

## Fillers

**Direction (1 to 3) :** In each of the following sentence there are three blank spaces. Below each sentence there are five options and each option consists of three words each which can be filled up in the blanks in the sentence to make the sentence grammatically correct. You will have to tick the choice which contains the appropriate set of words that fit the blanks in the best possible way.

1. It was challenging, however, to find imaginative \_\_\_\_\_ of providing meaning to a child through a story, especially because the \_\_\_\_\_ he selects are difficult to turn into innovative stories \_\_\_\_\_ limited rhyming vocabulary.
  - (a) Ways, concepts, using
  - (b) Manner, ideas, by
  - (c) Means, notion, through
  - (d) Methods, images, utilising
  - (e) Techniques, views, testing
2. The latest move may well be \_\_\_\_\_ to a concern that a sudden shift from free to paid services will \_\_\_\_\_ customer retention, and if so, the company's monetization plans would be far \_\_\_\_\_ staggered than what its investors had estimated.
  - (a) Because, beat, better
  - (b) Due, hit, more
  - (c) Owing, effect, greater
  - (d) Result, affect, less
  - (e) Cause, attain, deeper
3. The departures come at a time \_\_\_\_\_ the company is exploring offline channels and evolving into a furniture brand from an e-commerce store and is also on course to \_\_\_\_\_ offline distribution channels \_\_\_\_\_ company-owned centres.
  - (a) Though, broaden, to
  - (b) During, extend, from
  - (c) Whereas, enlarge, and
  - (d) While, increase, through
  - (e) When, widen, beyond

**Direction (4 to 8) :** In each of the following questions a sentence is given with a part missing. Out of the remaining options choose the one that provides the filler that most suits the context and is grammatically correct.

4. During the past decade, I've lived on and off in Buenos Aires, in and out of different jobs and relationships that have \_\_\_\_\_ between South America and my native US.
  1. taken me back and forth
  2. moved me to and fro
  3. transferred me here and there
  - (a) Only 1
  - (b) Only 1 and 2

- (c) Only 1 and 3
  - (d) 1, 2 and 3
  - (e) None of the above
5. From brick and mortar shops in Hargeisa to street sellers sitting on old worn crates down dusty dirt roads in the country's rural east, cash is being increasingly side lined as more and more people
    1. adopt the cashless approach.
    2. move towards a cashless economy
    3. the first completely cashless economy
    - (a) Only 1
    - (b) Only 1 and 2
    - (c) Only 2 and 3
    - (d) 1,2 and 3
    - (e) None of the above
  6. Whether it's jobs, property, or just the sheer towering unfairness of the world, millennial complainants are everywhere, ready to ..... of everything their generation has been stifled on.
    1. give you a rundown
    2. narrate a running commentary
    3. talking non-stop
    - (a) Only 1
    - (b) Only 1 and 2
    - (c) Only land 3
    - (d) 1,2 and 3
    - (e) None of the above
  7. The compressed culture of the campus can promote the idea that work is fun, palaces of informality to house workers ..... a technologically-driven Utopia.
    1. following the vision of
    2. acting on the belief that
    3. driven by a belief in
    - (a) Only 1
    - (b) Only 1 and 2
    - (c) Only 1 and 3
    - (d) 1, 2 and 3
    - (e) None of the above
  8. Catching cancers as early as possible can greatly improve a patient's chances of survival and reduce the risk \_\_\_\_\_.
    1. of the disease recurrence
    2. the return of cancer
    3. relapse into further stages
    - (a) Only 1
    - (b) Only land 2
    - (c) Only 2 and 3
    - (d) 1,2 and 3
    - (e) None of the above

**Direction :** In each of these questions, a paragraph is given that has a blank in it. Five sentences (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) are suggested. Out of these, only one fits the blank in the context of the paragraph. Pick that as the answer.

9. That traditional "personal touch" shopping experience is hard to replicate online. As more companies struggle to find their niche with the modern consumer, they're turning to new technologies to recreate this sensory experience.

What's emerging is called the "StoreHouse" - a hybrid model that merges the physical benefits of a real-world store with the convenience of home.

.....

- (a) Amazon recently announced a new service, Prime Wardrobe, that allows customers to select 3-15 items and try the clothes for up to seven days, with free shipping and returns for the items they choose not to keep.
- (b) Brands like these know that savvy consumers want both the convenience of online shopping and the experimentation they get in an offline store.
- (c) To embrace this market shift, retailers will need to experiment with a range of technologies and strategies across marketing, supply chain, and merchandising.
- (d) There's huge potential to replicate important real-world shopping experiences using augmented reality. E All of the above
- (e) All of the above

**Direction 10 :** In each of the following questions, a short passage is given with one of the lines in the passage missing and represented by a blank. Select the best out of the five answer choices given to make the passage complete and coherent (logically complete and sound).

