle class, in the passage, is looked upon as:
 - i. socially constructive
 - ii. socially destructive
 - iii. inconsistent and vagrant
 - iv. None of the above
- c. The tone of the passage is
 - i. discursive
 - ii. satirical
 - iii. literary
 - iv. argumentative
- d. How does the writer possibly foresee the progress of middle class?
 - i. mere social formation
 - ii. progressive political force
 - iii. reactionary political force
 - iv. all of the above

C. Find words from the passage which are closest in meaning to the following:

- a. consistency (para 1)
- b. predominant (para 3)
- c. association (para 4)
- d. repercussions (para 5)

D. Make notes of the above passage using an acceptable format including abbreviations and suitable headings and subheadings.

Write a summary of the above passage in not more than 80 words.

WORKSHEET 3

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

1. The Ganga is India's most important river. The sprawling basin covers more than 860,000 square kilometres in India alone and is home to around 600 million Indians, close to half the national population. The basin generates approximately 40% of the country's GDP and is a valuable environmental and economic resource for India. The Ganga flows from its glacial sources in the Himalayas and courses through five major states before draining through the Sundarbans- the largest mangrove system in the world-into the swirling waters of the Bay of Bengal. Along its 2,500 km journey, the river enriches huge swathes of agricultural land and sustains 50 major Indian cities and hundreds of smaller towns. Fast-flowing tributaries in its elevated upper reaches have the potential to ease India's power shortages, and in the plains, the river has the potential to become an arterial waterway ferrying goods and people across long distances.
2. But the Ganga-long an icon of India's ancient civilisation and a centerpiece in its prosperity- is flailing. Heavy pollution loads, over-abstraction in the lean season (primarily for irrigation), competing urban water demands and diversions and obstructions on the mainstream and tributaries have wreaked havoc on the health of the river and its ability to nourish millions of people who live and work in the basin. Many of those dependent on the river are amongst India's poorest, with more than 200 million people in the basin living below the poverty line.
3. Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal are not just part of the Ganga basin but also the heartland of India's most pressing socio-economic and developmental challenges. Today, despite its great potential to be an engine of economic growth, the Ganga is a symbol of many of India's modern problems. The basin should be the focus for addressing India's economic and social challenges.
4. India needs to develop solutions in ways that do not compromise river health. This includes improving the manner in which critical economic decisions and activities in the basin are undertaken--from improved irrigation and on-farm practices to careful site selection and environment management for hydropower development, and sustainable inland navigation. The challenge is immense and restoring river health will take an enormous pooling of efforts by a broad range of stakeholders over many years. Actions taken to balance environmental and economic outcomes in the Ganga today can pave the way for India to manage its growth in a sustainable manner.
5. River rejuvenation should depend first on urban renewal, as the cities and major towns generate close to 3 billion litre of sewage and 14,000 metric tonne of solid waste every day, with most reaching the river untreated. Patna, for instance, is a city of the size of Rome with three million people and no fully functioning sewage treatment plant (STP). And yet, new pollution-management infrastructure alone will

not help. Past clean-up efforts have shown that the urban local bodies that hold stewardship of these assets should be strengthened with skills and resources to operate and maintain modern infrastructure.

WORKSHEET 3

A. On the basis of your reading the passage, answer the following questions:

- a. How is river Ganga 'a centerpiece in India's prosperity'?
- b. Mention the factors responsible for the deteriorating condition of the river.
- c. Why does the writer focus on urban renewal of river Ganga?
- d. Explain: 'The Ganga is a symbol of many of India's modern problems.'

B. Answer the following questions by writing the most appropriate option in your answer scripts:

- a. The author stresses on the importance of preserving the river Ganga for reasons which are largely:
 - i. religious
 - ii. environmental
 - iii. economic
 - iv. both II and III.

- b. Which one of the following is not mentioned in the passage as threatening the condition of the river?
 - i. bathing in the river
 - ii. water demands
 - iii. sewage and solid waste
 - iv. digressions in its path

- c. Which issue is central to the writer's discussion of the river?
 - i. its lost glory
 - ii. its economic prospects
 - iii. government's negligence
 - iv. urban population

- d. According to the passage, India's 'poorest of the poor' have been suffering because:
 - i. urban demands have caused imbalance
 - ii. pollution level has made water unconsumable
 - iii. agricultural needs have substantially increased
 - iv. all of the above

C. Find words from the passage which are closest in meaning to the following:

- a. Colossal (para 4)
- b. Principal (para 1)
- c. Impediments (para 2)
- d. Renewal (para 5)

D. Make notes of the above passage using an acceptable format including abbreviations and suitable headings and subheadings.

Write a summary of the above passage in not more than 80 words.

WORKSHEET 4

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

1. Psychology is an academic and applied discipline that involves the scientific study of mental functions and behaviours. Psychology has the immediate goal of understanding individuals and groups by both establishing general principles and researching specific cases, and by many accounts it ultimately aims to benefit society. In this field, a professional practitioner or researcher is called a psychologist and can be classified as a social, behavioural, or cognitive scientist. Psychologists attempt to understand the role of mental functions in individual and social behaviour, while also exploring the physiological and biological processes that underlie cognitive functions and behaviours.
2. Psychologists explore concepts such as perception, cognition, attention, emotion, intelligence, phenomenology, motivation, brain functioning, personality, behaviour, and interpersonal relationships, including psychological resilience, family resilience, and other areas. Psychologists of diverse orientations also consider the unconscious mind. Psychologists employ empirical methods to infer causal and co-relational relationships between psycho-social variables. In addition to employing empirical and deductive methods, some psychologists at times rely upon symbolic interpretation and other inductive techniques. Psychology has been described as a *hub science*, with psychological findings linking to research and perspectives from the social sciences, natural sciences, medicine, and the humanities.
3. Cognitive psychology is the branch of psychology that studies mental processes including problem solving, perception, memory, and learning. As part of the larger field of cognitive science, this branch of psychology is related to other disciplines including neuroscience, philosophy, and linguistics. Noam Chomsky helped to launch a "cognitive revolution" in psychology when he criticized the behaviorists' notions of "stimulus", "response", and "reinforcement". Skinner's behaviorism shared with its predecessors a philosophical inclination toward positivism and determinism. He believed that the contents of the mind were not open to scientific scrutiny and that scientific psychology should emphasize the study of observable behaviour. He focused on behaviour–environment relations and analyzed overt and covert (i.e., private) behaviour as a function of the organism interacting with its environment. Chomsky argued that such ideas—which Skinner had borrowed from animal experiments in the laboratory—could be applied to complex human behaviour, most notably language acquisition, in only a superficial and vague manner. The postulation that humans are born with the instinct or "innate facility" for acquiring language posed a challenge to the behaviorist position that all behavior, including language, is contingent upon learning and reinforcement.
4. While psychological knowledge is often applied to the assessment and treatment of mental health problems, it is also directed towards understanding and solving problems in many different spheres of human activity. The majority of psychologists are involved in some kind of therapeutic role, practising in clinical, counseling, or school settings. Many do scientific research on a wide range of topics related to mental processes and behaviour, and typically work in university psychology departments or teach in other academic settings (for example: medical schools, hospitals). Some are employed in industrial and organizational settings, or in other areas such as human development and ageing, sports, health, and the media, as well as in forensic investigation and other aspects of law.

WORKSHEET 4

A. Answer the following questions on the basis of your reading of the text:

- a. What are the various objectives of psychology as a discipline?
- b. What are the various methods employed by psychologists to conduct their studies?
- c. State the contributions made by B.F. Skinner in the field of psychology.
- d. How did the behaviorists differ from the rest regarding the process of language acquisition?
- e. Discuss the applications of psychological knowledge.

B. Answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option:

- a. Cognitive psychology is related to:
 - i. Brain functioning, personality, behavior
 - ii. Cognition, attention, emotion
 - iii. Neuroscience, philosophy, linguistics
 - iv. Stimulus, response, reinforcement
- b. Psychology has been described as a *hub science*, because social sciences, natural sciences, medicine, and the humanities:
 - i. originate from psychology.
 - ii. are interlinked.
 - iii. form the perspective of psychologists.
 - iv. offer interlinked psychological findings.
- c. Psychologists engage themselves in:
 - i. Forensic investigation
 - ii. industrial settings
 - iii. human development
 - iv. all of the above
- d. Behaviorists modify behavior using:
 - i. reinforcement
 - ii. cognition
 - iii. perception
 - iv. investigation

C. Find words from the passage which mean the same as:

- a. The process of knowing (Para 2)
- b. The ability to recover quickly (Para 2)
- c. Intense study of someone or something (Para 3)
- d. Inborn and natural (Para 3)
- e. Having a positive effect on the body or mind (Para 4)
- f. Judgement or appraisal (Para 4)

D. Make notes of the above passage using an acceptable format including abbreviations and suitable headings and subheadings.

Write a summary of the above passage in not more than 80 words.

WORKSHEET 5

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

1. Every second adult in urban India lives with a chronic illness or health issue, ranging from high blood pressure to diabetes, heart disease, spondylosis and obesity, to name just a few. In most cases, the problems are undiagnosed. Another widely prevalent and often undiagnosed condition is the urge to give unsought advice to everyone and anyone, especially on issues to do with their health or lack of it.
2. Everyone has an opinion on how to manage asthma, how to cure dengue, how to lower blood pressure, how to prevent hair fall and all other troubles real and imagined. These insights are almost never based on scientific research or validated traditional remedies. The advice is usually based on personal experience - "the juice papaya leaves cured my son's dengue" or "carrot juice saved my failing vision" - or something heard somewhere from someone with a forgettable name. Though such advice is always well meant, it's seldom welcomed. What's always welcomed is being listened to- and knowing that we're being heard. Instead, we're inundated with advice. So, it may be a good idea to think before you tell people how to best cope with a condition that's bothering them.
3. Among the things you must never say to the troubled or the ailing are: "I'm so sorry. Are you okay?" I lost my mum to cancer last year and I know for a fact that she hated people feeling sorry for her. She chose not to tell her friends and family about her cancer simply because she did not want people calling her every day or sitting by her bedside advising her to rest and take it easy. "I want things to be as normal as possible for as long as possible. I know I have cancer but I don't want to be reminded of it every day," she said, and potted around her plants till she couldn't anymore. Sympathy does not work for everyone and is often the last thing people need in their fight against a chronic or terminal illness. Most of the time, you don't have to say anything. Just being there is enough. "You're so brave. I'm happy to see you coping so well."
4. Living with illnesses is not about being brave, it's about coping with an unexpected situation the best you can. For all you know, the person may be struggling to cope and your well-meaning platitude may just make them not reach out to you to discuss their concerns and fears. Also, all chronic conditions and diseases don't mean imminent death, so words that sound like condolences are best not said. So, unless you really know exactly how the person feels or is going through, don't assume you know. And don't say what you think you know out loud. "You look well for someone in your condition going through what you are." Saying someone's looking better when they're not is a bad idea. It makes people wonder why there's a need for you to lie to them.
5. A friend who needs to lose weight says he gets mad when people tell him he's looking fitter. "Do they think I'm stupid or can't see myself in the mirror? I know I'm unfit. Their saying I've lost weight makes me feel worse about not losing it."

WORKSHEET 5

A. On the basis of your reading the passage, answer the following questions:

- a. Which disease cannot be possibly diagnosed in the author's view?
- b. Explain the author's reference to the 'seldom welcomed' advice.
- c. Why should "I'm so sorry. Are you okay?" not be said to an ailing person?
- d. What is the best way in which one can deal with a chronic illness?
- e. How does the passage comment on society's tendency to express pity on issues conventionally defined out of the bounds of normalcy?

B. Answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option:

- a. The tone of the author can be best described as
 - i. pessimistic
 - ii. ironic
 - iii. piteous
 - iv. sympathetic
- b. The mother's attitude towards her illness is
 - i. self-piteous
 - ii. indifferent
 - iii. dignified
 - iv. paranoiac
- c. Chronic conditions, according to the passage, lead to
 - i. imminent death
 - ii. pity from friends and family
 - iii. Both i and ii
 - iv. Neither i nor ii

C. Find out the words from the passage which mean the same as the following:

- a. unexamined (Para I)
- b. deep understanding (Para II)
- c. constantly recurring (Para III)
- d. bound to happen(Para IV)

D. Make notes of the above passage using an acceptable format including abbreviations and suitable headings and subheadings.

Write a summary of the above passage in not more than 80 words.

WORKSHEET 6

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

1. At dawn, Mohd Soheb begins an arduous trek to the high camp at Chhota Shigri glacier in the Pir Panjal range in Spiti valley, Himachal Pradesh. From the PWD guesthouse at Chota Dara, he walks down to the Chandra river where he travels across in a small iron crate using an ingenious system of pulleys to the base camp at about 3,850 metres set up by the Jawaharlal Nehru University's (JNU) School of Environmental Sciences.
2. From the camp, the snout of the glacier located at about 4,050 metres, looks deceptively close but actually requires a two hour climb over moraine. Covered by a sheet of dirty ice, it is almost blocked by stones but has a clear stream flowing from it which meets the river downstream at Chota Dara. Soheb will go ahead to 4,800 metres, to the high camp from where he will be carrying out studies. Steam drills are carried all the way up to dig into the snow and ice to place bamboo stakes up to 10 metres deep for measuring melting at intervals after the snout of the glacier. About 100 km from Manali, the glacier is relatively accessible, but for students like Soheb doing his M.Phil in glacier studies, the hardest part is getting there. The five-hour drive from Manali over non-existent roads is bone crushing and then the climbing over moraine filled with giant boulders. What is more challenging is measuring the winter snow accumulation, also called winter balance, just when the snow starts melting in late May, Soheb says. Last year he, along with other researchers, walked 30 km to reach the glacier since the area was snowed under and the roads were not open.
3. Glaciology, therefore, is not for the faint-hearted. JNU solved the issue of trained human resources by launching a programme from 2013 under Department of Science and Technology (DST)- Indo-Swiss capacity building programme for budding glaciologists, training nearly 30 persons for advanced research in Himalayan glaciology. Chhota Shigri is one of the earliest glaciers in the country to be studied since 1986 as part of the Himalayan Glaciology Research Programme by DST. This was discontinued in 1989.
4. Dr. Pottakkal George Jose, scientist at JNU and now part of the DST's renewed project on Chhota Shigri glacier, says the idea of starting mass balance studies, which is the most accurate way of measuring glacier melt, was mooted in 2002. He explains that it is a benchmark glacier and is among the very few in the country that are being studied on a long-term basis with data on mass balance. Mass balance is the difference between the amount of ice gained by a glacier in winter and the amount lost in summer. A glacier which is gaining mass has a positive mass balance: more ice is added in the winter than is lost in the summer. A negative mass balance indicates that the glacier is losing mass. Chhota Shigri glacier met most of the benchmark requirements for the study. A Status Report on the Chhota Shigri glacier in 2011 says that, "Apart from helping us to unravel the past climate, understanding the dynamics of Himalayan glaciers has their applicability in the environmental appraisal and mitigation of hazards like avalanches, lake outbursts, etc. in high altitude regions of the Himalayas."
5. Remote sensing data indicates an increase in the pace of glacier wastage in the western Himalaya, probably related to global warming but long- term monitoring of Chhota Shigri glacier is needed to study the evolution of glaciers and their relation to the climate. In an overview of the glacier status in Himachal Pradesh, Dr S. S. Randhawa, senior scientific officer of the Himachal Pradesh State Centre on Climate Change, says that glaciers are direct indicators of global warming and satellite data analysis of glaciers in Himachal shows retreat in glacier snouts, variation in snow cover extent and formation of moraine dammed lakes. The Himalayan ecosystem has 51 million people who practice hill agriculture and whose vulnerability is expected to increase on account of climate change.

-The Hindu

WORKSHEET 6

A. Answer the following questions on the basis of your reading of the text:

- a. What all challenges did Soheb face in his journey from Manali to ChhotaShigri glacier?
- b. Mention the achievements of Department of Science and Technology (JNU).
- c. What significant details does the 2011 Status Report on the ChhotaShigri glacier reveal?
- d. *Glaciology, therefore, is not for the faint-hearted.* Elucidate.
- e. What is the importance of ChhotaShigri glacier for scientists and glaciologists?

B. Answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option:

- a. MohdSoheb can be best described as
 - i. Courageous and determined
 - ii. Imaginative and fantasising
 - iii. Futuristic and far-sighted
 - iv. Isolationist and exclusivist

- b. The tone of the passage is
 - i. sarcastic
 - ii. inspiring
 - iii. argumentative
 - iv. discursive

- c. Mass balance is the difference between
 - i. the amount of ice gained by a glacier in summer and winter
 - ii. the amount of ice lost by a glacier in summer and winter
 - iii. the amount of ice gained by a glacier in winter and the amount lost in summer
 - iv. the amount of ice lost by a glacier in winter and the amount gained in summer

- d. The most accurate way of measuring glacier melt is
 - i. Glaciology Research Programme
 - ii. Indo-Swiss capacity building programme
 - iii. Mass Balance Studies
 - iv. Advanced research in Himalayan glaciology

C. Find words from the passage which mean the same as:

- a. assessment (Para 4)
- b. misleadingly (Para 2)
- c. cleverly done or contrived (Para 1)
- d. long, projecting nose-like structures (Para 5)
- e. a standard by which something is evaluated (Para 4)
- f. perils (Para 4)

D. Make notes of the above passage using an acceptable format including abbreviations and suitable headings and subheadings.

Write a summary of the above passage in not more than 80 words.

WORKSHEET 7

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

1. Reinforcement is a consequence that strengthens an organism's future behaviour, whenever that behaviour is preceded by a specific antecedent stimulus. This strengthening effect may be measured as a higher frequency of behaviour (for example: pulling a lever more frequently), longer duration (for example: pulling a lever for longer periods of time), greater magnitude (for example: pulling a lever with greater force), or shorter latency (for example: pulling a lever more quickly following the antecedent stimulus).
2. There are four types of reinforcement: positive, negative, punishment, and extinction. Research has found that positive reinforcement is the most powerful of these. Adding a positive to increase a response not only works better, but allows both parties to focus on the positive aspects of the situation. Punishment, when applied immediately following the negative behaviour can be effective, but results in extinction when it is not applied consistently. Punishment can also invoke other negative responses such as anger and resentment. Applying one of the four types of reinforcement every time the behaviour occurs (getting a raise after every successful project or getting spanked after every occurrence of negative behaviour) is called a Continuous Schedule. It is continuous because the application occurs after every project, behaviour, etc. This is the best approach when using punishment. Inconsistencies in the punishment of children often results in confusion and resentment. A problem with this schedule is that we are not always present when a particular behaviour occurs or may not be able to apply the punishment.
3. Superimposed schedule of reinforcement refers to a structure of rewards where two or more simple schedules of reinforcement operate simultaneously. Superimposed schedules of reinforcement are a type of compound schedules that evolved from the initial work on simple schedules of reinforcement by B.F. Skinner and his colleagues (Skinner and Ferster, 1957). They demonstrated that reinforcers could be delivered on schedules, and further that organisms behaved differently under different schedules. Rather than a reinforcer, such as food or water, being delivered every time as a consequence of some behavior, a reinforcer could be delivered after more than one instance of the behavior.
4. In most of the cases, a reinforcing stimulus is a rewarding stimulus which is valued or liked by the individual. Indeed, reinforcement does not even require an individual to consciously perceive an effect elicited by the stimulus. Furthermore, stimuli that are rewarding or liked are not always reinforcing: if an individual eats at a fast food restaurant (response) and likes the taste of the food (stimulus), but believes it is bad for their health, they may not eat it again and thus it was not reinforcing in that condition. Thus, reinforcement occurs only if there is an observable strengthening in behaviour.
5. The study of reinforcement has produced an enormous body of reproducible experimental results. Reinforcement is the central concept and procedure in special education, applied behaviour analysis, and the experimental analysis of behaviour. Much of the work regarding reinforcement began with behavioural psychologists such as Edward Thorndike, J. B. Watson and B.F. Skinner and their use of animal experiments. B.F. Skinner is famous for his work on reinforcement and believed that positive reinforcement is superior to punishment in shaping behaviour. At first glance, punishment can seem like just the opposite of reinforcement, yet Skinner argued that they differ immensely; he claimed that positive reinforcement results in lasting behavioural modification whereas punishment changes behaviour only temporarily (short-term) and has many detrimental side-effects. Skinner defined reinforcement as creating situations that a person likes or removing a situation he does not like, and punishment as removing a situation a person likes or setting up one he does not like. Thus, the distinction was based mainly on the pleasant or aversive nature of the stimulus.

WORKSHEET 7

A. Answer the following questions on the basis of your reading of the text:

- a. What are the parameters to measure strengthening of an organism's behaviour?
- b. Discuss the aspects of punishment as a type of reinforcement.
- c. *Continuous schedule has its advantages and drawbacks.* Comment.
- d. How does punishment differ from reinforcement?
- e. In which all fields may reinforcement be applied?

B. Answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option:

- a. Continuous schedule implies:
 - i. Applying reinforcement before every behaviour
 - ii. Applying reinforcement after observable strengthening in behaviour
 - iii. Applying reinforcement after every behaviour
 - iv. Applying reinforcement before every observable strengthening in behaviour
- b. Which of the statements given below is not true:
 - i. Continuous schedule is the best approach when using punishment.
 - ii. A reinforcing stimulus is a rewarding stimulus.
 - iii. Stimuli that are rewarding are not always reinforcing.
 - iv. Reinforcement is a peripheral concept and procedure in special education.
- c. Which of the statements given below is not true:
 - i. Reinforcement cannot occur if there is an observable strengthening in behaviour.
 - ii. Much of the work regarding reinforcement began with behavioural psychologists.
 - iii. Punishment can seem just the opposite of reinforcement.
 - iv. Positive reinforcement results in lasting behavioural modification
- d. Which of the following is true according to the theory of B.F. Skinner:
 - i. Reinforcement and punishment are based on a subject's liking.
 - ii. Punishment is application of positive reinforcement.
 - iii. Positive reinforcement and punishment have their side- effects.
 - iv. Positive reinforcement should precede punishment while shaping behavior.

C. Find words from the passage which mean the same as:

- a. Earlier, either in time or order (Para 1)
- b. To call upon (Para 2)
- c. To be aware of (Para 3)
- d. Causing damage or harm (Para 4)
- e. Persisting for an extended period of time (Para 4)
- f. Tending to repel (Para 5)

D. Make notes of the above passage using an acceptable format including abbreviations and suitable headings and subheadings.

Write a summary of the above passage in not more than 80 words.

WORKSHEET 8

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

In Memoriam A. H. H.

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,
The flying cloud, the frosty light:
The year is dying in the night;
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.

Ring out the old, ring in the new,
Ring, happy bells, across the snow:
The year is going, let him go;
Ring out the false, ring in the true.

Ring out the grief that saps the mind
For those that here we see no more;
Ring out the feud of rich and poor,
Ring in redress to all mankind.

Ring out a slowly dying cause,
And ancient forms of party strife;
Ring in the nobler modes of life,
With sweeter manners, purer laws.

Ring out the want, the care, the sin,
The faithless coldness of the times;
Ring out, ring out my mournful rhymes
But ring the fuller minstrel in.

Ring out false pride in place and blood,
The civic slander and the spite;
Ring in the love of truth and right,
Ring in the common love of good.

Ring out old shapes of foul disease;
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;
Ring out the thousand wars of old,
Ring in the thousand years of peace.

Ring in the valiant man and free,
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;
Ring out the darkness of the land,
Ring in the Christ that is to be.

-Alfred, Lord Tennyson

WORKSHEET 8

A. Answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option:

- a. The occasion associated with these lines is:
- Thanksgiving
 - Christmas
 - New Year
 - Summer
- b. The poet wants the New year to bring _____
- happiness and joy
 - sweet manners and purer laws
 - truth
 - all of the above
- c. Feud is _____
- an ongoing quarrel with bad feelings on each side
 - a game that creates feelings of comfort
 - a waterway that is similar to a deep river
 - a home with separate living quarters for servants
- d. "Redress" in the poem means _____.
- to get dressed again, to change clothes
 - clothing worn by an older person
 - making up for a wrong or injustice
 - playing holiday music
- e. The word which means the opposite of "modern" is _____.
- happy
 - noble
 - strife
 - ancient

B. Answer the following questions on the basis of your reading of the poem:

- What do the phrases 'ring in' and 'ring out' signify in the poem?
- Explain: 'narrowing lust of gold'.
- Discuss the use of antithesis in the last two lines.
- Which poetic device has been used in stanza I? Discuss.

