

CLAT 2027 – MOCK TEST SERIES

Test Code: ENG-RC-001

English Language: Reading Comprehension

Total Questions: 100
Maximum Marks: 100
Each question carries 1 mark

Time Allowed: 120 Minutes
Negative Marking: -0.25

Name: _____

Roll Number: _____

Centre: _____ Batch: _____

Date: ___/___/_____ Signature: _____

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. This Question Paper contains 100 questions divided across 20 Reading Comprehension passages.
2. All questions carry equal marks (+1 for correct).
3. There will be negative marking of 0.25 marks for each wrong answer. No marks will be deducted for unanswered questions.
4. Use the separate OMR Answer Sheet provided.
5. Darken only ONE circle for each question on the OMR.
6. Use only Blue or Black Ball Point Pen on the OMR.
7. Rough work, if any, should be done on the last page of this booklet only.
8. The use of any electronic device is strictly prohibited.
9. Candidates shall not leave the examination hall before the completion of the test.
10. The Question Paper must be returned to the invigilator before leaving.

DO NOT OPEN THIS BOOKLET UNTIL INSTRUCTED

Passage 1 (Questions 1–5)

In a heartening resurgence, handloom weaving is experiencing a revival across rural India, breathing new life into artisan communities. Once teetering on the brink of extinction due to competition from cheaper, mass-produced textiles, the sector is now witnessing a renewed interest, driven by both domestic and international demand for authentic, handcrafted products. Government initiatives, such as skill development programs and financial assistance for weavers, have played a crucial role. NGOs are also instrumental, connecting artisans directly with markets, cutting out exploitative middlemen. The impact is palpable. Villages that once saw mass migration to urban areas in search of work are now becoming hubs of economic activity. Weavers are earning sustainable incomes, allowing them to invest in their children's education and improve their living standards. This revival is not merely about preserving a traditional craft; it's about empowering communities and fostering sustainable rural development. The vibrant colors and intricate designs of handloom fabrics are once again adorning homes and wardrobes, a testament to the resilience and creativity of India's artisans. Furthermore, the eco-friendly nature of handloom weaving, with its minimal carbon footprint, aligns with the growing global emphasis on sustainable consumption. This confluence of factors suggests a promising future for the handloom sector and the communities it supports. The sector however needs to scale sustainably without losing the cultural identity and quality that defines it.

[Adapted from a report on rural economies]

Q1. From the passage, it can be inferred that the earlier decline of handloom weaving was primarily due to:

- (A) A lack of skilled weavers in rural areas (B) The higher cost of handloom fabrics compared to mass-produced textiles
(C) A decrease in demand for traditional Indian clothing (D) The government's neglect of the handloom sector

Q2. The phrase 'breathing new life' as used in the passage means:

- (A) Causing weavers to have longer life spans (B) Making the process of weaving easier
(C) Revitalizing and invigorating the handloom industry (D) Introducing modern technology into weaving

Q3. The central idea of the passage is:

- (A) The challenges faced by weavers in rural India (B) The importance of preserving traditional crafts
(C) The revival of handloom weaving and its positive impact on rural communities
(D) The role of NGOs in promoting sustainable development

Q4. The author's primary purpose in writing this passage is to:

- (A) Criticize the government's efforts to support the handloom sector
(B) Inform readers about the positive changes occurring in rural India due to the handloom revival
(C) Compare handloom weaving with other traditional crafts (D) Argue for the complete abandonment of mass-produced textiles

Q5. The tone of the passage can best be described as:

- (A) Pessimistic and critical (B) Neutral and detached (C) Optimistic and hopeful (D) Sarcastic and cynical

Passage 2 (Questions 6–10)

Sleep deprivation, a pervasive issue among college students, significantly impacts both academic performance and mental well-being. Studies consistently reveal a negative correlation between insufficient sleep and Grade Point Average (GPA). Students who sacrifice sleep for studying or social activities often experience impaired cognitive functions, including reduced attention spans, difficulty concentrating, and compromised memory consolidation. These deficits directly hinder their ability to effectively learn and retain information, ultimately leading to lower grades. Furthermore, chronic sleep loss elevates stress hormone levels, increasing vulnerability to anxiety and depression. The disruption of circadian rhythms can also exacerbate mood swings and irritability, creating a detrimental cycle where poor mental health further disrupts sleep patterns. Colleges are beginning to address this issue through educational campaigns promoting healthy sleep habits and offering resources such as counseling services and relaxation workshops. Addressing sleep deprivation is not merely a matter of academic concern; it is a critical component of fostering a supportive and holistic learning environment that prioritizes student well-being.

[Adapted from a report on student well-being]

Q6. From the passage, it can be inferred that college students who prioritize social activities over sleep are likely to experience:

- (A) Improved academic performance due to reduced stress (B) Decreased cognitive function and increased stress levels
(C) Enhanced memory consolidation and improved concentration (D) A strengthened circadian rhythm and stable mood

Q7. The word 'pervasive' as used in the passage means:

- (A) Rare (B) Widespread (C) Insignificant (D) Localized

Q8. The central idea of the passage is:

- (A) The benefits of social activities for college students
(B) The impact of sleep deprivation on academic performance and mental health among college students
(C) The importance of GPA for college students (D) The role of colleges in providing counseling services

Q9. The author's primary purpose in writing this passage is:

- (A) To criticize colleges for not addressing student sleep deprivation
(B) To inform readers about the detrimental effects of sleep deprivation on college students
(C) To promote social activities among college students (D) To provide a solution to the problem of student sleep deprivation

Q10. The tone of the passage can best be described as:

- (A) Humorous and lighthearted (B) Alarmist and exaggerated (C) Informative and concerned
(D) Cynical and dismissive

Passage 3 (Questions 11–15)

The monsoon air hung thick and heavy, a curtain drawn across the twilight. But even the rain couldn't wash away the encroaching glow of the city, a relentless tide pushing back the darkness. I remember a time, not so long ago, when the fields behind my grandfather's house pulsed with a thousand tiny stars – fireflies, their bioluminescent dance a silent symphony. Now, only a handful flicker weakly, their calls unanswered. My grandfather, a man of few words but deep observations, used to say they were the spirits of the forest, tiny lights guiding lost souls. He believed their disappearance was a sign, a warning that we were losing something precious, something vital to the balance of things. We built more roads, erected taller buildings, and flooded the night with artificial suns. The fireflies, sensitive to the subtle rhythms of nature, simply faded away. It's more than just nostalgia, this ache for the lost lights. It's a recognition that their vanishing is a symptom of a larger malady, a disconnect from the natural world that impoverishes us all. Each extinguished spark is a lost connection, a silenced voice in the chorus of life. And as the darkness shrinks, so too does our world, diminished by our own relentless progress.