10. Practically every investor is aware that diversification is something that is good for his or her investment portfolio. However, unless we care to get into the matter further, diversification is just a word. Most people have a vague idea that it means that one should invest in a large variety of stocks and funds. (\_\_\_\_\_)
- (a) Beyond a point, adding stocks or funds doesn't materially add to the degree of safety but it does add to the problem of manageability.
  - (b) At its minimum, very little diversification is needed as there are plenty of good diversified equity funds that invest across sectors, company sizes and even geography.
  - (c) Investors who wish to keep their life simple can do fine with just three or four funds.
  - (d) Apart from sectors, diversification should also be across company size as sometimes only smaller or larger companies do well or do badly.
  - (e) However, the way people put this into practice often leaves a lot to be desired-some things that pass for diversification are ineffective, or worse.

**Directions :** In the following sentences, a blank is given indicating that something is missing. From the given four options a combination of words would fit the blank thereby making it grammatically and contextually correct.

11. We do have \_\_\_\_\_ data points to understand the trend in employment generation in different time-periods of the recent years.
- 1. Paltry
  - 2. Meagre
  - 3. Scant
  - 4. Sparse
- (a) BD (b) AC (c) AD (d) CD

(e) None will be correct

12. Twenty First Century Fox Inc.'s Fox Sports is \_\_\_\_\_ with Snap Inc.'s Snapchat to showcase stories with matchday highlights, on the FIFA World Cup soccer tournament to be hosted in Russia later this year.

- 1. Collaborating
  - 2. Partnering
  - 3. Protruding
  - 4. Jaggging
- (a) AB (b) BC (c) CD (d) AD
- (e) None will be correct

13. While grit is maintaining your passion and \_\_\_\_\_ over a period of time, Sisu is more about short intense bursts of extraordinary strength and courage to stretch yourself beyond your capacities.

- 1. Perseverance
  - 2. Tenacity
  - 3. Resolve
  - 4. Diligence
- (a) BD (b) AC (c) AB (d) BC
- (e) All will be correct

14. The boy at once set to work, spending all his \_\_\_\_\_ time, day and night, over these studies, to which he afterwards added geography and fortification.

- 1. spare
  - 2. free
  - 3. leisure
  - 4. recreation
- (a) AB (b) BC (c) BD (d) CD
- (e) All

15. The Iroquois tribe became more and more menacing to the French, whom they now openly\_\_\_\_\_.

- A. detested
  - B. despised
  - C. hatred
  - D. respected
- (a) AB (b) BC (c) AC (d) BD
- (e) All can fit

**Direction :** In each of these questions, a paragraph is given that has a blank in it. Five sentences (1), (2), (3), (4) and (5) are suggested. Out of these, only one fits the blank in the context of the paragraph. Pick that as the answer.

16)Regional policy is a policy intended to boost economic activity in a specific geographical area that is not an entire country and, typically, is in worse economic shape than nearby areas. It can include offering firms incentives to provide jobs in the region, such as soft loans, grants, lower taxes, cheap land and buildings, subsidized labour and worker training.\_\_\_\_\_After all, simple theories of supply and demand would suggest that firms will move to areas of low wages and high unemployment to take advantage of cheaper labour and surplus workers, or that workers will move away from such areas to where more and better-paid jobs exist. But some economic theories suggest that rather than moving to areas where wages are lowest, firms often cluster together with other successful businesses. Regional policy may need to be extremely generous to tempt firms to give up the advantages of being in a cluster.

16. (a) Such policies can be extremely beneficial to not only the firms but also to the region as a whole.
- (b) In the absence of such policies, many firms can take drastic measures to escape economic turmoil.