C. Find words from the poem which mean the same as:

- weakens
- bitter disagreement
- greed
- musician
- brave

WORKSHEET 9

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

1. Much of India's law-making process has been outside the scrutiny of ordinary people. They are not framed by legislators or even senior bureaucrats but are often drafts prepared by *babus*. Sometimes, powerful business interests influence these laws and then they are passed in Parliament with little or no discussion. However, the desire of citizens to participate in the framing of law and policy has intensified over the years, and their voice needs to be included in democratic decision-making.
2. With growing interest in governance, citizens may suggest policy and legislation and such deliberations will only strengthen constitutional processes. Actual consultation on draft legislation and policy require detailed discussion of the principles, framework and formulation of specifics. These consultations will provoke multiple views and it is important for the institutional framework to assimilate and consider them.
3. Any group placing its views in the public domain cannot claim total representation. There will be criticism and those need to be resolved. However, assemblies of people can only support the need for legislation. Surveys and votes by raising hands are important to register support for the general idea but cannot be the basis for detailed drafting of a law and its constituent parts.
4. The principles and framework of any legislation must be debated and the erroneous conclusion that any difference of opinion is tantamount to mala fide intent needs to be questioned. It is in any case only of peripheral importance, as the issues themselves need to be addressed. This applies to laws made both by the formal and informal structures.
5. Many democracies in the world already have started placing policy and draft laws in the public domain before they are sent to the government, cabinet and then Parliament. The deliberative consultative process is for everyone but focuses more on people who are most affected by the legislation. The policy and the sharing of frameworks are followed by a draft of the bill itself. All this is done within a timeframe. The nascent process of participation of citizens in shaping legislation in the last two decades will find systemic space and democratic credibility.
6. Today, *lokpal* has become a phrase, a concept and almost a passion. But that apart, the unpacking of the concept and the understanding of the bill, and its legal and administrative mechanisms are restricted to a few civil society and government groups. It is time for the interested groups to build a constituency of concerned people who will steer democracy in consonance with constitutional rights. What we need is a well-argued critique of the way we want change.
7. People must have the space to mobilise and protest - it is a constitutional right. But different processes need different platforms. The argument against corruption will stand or fall, not on the volume of our protest alone, but on the rigour of our proposals. What we need is a transparent pre-legislative process within the democratic framework. It is important that the pre-legislative process is evolved and shaped in a synergetic manner. If it is properly institutionalised, it will not impinge on executive or legislative privilege. There should be a response to citizens' desire to participate in framing legislation by creating platforms for institutionalised participation to deepen democratic processes.

-Hindustan Times

WORKSHEET 9

A. Answer the following questions on the basis of your reading of the text:

- a. What is the problem, according to the author, in India's law making process?
- b. What role can the citizens play in the said process?
- c. List the principles applicable to laws made both by the formal and informal structures.
- d. What is the responsibility of the civil society and government groups with respect to *lokpal*?
- e. Mention the characteristic features of an effective pre- legislative process.

B. Answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option:

- a. The process of consultation amongst members of the citizenry will result in
 - i. Generation of multiple perspectives
 - ii. Formulation of specifics
 - iii. Questioning of legislation framework
 - iv. Criticism of policies
- b. Which one amongst the following is true?
 - i. Placing of views in the public domain necessitates total representation of the group
 - ii. Criticism and attempts at resolution should not be catered to
 - iii. Surveys and votes may be used for drafting a law
 - iv. None of the above
- c. The fate of the argument against corruption depends on
 - i. Intensity of proposals
 - ii. Extent of protests
 - iii. Both
 - iv. None
- d. The article deals with a subject matter of nature
 - i. Socio- political
 - ii. Socio- geographical
 - iii. Socio- economic
 - iv. Socio- legal

C. Find words from the passage which mean the opposite of:

- a. weakened (Para 1)
- b. allay (Para 2)
- c. single (Para 2)
- d. crucial (Para 4)
- e. implausibility (Para 5)
- f. abandon (Para 6)

D. Make notes of the above passage using an acceptable format including abbreviations and suitable headings and subheadings.

Write a summary of the above passage in not more than 80 words.

WORKSHEET 10

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

1. The government appears to have woken up to the problem of acute agrarian distress. In a flurry of activity surrounding the prime minister's visit to Vidarbha, the government had declared its intent to seek remedies for the crisis affecting the peasantry, symbolized by the spate of farmers' suicides over the last few years. This is indeed welcome, though the response should have come sooner.
2. The package being put together now recognizes that the immediate problem is not one of access to credit or the level of the interest rate (though these are indeed medium- term issues) but of a legacy of debt that cannot be borne. Low farm gate prices, rising input cost and an adequate increase in productivity have combined to make interest and debt repayment commitments too onerous to bear. The explains the government's decision to write off debt at least in the case of marginal and small farmers, and, if the Finance Ministry agrees, to insure them against crop failure so to prevent the legacy of debt from becoming an unbearable burden for many more. These are significant steps forward. However, the government also adopts policies that militate against long term redressal of the agrarian crisis that underlies farmer's distress. The first of these is a fiscal policy stance that precludes the adoption of measures that are crucial to revitalize agriculture.
3. Massive public investment in rural infrastructure, including irrigation, drainage and flood control; lowering of input cost through subsidies where necessary; and a hike in expenditure to restructure the provision of a host of extension and a support services are required to improve agricultural productivity.
4. One of the factors underlying these trends is long term deterioration in agricultural performances. In most cases lower demand resulting from limited purchasing power among some sections of the population has ensured that poor agricultural performance has yet to result in a short fall in supply related to demand. Even so, speculative hoarding has indeed resulted in an artificial short fall. Speculation has been added by a number of decisions of the government such as removal of control on the movements of agricultural commodities and liberalization of rules relating to the operation of the private traders and agri-business firms, which in turn have resulted in the failure to procure adequate government stocks at the minimum support price where applicable.
5. The government has sought to augment supply with imports. Besides deciding February to import wheat to replenish dwindling government stocks, it has now decided to permit private actual users of wheat like flour millers biscuit manufacturers and bread makers to import wheat duty free till the next *rabi* harvest. It has also allowed custom duty free import of sugar till the beginning of the next crushing season which starts in October. And it has put a ban on exports of pulses. This effort to enhance domestic supply with import may be successful in dampening in inflationary expectations and holding the price level in the short run. But it could also adversely affect revenues garnered by the already- distressed peasantry with attended implications for private expenditure needed to sustain and improve agricultural production.
6. Reliance on imports to dampen price increases can, therefore, worsen the agrarian crisis and the distressed condition of farmers in the medium term. What is needed is to directly curb speculative activities, reverse policies with regard to freer agricultural trade that have brought in large private players driven by opportunities for profit and combine this with an investment- led agricultural strategy.

WORKSHEET 10

A. Answer the following questions on the basis of your reading of the text:

- a. What is the actual problem of agrarians in Vidarbha?
- b. What has been the immediate repercussion of this problem, as stated in the passage?
- c. Mention any two factors responsible for the agrarian crisis?
- d. How have the various speculative measures led to the worsening of the situation in the medium term?
- e. What are the possible steps that the government can take to address the problem?

B. Answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option:

- a. The immediate effect of the Prime Minister's visit to the affected areas has been
 - i. Recognition of the immediate problem
 - ii. Declaration of intent to seek remedies to the problem
 - iii. Writing off of debt in case of small farmers
 - iv. All of the above
- b. Long term redressal of the agrarian problem should deal with
 - i. Reliance on imports to augment domestic supply
 - ii. Adoption of speculative measures
 - iii. Adoption of methods that are crucial to revitalize agriculture
 - iv. Application of ban on exports
- c. Which of the following is false when it comes to improving agricultural productivity
 - i. Massive public investment in rural infrastructure
 - ii. Lowering of input cost through subsidies
 - iii. Hike in expenditure to restructure the provision of support services
 - iv. Rejection of measures that are crucial to revitalize agriculture.
- d. Short termed steps taken by the government to improve the situation include
 - i. Augmentation of supply with imports
 - ii. Allowed custom duty free import of sugar
 - iii. Import of duty freewheat
 - iv. All of the above

C. Find words from the above passage that are similar in meaning to the following:

- a. agricultural (para 1)
- b. inheritance (para 2)
- c. monetary (para 3)
- d. excludes (para 3)
- e. enhance (para 5)
- f. projected (para 6)

D. Make notes of the above passage using an acceptable format including abbreviations and suitable headings and subheadings.