[Adapted from a personal reflection on urbanization]

- Q11.** From the passage, it can be inferred that the author believes the disappearance of the fireflies is primarily a result of:
- (A) A natural cyclical change in the environment (B) The detrimental effects of urbanization and light pollution
(C) The lack of spiritual connection among the younger generation
(D) A decline in the forest's overall health, unrelated to human activity
- Q12.** The phrase 'artificial suns' as used in the passage most nearly means:
- (A) The actual sun, which is becoming more intense due to climate change (B) The increasing use of solar panels for energy
(C) Bright, artificial lights used in urban areas (D) The reflection of sunlight off new buildings
- Q13.** The central idea of the passage is:
- (A) The importance of preserving traditional beliefs and practices
(B) The ecological consequences of unchecked urban development and its impact on the natural world
(C) A personal reflection on the author's childhood memories (D) A scientific analysis of bioluminescence in fireflies
- Q14.** The author's primary purpose in writing this passage is to:
- (A) Provide a detailed account of firefly biology and behavior
(B) Argue for stricter environmental regulations to curb urban sprawl
(C) Evoke a sense of loss and highlight the detrimental effects of urbanization on the natural world
(D) Encourage readers to reconnect with nature and embrace a simpler way of life
- Q15.** The tone of the passage can best be described as:
- (A) Objective and scientific (B) Nostalgic and melancholic (C) Optimistic and hopeful (D) Aggressive and accusatory

Passage 4 (Questions 16–20)

India's space sector is undergoing a dramatic transformation. For decades, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has been the dominant player, renowned for its cost-effective missions like Chandrayaan and Mangalyaan. These successes have not only boosted national pride but also demonstrated India's technical prowess on a global stage. However, a new wave of private space startups is now emerging, poised to revolutionize the industry. Companies like Skyroot Aerospace and Agnikul Cosmos are developing their own launch vehicles and satellite technologies, aiming to provide affordable and accessible space services. This shift is driven by government policies encouraging private participation and a growing demand for space-based applications, ranging from communication and remote sensing to navigation and scientific research. The entry of private players is expected to accelerate innovation, attract investment, and create new jobs in the space sector. While ISRO continues to focus on ambitious scientific missions and strategic programs, the private sector is set to play a crucial role in commercializing space activities and expanding India's presence in the global space market. The synergy between ISRO's expertise and the dynamism of private enterprise holds immense potential for the future of India's space economy.

[Adapted from The Indian Express]

- Q16.** From the passage, it can be inferred that the Indian government's space policy is primarily aimed at:
- (A) Maintaining ISRO's monopoly over all space activities (B) Discouraging foreign investment in the Indian space sector
(C) Promoting private sector involvement in the space industry
(D) Limiting space-based applications to communication and remote sensing
- Q17.** The word 'prowess' as used in the passage means:
- (A) Lack of experience (B) Technical skill or expertise (C) Financial instability (D) Political influence
- Q18.** The central idea of the passage is:
- (A) The historical development of ISRO (B) The challenges faced by private space startups in India
(C) The growing role of the private sector in India's space economy and its synergy with ISRO
(D) The importance of space-based applications for national security
- Q19.** The author's primary purpose in writing this passage is to:
- (A) Criticize ISRO's dominance in the space sector (B) Advocate for increased government funding for space exploration
(C) Inform readers about the changing landscape of India's space economy
(D) Compare India's space program with those of other countries
- Q20.** According to the passage, which of the following is true about Skyroot Aerospace and Agnikul Cosmos?
- (A) They are primarily focused on scientific research (B) They are developing their own launch vehicles and satellite technologies
(C) They are subsidiaries of ISRO (D) They are primarily involved in international collaborations

Passage 5 (Questions 21–25)

The digital town square, once hailed as a democratizing force, now stands accused of amplifying the cacophony of misinformation, particularly during electoral cycles. The sheer scale of social media platforms, coupled with algorithms optimized for engagement rather than veracity, creates an environment ripe for the dissemination of falsehoods. While proponents of free speech vehemently oppose any form of platform regulation, the unchecked spread of deliberately misleading content poses a tangible threat to informed democratic participation. The line between protected expression and malicious manipulation blurs when fabricated narratives gain viral traction, potentially swaying public opinion based on manufactured realities. The debate surrounding platform responsibility is complex. Imposing stringent content moderation policies risks censorship and stifling legitimate, albeit unpopular, viewpoints. Conversely, a laissez-faire approach abdicates the platforms' ethical obligation to safeguard the integrity of information shared on their networks. Finding a balance requires nuanced solutions, potentially involving algorithmic transparency, robust fact-checking initiatives, and media literacy campaigns aimed at empowering users to critically evaluate online content. The stakes are high: the future of informed self-governance hinges on our ability to navigate this digital minefield responsibly.