- (c) But is it necessary as a region's problems should be somewhat self-correcting.
- (d) Such policies generally pump up demand and thus boost the level of economic activity.
- (e) But is it justifiable to offer such incentives to firms and how far such incentives should go?
17. \_\_\_\_\_ The World Health Organization estimates that deficiency of key micronutrients such as iron, vitamin A and iodine together affects a third of the world's population; in general, insufficient consumption of vitamins and minerals remains problematic. Viewed against the nutrition challenge India faces, processed foods with standards-based fortification can help advance overall health goals, starting with maternal health. It is imperative, for a start, to make iron-fortified food widely available, since iron deficiency contributes to 20% of maternal deaths and is associated with nearly half of all maternal deaths. Low intake of vitamins, zinc and folate also causes a variety of health issues, particularly when growing children are deprived. The benefit of fortification is maximized when there is a focus also on adequate intake of oils and fats, which are necessary for the absorption of micronutrients and something poorer households often miss in their diet.
- (a) Good quality low cost fortified foods are widely available today in the world encouraging people to adopt a diversified and wholesome diet.
- (b) People should get a wholesome cooked meal that is naturally rich, and augmented with key micronutrients, fortification helps the world with that.
- (c) Food fortification adds essential vitamins and minerals to staple foods to improve their nutritional content but they need a well-functioning public distribution system to reach all sections.
- (d) Since a diversified diet that meets all nutritional requirements is difficult to provide, fortification of food is relied upon by many countries to prevent malnutrition.
- (e) All fit
18. The general assumption in our culture is that children must be taught to read. Vast amounts of research go into trying to figure out the scientifically best way to do this. Recently two cognitive scientists claimed that the next development in reading instruction is going to be individualized instruction. According to the scientists, modern brain imaging methods will be used to figure out the unique learning style of each child, and digital text-delivery programs will be used to teach reading to each child according to his or her unique needs and way of learning. \_\_\_\_\_. So, as long as kids grow up in a literate society, surrounded by people who read, they will learn to read. They may ask some questions along the way and get a few pointers from others who already know how to read, but they will take the initiative in all of this and orchestrate the entire process themselves.
- (a) Reading does not come easily to kids as all of them have their own unique needs and huge amounts of time and effort go into teaching them accordingly.
- (b) These unique needs are catered by large industries who have developed around the creation and marketing of instructional materials for this purpose.
- (c) Hence, the unique needs of each child, as they affect learning to read, are functions of differences in brain hardware and this method will help them learning in their own unique way.
- (d) The unique needs of each child actually vary from moment to moment based on the child's specific experiences, wishes, and whims, which the child himself or herself controls.
- (e) In addition, educators will encourage parents of young children to teach reading at home in order to prepare the children for reading instruction according to their kids' unique needs.
19. The term monopoly has taken on bad connotations to the point where goodness is rarely, if ever, associated with it. According to dictionaries, the term monopoly means "exclusive control of a commodity or service in a given market." There are two ways to attain an exclusive position in the market, that is to say, there are two ways to achieve monopoly. One way is not only harmless -indeed, it is beneficial; the other is bad. The beneficial way is to become superior to everyone else in providing some good or service. The bad way is to use coercive force to keep others from competing effectively and also from challenging one's position. Rise above others by excellence, or hold others down by coercive force!\_\_\_\_\_ There is, however, a way of achieving a monopolistic position that beneficially affects all concerned. Indeed, all progress rests upon this way: Become superior, that is, surpass others by excellence, which is to say, achieve leadership by the voluntary followership of others.
- (a) As if behavior were always thought of as misbehavior!
- (b) The kind of monopoly which particularly merits opposition requires coercive force which, usually, is provided by government.
- (c) But monopoly in its popular and evil sense cannot be achieved, assuming free exchange.
- (d) But monopoly cannot be beneficial in its pure sense, as the exclusive control of someone or something would always lead to selfish interests.
- (e) Monopoly in its evil sense is much more prevalent and acceptable than in its beneficial sense.
20. The disciplined outlays for individual financial goals and systematic investing to achieve them can save us from many financial dilemmas. They define a format to deal with a financial situation by taking a 360° view of the future impact of our decision. For

example, an impulsive foreign holiday on credit can give way to a local vacation within our cash means while investing systematically for other important financial goals. Similarly, saving money to purchase a depreciating electronic gadget is much preferable to buying the same instantly on a costly personal loan. \_\_\_\_\_ It is good to allocate our earned income to important life goals first and then spend the remaining amount. Regular savings towards goals help us in minimizing costly debt and other dilemmas when we are nearing those goals.

- (a) It is thus a play between instant indulgence and delayed gratification.
- (b) It is best to repay such loans whenever we have excess money.
- (c) This helps us escaping the dilemma between protecting capital and generating the required return.
- (d) This may lead to lopsided investments that may not generate optimal returns.
- (e) Thus, starting early is the best option to have the magic of compounding work in our favor.

**Directions :** You are provided with two sentences, in each of them two words are missing. You are given five options suggesting pair of words that together can make each of the sentences coherent and complete. Identify the correct pair (words can be used in any order).