Write a summary of the above passage in not more than 80 words.

WORKSHEET 11

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

1. I have three visions for India. In 3000 years of our history, people from all over the world have come and invaded us, captured our lands, conquered our minds. The Greeks, the Portuguese, the British, the French, the Dutch, all of them came and looted us, took over what was ours. Yet we have not done this to any other nation. We have not conquered anyone. We have not grabbed their land, their culture, their history or tried to enforce our way of life on them. Why? Because we respect the freedom of others. That is why my first vision is that of FREEDOM. It is this freedom that we must protect and nurture and build-up. If we are not free, no one will respect us.
2. Second vision for India is DEVELOPMENT. For fifty years we have been a developing nation. It is time we see ourselves as a developed nation. We are among top 5 nations of the world in terms of GDP. We have 10 percent growth rate in most areas. Our poverty levels are falling; our achievements are being globally recognized today. Yet we lack the self-confidence to see ourselves as a developed nation, self-reliant and self-assured.
3. I have a third vision that India must stand up to the world. It is because I believe that unless India stands up to the world, no one will respect us. Only strength respects strength. We must be strong not only as a military power but also as an economic power. Both must go hand-in-hand.
4. Why is the media here so negative? Why are we in India so embarrassed to recognize our own strengths, our achievements? We have so many amazing success stories but we refuse to acknowledge them. Why?
5. We are the second largest producer of wheat in the world. We are the second largest producers of rice. We are the first in milk production. We are number one in Remote sensing satellites. Look at Dr. Sudarshan- he has transformed a tribal village into a self-sustaining, self-driving unit. There are millions of such achievements but our media is only obsessed with the bad news and failures and disasters.
6. I was in Tel Aviv once and I was reading the Israeli newspaper. It was the day after a lot of attacks and bombardments and deaths had taken place. The Hamas had struck. But the front page of the newspaper had the picture of a Jewish gentleman who in five years had transformed his desert land into an orchid and a granary. It was this inspiring picture that everyone woke up to. The gory details of killings, bombardments, deaths, were inside in the newspaper, buried among other news. In India we only read about death, sickness, terrorism, crime.
7. Another question: Why are we, as a nation so obsessed with foreign things? We want foreign TVs, we want foreign shirts. We want foreign technology. Why this obsession with everything imported? Do we not realize that self-respect comes with self-reliance? I was in Hyderabad giving this lecture, when a 14 year old girl asked me for my autograph. I asked her what her goal in life is: She replied: "I want to live in a developed India." For her, you, and I will have to build this developed India.

- APJ Abdul Kalam

WORKSHEET 11

A. Answer the following questions on the basis of your reading of the text:

- a. What is Kalam's idea of freedom?
- b. List a few achievements of the Indian people.
- c. What does the author disapprove of the media?
- d. Which inspiring news did the people of Tel Aviv wake up to?
- e. Discuss the author's vision of India as a nation.

B. Answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option:

- a. We will be respected if we:
 - i. protect and nurture our freedom
 - ii. enforce our way of life on others
 - iii. are not free
 - iv. grab others' land, culture and history
- b. Which of the following statements is not true:
 - i. India's poverty levels are falling
 - ii. India has the confidence to be a developed nation
 - iii. Indian people have a lot many things to count as achievements
 - iv. India has a high GDP
- c. Standing up to the world implies:
 - i. getting respect from others
 - ii. respecting others' strengths
 - iii. military strength
 - iv. military and economic strength
- d. According to the author, vivid description of gory details in the newspapers every morning represents
 - i. pessimism of the media
 - ii. sensibility of the media
 - iii. responsibility of the media
 - iv. obsession of the media

C. Find words from the passage which mean the same as:

- a. bring into effect (Para 1)
- b. worldwide (Para 2)
- c. catastrophes (Para 5)
- d. a kind of storage facility (Para 6)
- e. covered with blood (Para 6)
- f. compulsively preoccupied (Para 7)

D. Make notes of the above passage using an acceptable format including abbreviations and suitable headings and subheadings.

Write a summary of the above passage in not more than 80 words.

WORKSHEET 12

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

The Laburnum

Just down the road from where I live
A lone laburnum grows.
It does not advertise itself,
Unlike the cawing crows.

But like the cawing crows, you'd say,
There's nothing to this tree-
Its height is unremarkable,
Its leaves so ordinary.

But comes the summer, golden light
Is trapped within the tree.
In May, the crystallized sunbeams,
Burst out for all to see.

The thundery grey sky casts its gloom
On everything in sight,
But the little tree is quite untouched-
It burns with topaz light.

Flowers of sunshine cloak the tree,
And dazzle every eye,
And every puff of a wayward breeze
Drops gold on passersby.

Even the beggar down the street
Smiles when he sees this tree.
And for some moments he can feel
A joy that comes for free.

-MeeraUberoi

WORKSHEET 12

A. Answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option:

a. Laburnum doesn't need to advertise its presence as :

- i. it is huge
- ii. it is visible to all
- iii. its glory in full bloom is noticeable
- iv. it has no special features

b. The crows advertise their presence by

- i. flying low
- ii. making noise
- iii. fighting
- iv. sitting pretty on the branches

c. Sunbeams, Burst out for all to see' refers to

- i. blooming of flowers
- ii. rays of the sun filtering through leaves
- iii. the sun beams at the tree
- iv. the sun rays burst out from the tree

d. 'it burns with topaz light' means

- i. the tree is set on fire
- ii. the glow of yellow light keeps it lit
- iii. the glow of yellow flowers keeps it bright
- iv. lightning has struck the tree

e. 'Drops gold on passersby' refers to

- i. dropping of gold coins
- ii. the rays of sun fall on passersby
- iii. the golden light falling on passersby
- iv. the yellow flowers

B. Answer the following questions on the basis of your reading of the passage:

- a. How does the laburnum add occasional happiness to a beggar's life?
- b. How does the ordinary tree become extraordinary during summer?
- c. 'But the little tree is quite untouched.' Explain.
- d. 'Flowers of sunshine cloak the tree'. Explain.

C. Find words from the poem which mean the same as:

- a. definite and clear

- b. crying harshly
- c. hide
- d. blindingly brighten

WORKSHEET 13

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

1. The reaction of the Governors of New York and New Jersey to the Ebola threat reflects their lack of understanding of the nature of the disease, and utter disregard for the need to institute well-thought-out public health policies that are based on sound medical advice and clear evidence. In a knee-jerk reaction, both the Governors on October 24 made it mandatory to quarantine for 21 days even asymptomatic people returning from the three Ebola-stricken West African countries if they had come in direct contact with people suffering from Ebola. Illinois soon followed suit. As a result, an American nurse returning from Sierra Leone was placed under quarantine. The policy was hurriedly introduced after Craig Spencer, a New York-based doctor who had treated patients in Guinea, tested positive for Ebola.
2. Facing a barrage of criticism and uproar, the Governors revised the policy in less than 72 hours to allow asymptomatic people to be quarantined at home for 21 days with twice-daily monitoring; those being monitored will be allowed to interact with family and friends. Despite the revision, the policy remains more restrictive than the requirements put out by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Beginning October 27, the CDC's updated guidance requires direct and active monitoring by public health officials once a day along with follow-up monitoring over phone for a period of 21 days for all travellers returning from the three disease-hit countries. It also calls for restricted public activities and restricted long-distance travel, but there is not a word on quarantining asymptomatic persons.
3. Unlike airborne diseases such as flu and tuberculosis, people can get infected by the virus only when they come in direct contact with the body fluids of an Ebola patient. Infected people remain free of symptoms and do not transmit the virus during the incubation period of two to 21 days. It is obvious that the panic-stricken Governors went overboard with their policy that had no scientific basis whatsoever. The direct fallout of their irrational policy would have led to a further reduction in the number of health workers volunteering to tackle the outbreak in the three African countries. Already the number of health workers volunteering to work in these countries is disproportionately small compared with the magnitude of the problem.
4. While monitoring must be a top priority, allaying the fears of people by creating more awareness should be given equal importance. The U.S. has much to learn from the way Nigeria handled the Ebola situation and rid itself of the disease recently. A massive awareness programme along with tracking and surveillance was the way Nigeria tackled the situation.