[Adapted from *The Indian Journal of Digital Ethics*]

Q21. From the passage, it can be inferred that the author believes:

- (A) Social media platforms should be completely unregulated to protect free speech
- (B) The spread of misinformation on social media poses a significant danger to democratic processes
- (C) Fact-checking initiatives are ineffective in combating online misinformation
- (D) Social media has no impact on public opinion during elections

Q22. The word 'cacophony' as used in the passage means:

- (A) A harmonious and pleasant sound
- (B) A loud and chaotic mixture of noises
- (C) A structured and organized debate
- (D) A quiet and peaceful discussion

Q23. The central idea of the passage is:

- (A) To advocate for the complete censorship of social media platforms
- (B) To highlight the benefits of social media in promoting free speech
- (C) To explore the complex challenges of balancing free speech and combating misinformation on social media
- (D) To argue that social media has no impact on democratic processes

Q24. The author's primary purpose in writing this passage is to:

- (A) Provide a definitive solution to the problem of misinformation on social media
- (B) Offer a neutral and unbiased account of the history of social media
- (C) Examine the ethical dilemmas surrounding platform regulation and the spread of misinformation
- (D) Promote the use of social media for political campaigning

Q25. The tone of the passage can best be described as:

- (A) Aggressively critical and accusatory
- (B) Objective and indifferent
- (C) Thoughtful and concerned
- (D) Humorous and sarcastic

Passage 6 (Questions 26–30)

Agnes, a librarian of seventy years and keeper of the 'Dewdrop Library' in the sleepy town of Meadow Creek, lived among the towering shelves as much as she lived in her own cottage. The scent of aged paper and leather was her perfume, the hushed whispers of turning pages her daily symphony. One Tuesday, a crisp, official-looking letter arrived, shattering the library's quietude. The town council, facing budget cuts, had decided to close the Dewdrop. It deemed the library 'redundant' in the age of the internet, a relic of a bygone era. Agnes felt a cold dread creep into her bones. The Dewdrop was more than just books; it was the heart of Meadow Creek. It was where children discovered faraway lands, where the elderly gathered for afternoon tea and book clubs, where lonely souls found companionship in stories. Agnes, usually a creature of habit and quiet routine, felt a surge of defiance. She wouldn't let the Dewdrop fade into oblivion without a fight. She started by writing a heartfelt letter to the town council, then organized a petition, and finally, rallied the townsfolk to remind them of the Dewdrop's invaluable role in their lives. The battle for the Dewdrop had begun, and Agnes, the quiet librarian, was now its fierce protector.

[Adapted from a fictional narrative]

Q26. From the passage, it can be inferred that the town council's decision to close the Dewdrop Library was primarily based on:

- (A) A lack of community interest in reading
- (B) Financial constraints and a belief in the obsolescence of libraries
- (C) Agnes's mismanagement of the library resources
- (D) The dilapidated condition of the library building

Q27. The word 'redundant' as used in the passage most nearly means:

- (A) Essential
- (B) Unnecessary
- (C) Outdated
- (D) Valuable

Q28. The central idea of the passage is:

- (A) The importance of budget management in small towns
- (B) The struggle of an elderly librarian to save her beloved library from closure
- (C) The impact of the internet on traditional institutions
- (D) The daily life of a librarian in a small town

Q29. The author's primary purpose in writing this passage is to:

- (A) Inform readers about the history of libraries
- (B) Persuade readers to support local libraries
- (C) Tell a story about a librarian's fight to preserve a community institution
- (D) Criticize town councils for making budget cuts

Q30. The tone of the passage can best be described as:

- (A) Pessimistic and cynical (B) Neutral and objective (C) Warm and hopeful (D) Humorous and lighthearted

Passage 7 (Questions 31–35)

Music's profound effect on human emotion is a subject of ongoing scientific inquiry. While subjective experience plays a significant role, neurological and biochemical processes underpin our responses to melody and rhythm. One key element is dopamine, a neurotransmitter associated with pleasure and reward. Studies have shown that listening to music, particularly pieces we enjoy, triggers dopamine release in the brain's reward centers, mirroring the effects of activities like eating or socializing. This suggests a biological basis for the pleasurable sensations music evokes. Furthermore, specific neural pathways are activated by different musical elements. Consonant harmonies, for example, tend to stimulate areas associated with positive emotions, while dissonant chords can elicit feelings of tension or unease. The predictability and resolution of musical patterns also contribute to emotional response; unexpected shifts can generate surprise or excitement, while familiar sequences provide comfort and reassurance. However, the story is not solely biological. Cultural conditioning profoundly shapes our musical preferences and emotional associations. The same melody might evoke joy in one culture and sadness in another, highlighting the role of learned associations in shaping our emotional landscape. Thus, the science of music and emotion is complex, weaving together neurological processes and cultural influences.

[Adapted from neuroscience and ethnomusicology research]

Q31. From the passage, it can be inferred that an individual's emotional response to music is:

- (A) Solely determined by the specific neural pathways activated by the music
(B) A purely subjective experience, unaffected by biological processes (C) A complex interplay of biological and cultural factors
(D) Primarily a result of dopamine release in the brain's reward centers

Q32. The word 'elicit' as used in the passage most nearly means:

- (A) Suppress (B) Evoke (C) Ignore (D) Analyze

Q33. The central idea of the passage is:

- (A) The cultural conditioning that shapes musical preferences
(B) The specific neural pathways activated by consonant and dissonant harmonies
(C) The role of dopamine in the brain's reward centers
(D) The complex interaction of biological and cultural factors in determining emotional responses to music

Q34. The author's primary purpose in writing this passage is to:

- (A) Argue that cultural influences are more important than biological factors
(B) Describe the history of music and its impact on different cultures
(C) Explain the science behind how music affects our emotions by exploring both biological and cultural factors
(D) Promote the benefits of listening to music for mental health

Q35. The tone of the passage can best be described as:

- (A) Sarcastic and dismissive (B) Speculative and uncertain (C) Objective and informative (D) Passionate and persuasive

Passage 8 (Questions 36–40)

India's streets are a stage, and its food vendors, the seasoned performers. From the fiery puchkas of Kolkata to the crispy vada pav of Mumbai, street food is more than just sustenance; it's a cultural phenomenon. It fuels local economies, providing livelihoods for millions, many of whom are migrants. A 2022 study by the National Association of Street Vendors of India (NASVI) estimated the sector contributes nearly 14% to the informal economy. However, this vibrant scene is not without its challenges. Public health concerns loom large, with issues of hygiene and food safety often taking a backseat. The use of adulterated ingredients and lack of proper sanitation can lead to widespread health problems. Despite these concerns, street food continues to thrive, adapting to changing tastes and regulations. Food safety initiatives are gaining momentum, with organizations like FSSAI working to provide training and resources to vendors. The cultural significance of street food is undeniable. It's a unifying force, bringing together people from all walks of life to savor the diverse flavors of India. It is a culinary adventure for the masses, accessible and affordable, reflecting the spirit and diversity of the nation.