21. I. An extraordinary satellite image shows the \_\_\_\_\_ scale of a heatwave that has left Australia sweltering and is \_\_\_\_\_ some of the country's worst ever bushfires.
- II. The Militant forces appear to be deliberately barring the entry of civilian goods which can have \_\_\_\_\_ consequences for residents of the city, \_\_\_\_\_ a humanitarian crisis.
- (a) massive, channeling
  - (b) devastating, fueling
  - (c) forbearing, intensifying
  - (d) catastrophic, initiate
  - (e) disturbing, satiating
22. I. When you adopt and practise the \_\_\_\_\_ of high achievers, you will be better \_\_\_\_\_ to set goals and go get them, without losing focus or direction.
- II. Even though science can appear to be the dominant form of knowledge, there remain questions that science can perhaps never answer, and that philosophy - among other \_\_\_\_\_ may be better \_\_\_\_\_ to address.
- (a) Indoctrinated, provisioned
  - (b) Theories, provided
  - (c) Regimes, prepared
  - (d) Beliefs, inclined
  - (e) Disciplines, equipped
23. I. It took a few hours for the Selendang Ayu to spill thousands of gallons of oil into the \_\_\_\_\_ Alaska bay where the effects could \_\_\_\_\_ for years.
- II. More than two months after the tsunami struck concerns about the fate of small groups of primitive hunter-gatherers on India's \_\_\_\_\_ islands \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) Isolated, prolong
- (b) Obscure, remain
- (c) Remote, linger
- (d) Concealed, persist
- (e) Secluded, worsen

**Direction :** In the questions given below, two sentences are given with two blanks each. From the given answer choices, choose the option which has the correct combination of words fitting in both sentences.

24. Post the 1991 reforms, the nation witnessed for the first time in its \_\_\_\_\_ that individual states began pushing their economic agendas with respective ..... foreign partners. Although Mark has had a \_\_\_\_\_ of violence, Doctor Bob says that he sees ..... foreign partners.
- (a) agenda, prospects
  - (b) history, potential
  - (c) background, possible
  - (d) life, prospective
  - (e) past, chances
25. Today, as non-state actors \_\_\_\_\_ India's foundational values in broad daylight, and much of a ..... media happily plays cheerleader, future historians might wonder if it did not suffer from the Stockholm syndrome.
- The enemy's plan was to \_\_\_\_\_ the guards in their sleep, following which they would have ..... the army camp.
- (a) overpower, surrounded
  - (b) slay, harassed
  - (c) throttle, besieged
  - (d) haunt, troubled
  - (e) strangle, overwhelmed
26. It has been a fortnight of relentless terrorist attacks, targeting children and senior citizens, ordinary people from Baghdad to Kabul to London to Manchester. It is time for the global community to work together to fight back. It is a common war. .... It also requires countries like India, Germany, France and Britain to push back on Washington to go after all governments that support and fund terror, and not play favourites.
- (a) US President Donald Trump has done great harm to the global effort on terror by holding Tehran solely responsible for funding and shielding terrorists
  - (b) The terror attacks this past fortnight, like most before, are carried out by the Islamic State (IS) and al-Qaeda
  - (c) That means confronting governments that provide support and finance to terror outfits
  - (d) There is evidence that Pakistan is providing safe haven for terrorists
  - (e) There is intelligence evidence that Saudi Arabia has been funding IS affiliates in countries like Yemen
27. Sebi's move to propose tighter rules for participatory notes (P-notes) to enhance transparency with regard to the identity of those investing in Indian stocks makes sense. The new rules include levying a regulatory fee on issuers of P-notes offshore derivative instruments (ODIs) that allow investors