-The Hindu

WORKSHEET 13

A. Answer the following questions on the basis of your reading of the text:

- a. Mention the requirements put out by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to tackle the problem?
- b. What is the decision taken by Governors of New York and New Jersey in order to counter-fight Ebola?
- c. How does the decision reflect their lack of understanding of the nature of the disease?
- d. What, according to the passage, could have been the direct outcome of the 'irrational and unscientific' decision?
- e. How did Nigeria handle the Ebola situation?

B. Answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option:

- a. The popular misconception about the communication of Ebola virus is:
 - i. asymptomatic people returning from the three Ebola-stricken West African countries are required to be isolated
 - ii. it is an air borne disease
 - iii. both i and ii
 - iv. neither i nor ii
- b. Preventive measures by the CDC do not include:
 - i. Direct and active monitoring
 - ii. Follow up monitoring
 - iii. Restrictions imposed on long- distance travel
 - iv. Quarantining asymptomatic persons
- c. Ways to stop the spreading of the deadly disease include:
 - i. Conducting surveillance
 - ii. Spreading awareness
 - iii. Tracking the situation
 - iv. All of the above
- d. The Governors felt the need to revise the policy because:
 - i. the disease had started to spread quickly
 - ii. the follow up of the original policy was difficult
 - iii. it was met with disapproval
 - iv. it was restrictive

C. Find words from the passage which mean the same as:

- a. compulsory (Para 1)
- b. a sanitary measure to prevent the spread of a contagious plague (Para 1)
- c. chaos (Para 2)
- d. consequence (Para 3)
- e. close supervision (Para 4)
- f. dispelling (Para 4)

D. Make notes of the above passage using an acceptable format including abbreviations and suitable headings and subheadings.

Write a summary of the above passage in not more than 80 words.

WORKSHEET 14

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

1. One might agree or disagree with the way Ajit Koujalgi went about restoring heritage buildings, but there is no denying his passionate commitment to preserving heritage and offering both citizens and visitors a view of a splendid past. In his passing away recently in tragic circumstances, the heritage movement in India has lost one of its foremost champions.
2. Ajit, who lived in Auroville from the 1970s, except for an eight-year break in Germany, contributed significantly to Auroville's early architecture and town planning. That stint in Germany, however, changed his focus and, inspired by what was happening in heritage preservation in Germany, he began, on his return in 1987, to focus on trying to save heritage buildings in and around Pondicherry. From 1987 he led an INTACH-Pondicherry initiative to list the territory's heritage buildings, both of French origin and Indian. By 1998, INTACH was virtually a full-time preoccupation with him, beginning with the restoration of a 250-year-old French building as the Neemrana Group's Hotel de l'Orient, now a landmark in the Union Territory. It won him an UNESCO Asia-Pacific Heritage award.
3. With the Pondicherry Government getting interested in his work, INTACH-Pondicherry forged an alliance with it that has seen a considerable amount of restoration in the French Quarter and some in the Indian Quarter, with one street in particular in the latter becoming a showpiece. He had hoped all the interest the Pondicherry Government was taking in heritage would spur the Tamil Nadu Government into action, but after many of his frequent visits to Madras to interact with the Tamil Nadu Tourism authorities, he would exchange despairing notes about what was happening here.
4. Meanwhile, the Neemrana Group had moved into Tranquebar (Tarangambadi) and Ajit helped restore an old bungalow there for them that became a hotel called 'The Bungalow on the Beach'. He then began restoring several other old Danish-style and Indian-style buildings, as well as old church properties, including Ziegenbalg's house. Meanwhile, the Danish Museum met with INTACH-Tamil Nadu, the honorary Danish consular authorities in Madras, and Tamil Nadu Tourism and suggested restoration of the old *Governor's Bungalow* in Tranquebar. An agreement was eventually reached on making the bungalow an Indo-Danish Studies Centre and Museum with the help of INTACH-Tamil Nadu. Taking into consideration logistics and the work he was already doing in the area, INTACH-Tamil Nadu requested Ajit to handle the project and a striking building was re-created from what had been a dilapidated shell overwhelmed by trees and plants.
5. While working on the *Governor's Bungalow*, Ajit and his team also drew up a master plan for the revival of Tranquebar and making it a major destination for heritage tourism. The team had drawn up plans for restoring King's Street, from the Entrance Arch to a restored Parade Ground, and a couple of other streets alongside. The last time we met, however, Ajit bemoaned the fact that everything was slowing down in Tranquebar with local politics, bureaucracy and NGOs at odds with each other and pulling in different directions. He wasn't the happiest of persons at the time; perhaps they will all now work together to restore Tranquebar according to Ajit Koujalgi's vision and make him a happier man somewhere up there.

WORKSHEET 14

A. Answer the following questions on the basis of your reading of the text:

- b. Which landmark achievement won AjitKoujalgithe UNESCO Asia-Pacific Heritage award?
- c. What other developments were ensured along with the restoration of the old *Governor's Bungalow* in Tranquebar?
- d. '*The heritage movement in India has lost one of its foremost champions.*' Elucidate.
- e. What inspired Koujalgi to focus on trying to save heritage buildings in and around Pondicherry?
- f. What motivated INTACH –Tamil Nadu to hire Koujalgi for the restoration of the Governor's Bungalow? What was the result?

B. Answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option:

- a. The tone of the passage is:
 - i. glorifying
 - ii. criticising
 - iii. exaggerated
 - iv. fantacising.
- b. AjitKoujalgi can be best described as:
 - i. A philanthropist and a visionary
 - ii. Shrewd and prudent
 - iii. Naive and amateurish
 - iv. An industrialist and a visionary.
- c. As discussed in the passage, Ajit was unhappy because:
 - i. His activities did not make him popular.
 - ii. His activities did not lead to monetary benefits.
 - iii. Work slowed down in Tranquebar with stakeholders at odds with each other.
 - iv. All of the above.
- d. What, according to the passage, would make Ajit happier after death?
 - i. An effigy in his name
 - ii. Constructive implementation of his vision
 - iii. Restoration of Tranquebar
 - iv. Both ii. and iii.

C. Find words from the passage which mean the same as:

- a. deteriorated (Para 4)
- b. concern (Para 2)
- c. reestablish (Para 4)
- d. union (Para 3)
- e. motivate (Para 3)
- f. a period of time spent doing something (Para 2)

D. Make notes of the above passage using an acceptable format including abbreviations and suitable headings and subheadings.

Write a summary of the above passage in not more than 80 words.

WORKSHEET 15

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

I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud

I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,

A host, of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the milky way,
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay:
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced; but they
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:
A poet could not but be gay,
In such a jocund company:
I gazed—and gazed—but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought:

For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.

-William Wordsworth

WORKSHEET 15

A. On the basis of your reading of the text, answer the following questions:

- a. 'I saw a crowd.' Which crowd does the poet refer to?
- b. 'I wandered lonely as a cloud.' Which poetic device has been used in the quoted line?
- c. Why is the company of daffodils described as a 'jocund company'?
- d. What is the bliss of solitude in the poet's view?