[Adapted from The Indian Express]

Q36. From the passage, it can be inferred that the author believes:

- (A) Street food is solely a public health hazard and should be discouraged
(B) Despite the health risks, street food plays a vital role in Indian culture and economy
(C) The FSSAI is entirely successful in regulating street food vendors
(D) Street food is only popular among migrants and the lower class

Q37. The phrase 'taking a backseat' as used in the passage, most nearly means:

- (A) Being prioritized and given significant attention (B) Being of utmost importance and concern
(C) Being neglected or given less importance (D) Being the primary focus of discussion

Q38. The central idea of the passage is:

- (A) A detailed analysis of the FSSAI's efforts to regulate street food vendors
(B) A celebration of the diverse flavors of Indian street food
(C) An examination of the multifaceted role of street food in India, highlighting its economic, cultural, and public health dimensions
(D) A condemnation of the unhygienic practices of street food vendors

Q39. The author's primary purpose in writing this passage is to:

- (A) Persuade readers to boycott street food due to health concerns
- (B) Inform readers about the complex relationship between street food, Indian culture, and the economy
- (C) Criticize the government's lack of regulation of street food vendors
- (D) Provide a historical overview of street food in India

Q40. The tone of the passage can best be described as:

- (A) Alarmist and critical
- (B) Objective and informative
- (C) Enthusiastic and celebratory
- (D) Pessimistic and resigned

Passage 9 (Questions 41–45)

Marine ecosystems face a deluge of plastic waste, threatening biodiversity and human health. A recent report estimates that over eight million tons of plastic enter the oceans annually, originating from land-based sources. This pollution accumulates in gyres, forming massive garbage patches, and breaks down into microplastics, ingested by marine life, ultimately entering the food chain. The consequences are dire: entanglement of marine animals, habitat destruction, and potential transfer of toxins to humans. However, innovative solutions are emerging. Scientists are developing biodegradable plastics derived from renewable resources like corn starch and sugarcane, offering a sustainable alternative to traditional petroleum-based plastics. Simultaneously, ocean cleanup technologies, such as the Ocean Cleanup project's interceptor vessels, aim to remove existing plastic debris from the water. These vessels collect plastic waste before it reaches the open ocean, targeting rivers, a major source of pollution. Further, policy changes emphasizing reduced plastic consumption and improved waste management are crucial to addressing this escalating crisis. The combined approach of prevention, remediation, and sustainable alternatives offers a glimmer of hope in the fight against plastic pollution.

[Adapted from a news report on ocean pollution]

Q41. From the passage, it can be inferred that:

- (A) The problem of plastic pollution in oceans has been completely solved by biodegradable plastics
- (B) Addressing plastic pollution requires a multi-faceted approach involving technological solutions and policy changes
- (C) Ocean cleanup technologies are ineffective in removing plastic waste from the oceans
- (D) The primary source of plastic pollution in oceans is directly from ships at sea

Q42. According to the passage, which of the following is a consequence of plastic pollution in the oceans?

- (A) Increased fish populations
- (B) Entanglement of marine animals
- (C) Improved water quality
- (D) Growth of coral reefs

Q43. The central idea of the passage is:

- (A) The economic benefits of using petroleum-based plastics
- (B) The devastating impact of plastic pollution on oceans and the potential solutions being developed
- (C) The effectiveness of current waste management systems
- (D) The role of international treaties in regulating plastic production

Q44. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the argument for using biodegradable plastics?

- (A) Biodegradable plastics are more expensive to produce than traditional plastics
- (B) Biodegradable plastics decompose completely in marine environments without releasing harmful chemicals
- (C) The production of biodegradable plastics requires more energy than traditional plastics
- (D) Biodegradable plastics are not as durable as traditional plastics

Q45. The word "deluge" as used in the passage means:

- (A) A small amount
- (B) A sudden and overwhelming flood
- (C) A carefully measured dose
- (D) A welcome addition

Passage 10 (Questions 46–50)

The unscripted theatre of childhood play, once a sprawling landscape of imagination, is now increasingly hemmed in by the manicured lawns of scheduled activities. We have, in our zeal to cultivate prodigies, perhaps inadvertently pruned the very roots of ingenuity. The child, once free to wander the labyrinthine corridors of make-believe, now marches to the metronomic beat of extracurricular drills. What is lost in this calculated ascent? The ability to synthesize, to improvise, to conjure worlds from the mundane. For it is in the seemingly aimless frolic that the mind forges its most potent connections, unburdened by the pressure of quantifiable outcomes. Social intelligence, too, suffers in this pedagogical rat race. The playground, that crucible of conflict resolution and collaborative storytelling, is supplanted by solitary pursuits or rigidly structured team sports, where the emphasis is less on organic interaction and more on prescribed roles and predetermined strategies. The negotiation of rules, the spontaneous formation of alliances, the subtle dance of empathy – these are the unsung lessons of unstructured play, crucial for navigating the complexities of human relationships. Are we not, in our pursuit of measurable achievement, sacrificing the immeasurable gifts of a truly playful childhood?

[Adapted from a personal essay]

Q46. From the passage, it can be inferred that the author believes overscheduling children primarily hinders their:

- (A) Ability to excel in academic subjects
- (B) Capacity for imaginative thinking and social competence
- (C) Physical development and athletic prowess
- (D) Adherence to rules and structured environments

Q47. The author's primary purpose in writing this passage is to:

- (A) Provide a historical overview of childhood education trends
- (B) Critique the current emphasis on structured activities for children and advocate for more unstructured play
- (C) Offer practical advice for parents on how to schedule their children's time
- (D) Compare and contrast the benefits of team sports and individual hobbies

Q48. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the author's argument?