- to bet on India without registration and prohibiting these instruments from being issued against derivatives for speculation. Concerns that P-notes \_\_\_\_\_.
- the automatic exchange of tax information, India will benefit with standardised and interlinked registries
  - The regulator should also be watchful that rules to curb volatility don't stifle the overall derivatives market
  - the norms for direct participation of overseas investors in the stock market, too, have been greatly simplified
  - to wind down these products unless they were taken for hedging purposes, providing a needed window to wind down positions
  - could be a possible conduit for illegal funds in the capital market aren't misplaced
28. Yes, startups fail. Large corporations fail, everywhere in the world. It seems we are so obsessed with the hugely successful consumer Internet companies across the world that we have forgotten the ten others that failed — that had mostly the same user proposition and business model as the one that is worth hundreds of billions of dollars today. In the US, the dotcom bust of 2000 served as an education \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ business models, \_\_\_\_\_.
- venture funding into consumer Internet startups and the mega financing rounds into some of the unicorns
  - rational valuations and a check against irrationality in the future
  - But it is not as if there aren't mistakes made in India
  - consumer market is deep and broad enough to sustain not one or two but many startups with the same value proposition
  - It might not be winner-takes-all, but a duopoly-like situation certainly exists
29. The Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN) is reportedly unable to get the electronic way bill, meant to track intra-state and inter-state movement of goods, as rules have not yet been finalised. \_\_\_\_\_ portal of GSTN, the nodal body to which all producers and suppliers of goods and services will file their tax payments.
- that startups are facing is to recognise the real size of the market
  - and stop the bleeding as early as possible
  - the confidence of investors who allocate capital to venture funding in India
  - rather than the depth and capacity of the economy itself
  - Rules must be clear for an e-way bill to be generated on the
30. What do you say to a man who does not believe in documented scientific facts? Who does not believe that Arctic ice sheets are shrinking, summers are getting harsher and winters more extreme. Who sees a Chinese conspiracy in it all. Who stood in the Rose Garden of the White House on Thursday and told Civilisation to take a walk. The world watched in horror as US President Donald Trump pulled out of a \_\_\_\_\_.
- carefully negotiated Paris Agreement on climate change with immediate effect
  - Kick the can down the road — with tens of millions of dollars down the drain
  - This happened in services, grocery, food and many other segments. Investors are either unwilling
  - to book losses and move on, or are hopeful of exit events on the way so that it becomes someone else's problem
  - from seed to series A to series B and beyond compared to elsewhere in the world
31. There is a big difference, of course, between the Kerala action and Gandhi's. The Kerala activists killed to make a political point, but Gandhi's action was compassionate. The calf was sick and in pain; it had broken its leg, developed sores all over its body and the veterinarian had given up hope. "The suffering of the animal was so great that it \_\_\_\_\_," he wrote in an account of the incident.
- Interactive sessions with state and central government officials make sense
  - Businesses will also face inventory, logistics, budgeting and working capital issues as they move to the new regime
  - Concerns over the lack of preparedness of small and medium enterprises to transit
  - rates for commodities such as bullion need to be finalized
  - could not even turn its side without excruciating pain
32. China in recent years under Xi Jinping has hosted a number of military parades to celebrate their victory of Japan during the second world war, inviting numerous foreign leaders as well to be present. Such occasions also turn into moments \_\_\_\_\_ weaponry and technology.
- China's foreign and domestic policies have both served the same goal
  - to maintain internal stability under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP)
  - for the Chinese to showcase their advances in military
  - how the state is using history to justify its positions,
  - a few lines on how this historic conception affects China's relations with India are also included at the end
33. How you define your retirement will obviously differ based on your own imperatives and your personal reality. For sportspersons, retirement comes early, once the body starts to age. For Government employees, retirement happens at age 58. For the

private sector, it happens at age 60. \_\_\_\_\_ .The only category which can possibly select his own retirement would be a businessperson or a professional and even these people speak about "hanging up their gloves" to do something else.

- (a) Here are a few questions to ponder over as you look ahead to your retirement years
- (b) Keeping your mind and body healthy, throughout your life is essential, as you get older.
- (c) Politicians are in a class of their own and never retire
- (d) For some like Judges, retirement is at 65
- (e) Remember that the answers to each of these lie within yourself

34. I looked out of the window. The sky was tar-black and the big clouds were moving towards me. I heard a tapping on the window and then it became a pitter-patter. \_\_\_\_\_. Puddles began plinking as the rainfall became heavier. The roofs of the cars danced with spray and I could hear the murmuring of the rain through the window. It sounded like the buzzing of angry bees.

- (a) There was much to say about how happy we all were to see these big, heavy drops of water fall from the sky
- (b) People ran for cover outside and umbrellas were opened as the clouds spat out their beads of water

- (c) As the morning progressed and the rain began to harden in a steady stream
- (d) All around me were ecstatic faces, broad smiles and people standing in the rain with open arms, heads cast to the sky
- (e) very clearly, was that of joy and gratitude for something that so many people may take for granted

35. Taking the present turmoil after enactment by the present government in a northern state, election fever settling down, it now becomes a matter of mature regulation. There may be penalties attached to cow stealing, or such arbitration that puts an end to the matter right away, with less abrasion as is possible. The matter also concerns hygienic storage and retailing of animal meat. Token of respect for each other may be established. \_\_\_\_\_ .

- (a) in as much it is no longer fashionable to keep the patchy growths menfolk unless of course it is on the face
- (b) no government found it worth to interfere, as division and deprivation, disrespect for another's belief
- (c) or unbaked rumours that were to be divisive for the existing faiths
- (d) The common man is running for other promises for his survival
- (e) This is just the inverted image of President Obama's great stress to conclude the Heidelberg Summit