B. Answer the following questions by writing the most appropriate option in your answer scripts:

a. The poet finds the company of flowers as

- i. cheerful
- ii. sad
- iii. distracting
- iv. of no use

b. The number of flowers is compared with

- i. the number of leaves
- ii. the number of stars
- iii. the number of clouds
- iv. the number of people in a crowd

C. Find words from the passage which are opposite in meaning to the following:

- a. company
- b. depressing

D. Find words from the passage which are similar in meaning to the following:

- a. meditative
- b. strolled
- c. periphery

WORKSHEET 16

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

1. The process of relief and rehabilitation in the devastated north coastal districts of Visakhapatnam, Srikakulam and Vizianagaram in Andhra Pradesh has just begun. The challenges seem huge. Even the extent of damage from cyclone 'Hudhud,' which knocked out the region two weeks ago has not been fully assessed.
2. Prime Minister Narendra Modi made an aerial survey, visited the ravaged port city of Visakhapatnam and announced an interim relief of Rs.1,000 crore. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu camped in Vizag for the first few days to ensure that rescue and relief operations were launched swiftly. He has ensured that within three days, power supply was restored in Vizag city. The neighbouring towns too got back their supply within a week. By October 31, power supply should be fully functional in the affected areas. Temporary shelters have been provided to lakhs of people rendered homeless. Essential commodities were rushed, and free rations distributed. Considering the extent of devastation, caused entirely by nature's fury, the people have also been very understanding. But their patience cannot be taken for granted. The rehabilitation process has to move forward to tackle the major problems of housing and livelihood, and both these challenges cannot be easily overcome.
3. Mr. Naidu has appealed to the people, philanthropists and corporate India to contribute generously to this massive exercise to rebuild not just Vizag, but also the entire region that still remains vulnerable to cyclones. Given the fact that Andhra Pradesh faces a huge revenue deficit of about Rs.16,000 crore, and still suffers from the pangs of what he calls "unscientific bifurcation," rehabilitation has to be a multi-pronged effort. The Centre, State, trade and industry, and philanthropy — including from the expatriate community — should join hands to make this happen. Rehabilitation should look at housing, infrastructure, restoration of livelihood, attending to the damage to industrial infrastructure — especially the major public sector undertakings in and around Vizag — and create durable assets.
4. The funds will have to be used to create infrastructure that can stand up to such severe cyclones so that these exercises do not become a recurring feature. The assessment of damage to the PSUs such as the steel plant, and to the naval facilities has been completed, and the Central and State authorities are taking up the unenviable task of evaluating the devastation caused to the agriculture sector. Compensation to farmers and a time-bound plan to restore the livelihood of both farmers and fisher folk demand priority. The Northeast monsoon has just begun and the government has to be watchful to prevent any further calamity in this region.

-The Hindu

WORKSHEET 16

A. Answer the following questions on the basis of your reading of the text:

- a. Mention the various steps taken by the authorities to ensure relief and rehabilitation in Vizag?
- b. Why is rehabilitation a multi-pronged effort in Andhra Pradesh, according to Mr. Naidu?
- c. Which problems are difficult to tackle despite the extent of rehabilitation in Andhra Pradesh?
- d. Which environmental change in the near future carries the risk of aggravating the effects of the calamity?
- e. Mention the different dimensions of ordinary civic life which the rehabilitation process should cover?
- f. What can be done to ensure that such calamities cannot affect life in future?

B. Answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option:

- a. The reason for the CM to stay in the affected area was to:
 - i. ensure relief for the affected
 - ii. conduct a survey
 - iii. assess the extent of the damage caused
 - iv. connect with the people
- b. Rebuilding process would include:
 - i. Provision of relief
 - ii. infrastructure development
 - iii. restoration of livelihood
 - iv. all of the above
- c. The CM's request to the people is to:
 - i. stay calm
 - ii. contribute to the cause
 - iii. create durable assets
 - iv. be watchful
- d. The priority of the government apart from attending to the damage to industrial infrastructure is:
 - i. to deal with unscientific bifurcation
 - ii. assessment of damage to the PSUs
 - iii. relief to farmers and fisher folk
 - iv. to be watchful of the Northeast monsoon

C. Find words from the passage which mean the same as:

- a. aid or assistance (Para 1)
- b. devastated (Para 2)
- c. provisional (Para 2)
- d. split (Para 3)
- e. frequent (Para 4)
- f. permanent (Para 3)

D. Make notes of the above passage using an acceptable format including abbreviations and suitable headings and subheadings.

Write a summary of the above passage in not more than 80 words.

WORKSHEET 17

Read the poem given below and answer the questions which follow:

The Glories of Our Blood and State

The glories of our blood and state
Are shadows, not substantial things;
There is no armour against Fate;
Death lays his icy hand on kings:
Sceptre and Crown
Must tumble down,
And in the dust be equal made
With the poor crooked scythe and spade.

Some men with swords may reap the field,
And plant fresh laurels where they kill:
But their strong nerves at last must yield;
They tame but one another still:
Early or late
They stoop to fate,
And must give up their murmuring breath
When they, pale captives, creep to death.

The garlands wither on your brow;
Then boast no more your mighty deeds!
Upon Death's purple altar now
See where the victor-victim bleeds.
Your heads must come
To the cold tomb:
Only the actions of the just
Smell sweet and blossom in their dust.

-James Shirley

WORKSHEET 17

A. On the basis of your reading of the text, answer the following questions:

- a. Quote the lines from the poem which illustrate the futility of war?
- b. Comment on the poet's opinion that Death is unbiased.
- c. What is the role of Fate in determining man's acts?
- d. What message does the poet convey through the poem?

B. Answer the following questions by writing the most appropriate option in your answer scripts:

- a. The poetic device in 'Death lays his icy hand' is
 - i. Simile
 - ii. Metaphor
 - iii. Alliteration
 - iv. Personification.
- b. 'Blood and State' suggests
 - i. the condition of our blood
 - ii. the state we live in
 - iii. our birth and position
 - iv. our family members.
- c. The poetic device in 'Smell sweet and blossom in their dust' is
 - i. Simile
 - ii. Metaphor
 - iii. Alliteration
 - iv. Personification.

C. Find words from the passage which are opposite in meaning to the following:

- a. blossom
- b. escapees

D. Find words from the passage which are closest in meaning to the following:

- a. conquerer
- b. considerable

WORKSHEET 18

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

1. The doctors clamouring against reservations for OBCs have demanded that merit be the sole criteria for admission to medical and engineering colleges. Then, how is it that they have not objected either to the NRI quota or candidates who procure admission on the basis of capitation fee? In Tamil Nadu, where the human health index is much better than in other states, there is as much as 69 per cent reservation. Let us take for a moment that upper caste doctors are meritorious. But is this of any help to the nation when many of them use elite institutes as springboard to go abroad for higher wages? How are these elite institutes, then, serving the interests of the common people? On the other hand, it has been found in Tamil Nadu that a good number of SC/ST/OBC doctors stick to their state or hometown, resulting in better healthcare services.
2. In Malaysia there are reservations not just in jobs but also in contracts, licenses and company shares for Malays. There is 50 per cent reservation for Blacks and women in the medical faculty of Harvard University. And the Whites have never made an issue of being eligible only for 50 per cent of the seats. In fact, it is the handful of anti-reservationists, who talk of disintegration of society on account of reservation, who are really responsible for creating dissension and obstacles in the ways of social justice of the OBCs. If the anti-reservationists are so concerned about the disintegration of society on caste lines, they should first lead the struggle against social discrimination.
3. Reservation, in India, gets a job or admission even if the people secure less percentage of marks. It has also been observed that candidates who get high marks in a competition are not necessarily successful in the field. Merit, as it is being presently understood, does not include honesty, hard work and patriotism. In the American school system, besides the syllabus, students have to undergo practical training in social services, etc. and marks are added in the certificate based on performance in this area.
4. The only people talking of merit today are those who have studied in public schools or whose children study in such schools. The expenditure incurred on education in public schools is 50 to 100 times more than those of corporation/ government schools. There is a vast difference in quality between the teachers of public and government schools. Parents who can afford to send their children to public schools are mostly educated. They not only teach the children themselves at home but also provide coaching for them. On the other hand, parents who send their children to corporation/ government schools are mostly uneducated. These children have to lend a helping hand to their parents after schools hours. Under such circumstances, what is wrong if such students ask for concession of a few marks?
5. Reservation will bring unity and integrity in society. Reservation in elite institutes will enable people from different social strata to come together and establish bonhomie among them. It is true that reservation is not a permanent solution to the vexed problem of our society. As and when equal and compulsory education is introduced in the country, Dalits and OBCs will not stake their claims to reservation. Reservation is not a panacea for the economic backwardness of the country. It is only a concession given to socially and educationally backward people, so that they may integrate with the mainstream. We have no objection if the poor among the upper caste people, too, take the benefit of reservations. But the problem here lies in those among them who start taking advantage of the policy.