- (A) Studies show that children in highly structured programs develop stronger problem-solving skills
- (B) Unstructured play can sometimes lead to boredom and lack of motivation
- (C) Many parents find it difficult to balance their children's schedules
- (D) Children who participate in extracurricular activities are less likely to engage in risky behaviors

Q49. The tone of the passage can best be described as:

- (A) Enthusiastic and celebratory
- (B) Objective and analytical
- (C) Melancholy and critical
- (D) Humorous and satirical

Q50. The phrase 'pedagogical rat race' as used in the passage means:

- (A) A competitive environment focused on academic achievement
- (B) A system of education that encourages creativity and innovation
- (C) A leisurely approach to learning and development
- (D) A method of teaching that prioritizes physical activity and outdoor play

Passage 11 (Questions 51–55)

India's electric vehicle (EV) market is revving up, fueled by government subsidies and growing environmental awareness. The Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Electric Vehicles (FAME) scheme has been instrumental in lowering the initial cost of EVs, making them more accessible to the average consumer. However, the road to widespread EV adoption isn't without its bumps. A significant challenge lies in the inadequate charging infrastructure. While major cities are seeing a gradual increase in charging stations, rural areas remain largely underserved, creating range anxiety among potential buyers. Consumer adoption patterns reveal a preference for electric scooters and three-wheelers, primarily for commercial use. Electric cars, although gaining traction, face higher price barriers and concerns about battery range. The government is actively promoting public-private partnerships to accelerate the deployment of charging infrastructure and encourage domestic manufacturing of EV components. Experts predict that with continued policy support and technological advancements, India's EV market is poised for substantial growth in the coming years. Overcoming infrastructure hurdles and addressing consumer concerns about cost and range will be crucial in realizing this potential.

[Adapted from a news report]

Q51. From the passage, it can be inferred that 'range anxiety' primarily affects:

- (A) Owners of electric scooters in urban areas
- (B) Potential buyers of electric cars concerned about long distances
- (C) Commercial users of electric three-wheelers
- (D) Government officials promoting the FAME scheme

Q52. According to the passage, which of the following is a major obstacle to widespread EV adoption in India?

- (A) The high cost of electricity
- (B) The lack of government subsidies
- (C) Inadequate charging infrastructure, especially in rural areas
- (D) A lack of consumer interest in electric vehicles

Q53. The central idea of the passage is:

- (A) A detailed analysis of the FAME scheme and its impact on the Indian economy
- (B) An overview of the challenges and opportunities in India's growing electric vehicle market
- (C) A comparison of electric vehicle adoption rates in urban versus rural India
- (D) A critique of the government's policies regarding electric vehicle manufacturing

Q54. The author's primary purpose in writing this passage is to:

- (A) Advocate for increased government investment in electric vehicle manufacturing
- (B) Inform readers about the current state and future prospects of the Indian EV market
- (C) Persuade consumers to switch to electric vehicles
- (D) Criticize the slow pace of electric vehicle adoption in India

Q55. The word 'instrumental' as used in the passage means:

- (A) Musical
- (B) Essential
- (C) Experimental
- (D) Mechanical

Passage 12 (Questions 56–60)

The city exhaled concrete and steel, a lung perpetually wheezing exhaust. But on rooftops and in forgotten corners, a different kind of breathing took hold. Mrs. Gupta, on the fourth floor of a crumbling apartment block, started small – a few tomato plants salvaged from the market's discard pile. Then came spinach, then herbs, a riot of green against the grey. Across the city, others followed suit. Empty lots became shared gardens, tended by hands roughened not by spreadsheets, but by soil. Balconies overflowed with fragrant basil and mint, a silent rebellion against the sterile uniformity. It wasn't just about the food, though the plump, homegrown tomatoes tasted like sunshine stolen from the sky. It was about connection. Neighbors, once strangers separated by walls and routines, now exchanged gardening tips and shared harvests. The gardens became sanctuaries, pockets of peace in the urban chaos, where the anxieties of the city faded into the background hum of bees. Children learned where food came from, their fingers stained green instead of glued to screens. A quiet revolution, blooming one seed at a time, transforming not just the landscape, but the very fabric of urban life. The concrete jungle was slowly, tentatively, turning green.

[Adapted from a fictional narrative]

Q56. From the passage, it can be inferred that the author believes community gardens primarily offer:

- (A) A significant contribution to large-scale commercial agriculture
- (B) A way to foster community and improve well-being in urban environments
- (C) A solution to eliminate food scarcity in densely populated cities
- (D) An opportunity for individuals to generate income through selling produce

Q57. The phrase 'silent rebellion' as used in the passage means:

- (A) A violent uprising against the local authorities (B) A quiet, non-violent resistance to the unyielding nature of city life
(C) A political movement advocating for environmental regulations (D) A protest against the high prices of organic vegetables

Q58. The central idea of the passage is:

- (A) The importance of sustainable agriculture in rural areas (B) The detrimental effects of urban sprawl on the environment
(C) The transformative power of community gardens in urban spaces
(D) The economic benefits of rooftop farming for city dwellers

Q59. The tone of the passage can best be described as:

- (A) Pessimistic and cynical (B) Neutral and objective (C) Hopeful and appreciative (D) Angry and accusatory

Q60. According to the passage, which of the following is true about the community gardens?

- (A) They are primarily funded by government grants (B) They are exclusively located on rooftops of apartment buildings
(C) They help children understand the origin of their food (D) They require extensive technological infrastructure

Passage 13 (Questions 61–65)

A quiet revolution is underway in India, one delivered not through screens but through earbuds. Podcasts, once a niche interest, are rapidly becoming a mainstream medium for young Indians. Fuelled by affordable data and a desire for accessible content, the podcasting landscape is exploding with diverse voices and topics. No longer are stories confined to traditional publishing houses or news restricted to television broadcasts. Podcasts are democratizing storytelling, offering platforms to independent creators and marginalized communities. Educational podcasts are simplifying complex subjects, making learning more engaging than textbooks ever could. News podcasts provide concise summaries and in-depth analysis, catering to a generation that consumes information on the go. The intimacy of audio creates a unique connection between creator and listener, fostering a sense of community. While challenges remain, including monetization and discoverability, the future of podcasts in India looks bright. They offer a personalized, on-demand experience, perfectly suited to the lifestyles of India's increasingly mobile and digitally savvy youth. This audio boom is not just a trend; it's a testament to the power of accessible content and the evolving media consumption habits of a nation.

[Adapted from The Indian Express]

Q61. From the passage, it can be inferred that one of the primary reasons for the rise of podcasts in India is:

- (A) The increasing popularity of radio dramas (B) The affordability of data and the desire for easily accessible content
(C) Government subsidies for independent content creators (D) A decline in the quality of traditional news outlets

Q62. The phrase 'democratizing storytelling' as used in the passage means:

- (A) Making stories more politically focused
(B) Allowing anyone to create and share stories, regardless of background or resources
(C) Creating stories that promote democratic values (D) Restricting stories to those approved by a governing body

Q63. The central idea of the passage is:

- (A) The challenges faced by traditional media outlets in India
(B) The increasing popularity and democratizing effect of podcasts in India, especially among young people
(C) The role of government in promoting digital content creation (D) The importance of audio quality in podcast production

Q64. The author's primary purpose in writing this passage is:

- (A) To criticize the quality of podcast content in India (B) To inform readers about the rise of podcasts in India and their impact
(C) To persuade readers to start their own podcasts (D) To compare Indian podcasts to those in other countries

Q65. The tone of the passage can best be described as:

- (A) Sarcastic and cynical (B) Neutral and objective (C) Enthusiastic and optimistic (D) Pessimistic and critical

Passage 14 (Questions 66–70)

Home. The word itself is a loaded cart, creaking under the weight of expectation, memory, and longing. Is it the house we grew up in, the scent of our mother's cooking clinging to the walls long after we've left? Or is it something more ephemeral, a feeling of belonging that transcends geographical boundaries? For those of us who have known the disorienting experience of migration, the answer is rarely simple. The migrant's home is often a fractured thing, a collage of fragmented memories and yearnings for places that exist only in the realm of nostalgia. The diaspora community, scattered across continents, clings to shared traditions and stories, attempting to recreate a sense of home in foreign lands. But can a simulacrum ever truly replace the original? Can a cultural performance, however heartfelt, fully compensate for the loss of a tangible connection to the land of one's ancestors? Perhaps, then, home is not a place at all, but a relationship. A bond forged in shared experiences, mutual support, and unconditional love. It is the familiar face in a crowded room, the comforting voice on the other end of a phone call, the unwavering presence that anchors us in times of uncertainty. This interpretation offers solace to the displaced, suggesting that home can be rebuilt wherever meaningful connections are forged. Yet, even this definition is not without its limitations. What of those who are alienated within their own families, or who find themselves adrift in a sea of superficial acquaintances? For them, the search for home may remain a lifelong quest, a yearning for a sense of belonging that perpetually eludes their grasp.

[Adapted from a philosophical essay]

Q66. From the passage, it can be inferred that the author believes the concept of 'home' is primarily:

- (A) A static and unchanging physical location (B) A complex and multifaceted idea
(C) A purely sentimental notion with little practical value (D) An easily attainable state for most people

Q67. The word "simulacrum" as used in the passage most nearly means:

- (A) A genuine and authentic representation (B) A perfect replica indistinguishable from the original
(C) A superficial imitation or substitute (D) A sacred or revered object

Q68. The central idea of the passage is:

- (A) The importance of maintaining cultural traditions in diaspora communities
(B) The challenges faced by migrants in adapting to new environments
(C) A philosophical exploration of the meaning of home and its relevance to migrants and others
(D) The superiority of personal relationships over physical places in defining home

Q69. The author's primary purpose in writing this passage is to:

- (A) Advocate for policies that support migrant communities
(B) Provide a definitive answer to the question of what constitutes 'home'
(C) Encourage readers to reconnect with their ancestral homelands
(D) Reflect on the complex and elusive nature of 'home' for migrants and others

Q70. The tone of the passage can best be described as:

- (A) Dogmatic and assertive (B) Nostalgic and sentimental (C) Speculative and reflective (D) Critical and judgmental

Passage 15 (Questions 71–75)

The role of zoos in the 21st century is a subject of ongoing debate. Proponents emphasize their conservation efforts, captive breeding programs, and educational outreach, all vital in a world facing unprecedented biodiversity loss. Zoos, they argue, serve as arks, safeguarding endangered species and raising public awareness about environmental issues. These arguments, however, often overshadow the ethical considerations surrounding animal welfare. Confining sentient beings, regardless of how spacious the enclosure, restricts their natural behaviours and social structures. The argument that such restrictions are justifiable for the greater good of conservation becomes tenuous when juxtaposed with the existence of wildlife sanctuaries. Sanctuaries prioritize the animal's well-being, offering vast, protected habitats where animals can roam freely and express their natural instincts. While sanctuaries may not always have the same level of public accessibility or structured breeding programs as zoos, their commitment to animal welfare is paramount. The future of conservation may lie not in reinforcing the bars of zoos, but in expanding and supporting genuine sanctuaries, fostering a world where animals thrive in their natural environments, rather than merely survive in captivity. The debate necessitates a re-evaluation of our priorities: are we truly prioritizing conservation, or are we prioritizing our own desire to observe and control the natural world?

[Adapted from Environmental Ethics Today]

Q71. From the passage, it can be inferred that the author believes that the 'greater good of conservation' argument used to justify zoos is:

- (A) Unquestionably valid and supported by scientific evidence
(B) Questionable when compared to the welfare provided by sanctuaries
(C) The only viable method for preserving endangered species (D) A necessary evil that must be accepted without debate

Q72. The phrase 'reinforcing the bars of zoos' as used in the passage most nearly means:

- (A) Improving the physical security of zoo enclosures (B) Strengthening the arguments in favour of zoos and their practices
(C) Increasing funding for zoo infrastructure projects (D) Limiting access to zoos to prevent animal escapes

Q73. The central idea of the passage is that:

- (A) Zoos are inherently unethical and should be abolished immediately
(B) Wildlife sanctuaries are superior to zoos in all aspects of conservation
(C) The ethical implications of zoos should be carefully considered in light of animal welfare and the alternative of wildlife sanctuaries
(D) Conservation efforts are the only important factor when considering the role of zoos

Q74. The author's primary purpose in writing this passage is to:

- (A) Provide a comprehensive history of zoos and their evolution (B) Persuade readers to donate to wildlife sanctuaries
(C) Encourage a critical examination of the ethical considerations surrounding zoos
(D) Present a purely objective analysis of the benefits and drawbacks of zoos