WORKSHEET 18

A. Answer the following questions on the basis of your reading of the text:

- a. Why were the Indian doctors clamouring against reservation?
- b. What do you know about reservations in Malaysia and Harvard University?
- c. What is the difference in the view of the Indians and the Americans about merit?
- d. Point out the difference in Public and Government run institutions.
- e. What way out has been suggested in the passage about reservation?

B. Answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option:

- a. The writer's complaint against the students from elite institutions is:
 - i. They do not enter the institutions by unfair means
 - ii. They do not oppress the students who belong to the economically weaker sections of society
 - iii. They do not serve the interests of the common people
 - iv. They do not belong to SC/ST/OBC categories
- b. According to the author, the anti – reservationists
 - i. Are responsible for social justice
 - ii. Create hindrance in the process of social justice
 - iii. Support the author's viewpoint
 - iv. Lead the struggle against social discrimination
- c. The author says that it would not be unfair to ask for concession of a few marks if
 - i. The student belongs to a public school
 - ii. The parents of the student are educated
 - iii. The students are bound to lend a helping hand to parents after school hours
 - iv. All of the above
- d. Reservation will bring unity and integration in society as
 - i. It will be a solution to the economic backwardness of the society
 - ii. Upper class people will take the benefit of reservations
 - iii. It would imply equal and compulsory education for the *Dalits*
 - iv. It will establish sociability among people

C. Find words from the passage which mean the same as:

- a. remedy (Para 5)
- b. strong disagreement (Para 2)
- c. creating an outcry (Para 1)
- d. anything that serves to launch (Para 2)
- e. geniality (Para 5)
- f. a grant (Para 4)

D. Make notes of the above passage using an acceptable format including abbreviations and suitable headings and subheadings.

Write a summary of the above passage in not more than 80 words.

WORKSHEET 19

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

1. It is reported that the government is close to finalizing a system of dual pricing for the public procurement of food grains. There would be two basic elements to this system: Affixed Minimum Support Price (MSP) covering the cost of cultivation, as at present, recommended by the Commission on Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), and variable procurement prices, at the discretion of the department of food, depending on market. For example, according to a working group of the Planning Commission, over the five year period ending 2001-02 when there was a steep rise in procurement price resulting in accumulation of embarrassing large stock of food grains of over 60 million tones with the government, consumption of food grains in the country was reduced, on this account, by at least five million tons per annum.
2. The new system by assigning a greater role for private trade can improve the efficiency in the distribution of food grains and substantially cut down subsidies, which can help to step up much needed public investment in agriculture. The proposed dual pricing system is a better alternative than total marketisation of food grains trade by disbanding altogether public procurement at MSP.
3. Such a dismantling could lead to a crash in market prices of food grains in years of food harvest. Even though this may take exports competitive and raise domestic consumption of food grains in the short run, it may undermine food security by sapping producer incentives. The experience of green revolution underlines the importance of assured MSP including the farmers to step up their own investment and effort and derive full benefit from available infrastructure.
4. For the dual pricing system to yield desired results, it needs to be backed by several other policy measures. Since the impetus for crop diversification would be greater in the infrastructurally- developed regions like the north-west , this can slow down the growth of food grains output in the country and, in particular, the surpluses procured, unless immediate measures are taken to strengthen public support for irrigation, technology, extension and credit in the rest of the company, especially in the central and eastern regions where there is a large potentials the growth of food grains output has barely kept pace with population growth since the mid-90s.
5. This also calls for more effective public procurement of food grains at MSP in these regions, as farmers have to often sell their produce immediately after the harvest at prices that are lower than MSP. Therefore, dual pricing system can be sustained only through non-price interventions such as infrastructural support for regional dispersal of growth in food grains output. The new system requires better market intelligence forecasts as well as concurrent analyses on prices and sales in markets in India and abroad

WORKSHEET 19

A. Answer the following questions on the basis of your reading of the text:

- a. What are the two elements of dual pricing system for procuring food grains?
- b. How will the proposed system benefit the agricultural domain?
- c. In order to boost the dual system what urgent measures are needed to be taken?
- d. Why was the consumption of food grains in the country reduced during 2001-2002?
- e. What has the experience of Green Revolution taught the farmers?
- f. What is the result of ecological degradation in the north-western region of India?

B. Answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option:

- a. The writer's attitude towards the introduction of dual pricing is
 - i. pessimistic
 - ii. hopeful
 - iii. unsure
 - iv. None of the above
- b. Which of the following should be ensured for proper implementation of the new system?
 - i. better market intelligence forecasts
 - ii. concurrent analyses on prices
 - iii. analysis on sales in markets in India and abroad.
 - iv. All of the above

C. Find words from the above passage that are similar in meaning to the following:

- a. extra (Para3)
- b. extract (Para3)
- c. a driving force (Para5)
- d. Two roles (Para 5)

D. Make notes of the above passage using an acceptable format including abbreviations and suitable headings and subheadings.

Write a summary of the above passage in not more than 80 words.

WORKSHEET 20

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

1. One of the greatest advances in modern technology has been the invention of computers. They are widely used in industries and in universities. Now there is hardly any sphere of human life where computers have not been pressed into the service of man. We are heading fast on the close of this present century towards a situation when a computer will be as much part of man's daily life as a telephone or a calculator.
2. Computers are capable of doing extremely complicated work in all branches of learning. They can solve the most complex mathematical problems or put thousands of unrelated facts in order. These machines can be put to varied uses. For instance, they can provide information on the best way to prevent traffic, or they can count the number of times the word "and" has been used in the Bible. Because they work accurately and at high speed, they save the research workers hard work. This whole process by which machines can be used to work for us had been called 'automation'. In the future 'automation' may enable human beings for more leisure than they do today. The coming of automation is bound to have important social consequences.
3. Some years ago an expert on automation, Sir Leon Bagrit, pointed out that it was a mistake to believe that these machines could 'think'. There no possibility that human beings will be "controlled by machines". Though computers are capable of learning from their mistakes and improving on their performance, they need detailed instructions from human beings to operate. They can never, as it were, lead independent lives or "rule the world" by making decision of their own.
4. Sir Leon said that in future, computers would be developed which would be small enough to carry in the pocket. Ordinary people would then be able to use them to obtain valuable information. Computers could be plugged into a national network and be used like radios. For instance, people going on holiday could be informed about weather conditions. Car drivers can be given alternative routes when there are traffic jams. It will also be possible to make tiny translating machines. This will enable people who do not share a common language to talk to each other without any difficulty or to read foreign publication. It is impossible to assess that importance of a machine of this sort, for many international misunderstandings are caused simple through our failure to understand each other. Computers will also be used in ordinary public hospital, by providing a machine with a patient's systems; a doctor will be able to diagnose the nature of illness. Similarly machines could be used to keep a check on a patient's health record and bring it up to date. Doctors will there for have immediate access to a great many facts which will help in their work. Bookkeepers and accountants too could be relieved of dull clerical work, for the tedious task of compiling and checking lists of figures could be done entirely by machines. Computers will also be able to tell the exact the age a man is going to live, with the help of his blood picture. Computers are the most efficient servants man has ever had and there is no limit to the way they can be used to improve our life style and life.

WORKSHEET 20

A. Answer the following questions on the basis of your reading of the text:

- a. What is automation? What are its implications?
- b. Discuss the dependency of computers on human beings.
- c. Name the areas where computers can be effectively used?
- d. What was the prediction of Sir Leon about the computers in future?
- e. Discuss how computers can be effectively used by doctors.
- f. Describe the relationship between man and computers as projected by the author.

B. Answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option:

- a. The passage asserts the superiority of
 - i. humans over computers
 - ii. computers over humans
 - iii. Both i and ii
 - iv. Neither i nor ii
- b. The passage does not talk about the utility of computers in the field of
 - i. accountancy
 - ii. Medicine
 - iii. education
 - iv. weather forecast

C. Find words from the above passage that are similar in meaning to the following:

- a. Difficult or complex (Para 1)
- b. Free time (Para 1)
- c. Repercussions (Para 1)
- d. Another choice (Para 4)
- e. Analyse (Para 4)

D. Make notes of the above passage using an acceptable format including abbreviations and suitable headings and subheadings.

Write a summary of the above passage in not more than 80 words.