Q75. The tone of the passage can best be described as:

- (A) Dismissive and condescending (B) Objective and impartial (C) Thoughtful and questioning
(D) Alarmist and hyperbolic

Passage 16 (Questions 76–80)

Traditional Indian board games, such as Chaupar, Pachisi, and Snakes and Ladders, represent a fascinating intersection of recreation, cultural values, and mathematical principles. Originating in ancient India, these games were not merely diversions but served as tools for imparting moral lessons and strategic thinking. Chaupar and Pachisi, variations of a cross-and-circle game, are believed to have been played as early as the Mughal era, often depicted in historical art and literature, signifying their royal patronage and widespread popularity. Snakes and Ladders, known in its earliest form as Moksha Patam, was explicitly designed to illustrate the karmic cycle, with ladders representing virtues and snakes symbolizing vices. The game visually and conceptually linked actions to their consequences, embedding ethical considerations within entertainment. In contemporary times, these games have experienced a digital revival. Mobile apps and online platforms now offer accessible versions, introducing these traditional pastimes to a new generation. This digital adaptation not only preserves cultural heritage but also transforms the games, incorporating new features and globalizing their appeal. The enduring popularity of these games underscores their

adaptability and relevance, demonstrating how ancient traditions can find new life in the modern world. The transition from physical board to digital interface highlights the dynamic interplay between tradition and innovation.

[Adapted from an academic journal on Indian cultural history]

- Q76.** From the passage, it can be inferred that the game of Moksha Patam (Snakes and Ladders) was primarily intended to:
- (A) Provide a purely recreational activity for children (B) Promote strategic thinking and mathematical skills
(C) Illustrate the principles of karma and moral consequences (D) Serve as a pastime for the royal families during the Mughal era
- Q77.** The word 'patronage' as used in the passage most nearly means:
- (A) Criticism (B) Support (C) Neglect (D) Disapproval
- Q78.** The central idea of the passage is:
- (A) The historical evolution of mathematical principles in ancient India
(B) The digital adaptation of traditional Indian board games
(C) The cultural significance and modern revival of traditional Indian board games
(D) A comparison of Chaupar, Pachisi, and Snakes and Ladders
- Q79.** The author's primary purpose in writing this passage is to:
- (A) Criticize the commercialization of traditional Indian games
(B) Explain the rules and strategies of Chaupar, Pachisi, and Snakes and Ladders
(C) Explore the historical, cultural, and contemporary relevance of traditional Indian board games
(D) Argue for the superiority of traditional games over modern digital games
- Q80.** The tone of the passage can best be described as:
- (A) Sarcastic and dismissive (B) Informative and appreciative (C) Humorous and lighthearted
(D) Critical and judgmental

Passage 17 (Questions 81–85)

In an increasingly urbanized world, the restorative power of nature is gaining recognition not just as a pleasant pastime, but as a vital component of mental well-being. Forest bathing, or 'Shinrin-Yoku,' a practice originating in Japan, encourages individuals to mindfully immerse themselves in the forest environment. Studies suggest that exposure to phytoncides, airborne chemicals released by trees, can reduce stress hormones and boost the immune system. This concept extends beyond forests; 'green therapy' encompasses any interaction with natural spaces, from gardening to simply spending time in a park. The benefits are manifold: reduced anxiety, improved mood, and increased focus. Interestingly, hospitals are now incorporating 'healing gardens' into their designs. These green spaces offer patients and their families a respite from the sterile environment of medical facilities. Research indicates that patients with access to gardens require less pain medication and experience shorter hospital stays. The underlying principle is simple: nature fosters a sense of calm and connection, counteracting the stresses of modern life. As we grapple with the mental health challenges of the 21st century, the wisdom of embracing nature as a therapeutic tool becomes increasingly clear. Spending time in nature is not a luxury, but a necessity.

[Adapted from The Mindful Life magazine]

- Q81.** From the passage, it can be inferred that:
- (A) Urban environments are inherently detrimental to mental health
(B) Exposure to nature is a universally effective cure for all mental health issues
(C) Incorporating natural elements into healthcare settings can positively impact patient recovery
(D) Japanese cultural practices are superior to Western medical treatments
- Q82.** The phrase 'respite from the sterile environment' as used in the passage means:
- (A) An escape from the clean but impersonal atmosphere (B) A continuation of the medical treatment in a different setting
(C) An area where bacteria cannot survive (D) A place where only doctors and nurses are allowed
- Q83.** The central idea of the passage is:
- (A) The superiority of Japanese healing practices over Western medicine
(B) The increasing urbanization of the world and its negative consequences
(C) The growing recognition of nature's role in promoting mental well-being and healing
(D) A detailed scientific analysis of phytoncides and their effects
- Q84.** The author's primary purpose in writing this passage is:
- (A) To criticize the lack of green spaces in modern cities
(B) To inform readers about the benefits of spending time in nature for mental health
(C) To promote the practice of forest bathing as a spiritual experience
(D) To provide a historical overview of the development of healing gardens
- Q85.** The tone of the passage can best be described as:
- (A) Alarmist and pessimistic (B) Informative and encouraging (C) Sarcastic and dismissive (D) Aggressively critical

Passage 18 (Questions 86–90)

The attic air hung thick with dust and the ghosts of forgotten stories. Sunlight, fractured by grime-coated panes, illuminated stacks of yellowed paper – my grandmother's letters. Each envelope, brittle with age, bore the elegant sweep of her hand, a testament to a time when words were carefully considered, not hastily typed. Opening one, the scent of lavender, a faint echo of her perfume, wafted out, a visceral connection to a

past I never knew. These weren't mere missives; they were fragments of a soul laid bare. Each stroke of ink held a weight, a deliberate commitment absent in the ephemeral world of emails and fleeting texts. I imagined her, pen in hand, carefully choosing each word to convey the precise shade of her emotion. A joy, a sorrow, a longing – all etched onto the page with painstaking care. Now, emotions are flattened into emojis, nuanced feelings sacrificed at the altar of speed. The intimacy, the tangible connection of holding a piece of someone's heart in your hands, has been lost in the digital ether. A handwritten letter was an act of love, a piece of oneself offered to another. An email, a text – they are mere transactions, devoid of the soul that once resided in the humble art of letter writing. The world has moved on, but I remain here, amidst the dust and memories, clinging to these paper ghosts.

[Adapted from a personal reflection]

Q86. From the passage, it can be inferred that the author feels a sense of:

- (A) Indifference towards modern technology (B) Nostalgic longing for a past era
(C) Anger at the decline of traditional values (D) Envy towards those who experienced the past

Q87. The phrase 'paper ghosts' as used in the passage refers to:

- (A) The fragile and decaying state of the letters (B) The lingering presence of the grandmother's spirit
(C) The fading memories and emotions contained within the letters (D) The author's fear of the past

Q88. The central idea of the passage is:

- (A) The importance of preserving historical artifacts (B) A comparison of different forms of communication
(C) The superiority of handwritten letters over digital messages in conveying emotion
(D) The author's personal journey of discovering their grandmother's past

Q89. The author's primary purpose in writing this passage is to:

- (A) Criticize the overuse of technology in modern society (B) Share a personal anecdote about discovering old letters
(C) Reflect on the lost art of letter writing and its emotional significance (D) Inform the reader about the history of letter writing

Q90. The tone of the passage can best be described as:

- (A) Objective and analytical (B) Sentimental and reflective (C) Critical and judgmental (D) Humorous and lighthearted

Passage 19 (Questions 91–95)

India's gig economy, a burgeoning landscape of freelance designers, delivery drivers, and platform workers, presents a paradox. On one hand, it offers unparalleled flexibility – workers dictate their hours, choose their projects, and theoretically become masters of their own economic destiny. This autonomy is particularly appealing in a country where traditional employment can be rigid and hierarchical. Yet, this freedom comes at a steep price: the erosion of social security and labor protections. Gig workers often lack access to health insurance, paid leave, and retirement benefits – safety nets that are typically associated with formal employment. The absence of these protections leaves gig workers vulnerable to economic shocks and uncertainties. A sudden illness, an unexpected accident, or a downturn in demand can plunge them into financial distress. Moreover, the algorithmic management systems that govern many gig platforms can be opaque and exploitative, squeezing earnings and limiting bargaining power. While proponents tout the gig economy as a pathway to economic empowerment, the reality for many is one of precarity and insecurity. The challenge for India is to harness the dynamism of the gig economy while ensuring that its workers are afforded the basic rights and protections they deserve. A delicate balancing act is required: fostering innovation without sacrificing social justice.

[Adapted from Institute for Labour Studies]

Q91. From the passage, it can be inferred that the author believes that the 'economic destiny' of gig workers is:

- (A) Entirely within their control, allowing them to amass significant wealth
(B) A complex and often misleading promise due to the inherent risks and lack of protections
(C) Guaranteed by the innovative nature of the gig economy
(D) Primarily determined by their individual skills and work ethic, regardless of external factors

Q92. The word 'precarity' as used in the passage most nearly means:

- (A) A state of affluence and financial stability (B) The condition of being predictable and secure
(C) A state of uncertainty and instability (D) The act of making careful preparations

Q93. The central idea of the passage is that:

- (A) The gig economy offers only benefits, such as flexibility and autonomy
(B) The gig economy is a purely exploitative system with no redeeming qualities
(C) India's gig economy presents a trade-off between flexibility and security, requiring a balanced approach
(D) Traditional employment is superior to the gig economy in all aspects

Q94. The author's primary purpose in writing this passage is to:

- (A) Provide a purely celebratory account of the gig economy's growth in India
(B) Criticize the gig economy without acknowledging any potential benefits
(C) Examine the complexities of the gig economy in India, highlighting both its advantages and disadvantages
(D) Advocate for the complete abolition of the gig economy

Q95. The tone of the passage can best be described as:

- (A) Unequivocally optimistic (B) Bitterly critical (C) Cautiously optimistic and analytical (D) Indifferently neutral

Passage 20 (Questions 96–100)

Mumbai – The global fashion scene is witnessing a vibrant resurgence of Indian textiles, with Banarasi silk, Chanderi, and Ikat taking center stage on runways from Paris to New York. This isn't merely a fleeting trend; it's a conscious shift towards sustainable and ethical fashion, breathing new life into ancient weaving traditions. Designers are collaborating directly with artisan communities, ensuring fair wages and preserving invaluable skills passed down through generations. The demand for handloom fabrics is surging as consumers become increasingly aware of the environmental and social costs associated with fast fashion. These textiles, known for their intricate designs and natural dyes, offer a compelling alternative. Moreover, the versatility of these fabrics allows designers to create contemporary silhouettes while honoring their heritage. From elegant sarees reimagined as gowns to Ikat used in modern separates, Indian textiles are proving their adaptability and timeless appeal. This revival not only celebrates India's rich cultural heritage but also promotes a more sustainable and equitable fashion industry.

[Adapted from The Indian Textile Journal]

Q96. From the passage, it can be inferred that the fast fashion industry is primarily characterized by:

- (A) A focus on preserving traditional weaving techniques (B) Environmentally sustainable practices and fair wages for artisans
(C) A lack of concern for environmental and social costs (D) The use of natural dyes and intricate designs in clothing production

Q97. The phrase 'taking center stage' as used in the passage means:

- (A) Being hidden from view (B) Becoming a primary focus of attention (C) Competing with other textiles
(D) Being displayed in a museum

Q98. The central idea of the passage is:

- (A) The economic benefits of the fast fashion industry (B) The decline of traditional Indian weaving techniques
(C) The global resurgence of Indian textiles due to sustainable fashion trends
(D) The challenges faced by designers in adapting Indian textiles for modern designs

Q99. The author's primary purpose in writing this passage is to:

- (A) Criticize the fast fashion industry (B) Promote the sale of Indian textiles
(C) Inform readers about the revival of Indian textiles and its connection to sustainable fashion
(D) Provide a detailed history of Indian weaving techniques

Q100. The tone of the passage can best be described as:

- (A) Pessimistic and critical (B) Objective and informative (C) Enthusiastic and optimistic (D) Sarcastic and dismissive