

- (a) working in outside world
- (b) learning team work
- (c) gaining practical experience
- (d) limiting education to boundaries of academics
- (iv) The shift in education system means-
 - (a) to restrict classroom activities
 - (b) to ignore 360-degree development
 - (c) to focus on overall development
 - (d) to develop academics only
- (v) Which of the following is similar in meaning to the word 'hoax'-
 - (a) truth
 - (b) untrue
 - (c) unmask
 - (d) uncover
- (vi) Which activities have become a point of focus today?
 - (a) classroom activities
 - (b) academic activities
 - (c) teaching activities
 - (d) co-curricular activities
- (vii) Why must students step out into the outside world?
 - (a) to see the world
 - (b) for physical development
 - (c) for aesthetic development
 - (d) for mental development
- (viii) The time period of 100 years is-
 - (a) decade
 - (b) century
 - (c) millennium
 - (d) anniversary
- ix) Which of the following is the correct antonym of 'unique'-
 - (a) rare
 - (b) common
 - (c) special
 - (d) unusual
- x) Classroom teaching provides-
 - (a) practical exposure
 - (b) chance to learn other skills
 - (c) the foundation
 - (d) limitless opportunities for development

Passage – 2

Marie Curie was one of the most accomplished scientists in history. Together with her husband, Pierre, she discovered radium, an element widely used for treating cancer, and studied uranium and other radioactive substances. Pierre and Marie's amicable collaboration later helped to unlock the secrets of the atom.

Marie was born in 1867 in Warsaw, Poland, where her father was a professor of physics. At an early age, she displayed a brilliant mind and a blithe personality. Her great exuberance for learning prompted her to continue with her studies after high school. She became disgruntled, however, when she learned that the university in Warsaw was closed to women. Determined to receive a higher education, she defiantly left Poland and in 1891 entered the Sorbonne, a French university, where she earned her master's degree and doctorate in physics.

Marie was fortunate to have studied at the Sorbonne with some of the greatest scientists of her day, one of whom was Pierre Curie. Marie and Pierre were married in 1895 and spent many productive years working together in the physics laboratory. A short time after they discovered radium, Pierre was killed by a horse-drawn wagon in 1906. Marie was stunned by this horrible misfortune and endured heart breaking anguish. Despondently she recalled their close relationship and the joy that they had shared in scientific research. The fact that she had two young daughters to raise by herself greatly increased her distress.

Curie's feeling of desolation finally began to fade when she was asked to succeed her husband as a physics professor at the Sorbonne. She was the first woman to be given a professorship at the world-famous university. In 1911 she received the Nobel Prize in chemistry for isolating radium. Although Marie Curie eventually suffered a fatal illness from her long exposure to radium, she never became disillusioned about her work. Regardless of the consequences, she had dedicated herself to science and to revealing the mysteries of the physical world.

Questions:

- (i) The Curies' _____ collaboration helped to unlock the secrets of the atom.
(a) friendly (b) competitive (c) courteous (d) industrious
- (ii) Marie had a bright mind and a _____ personality.
(a) strong (b) light hearted (c) humorous (d) envious
- iv) When she learned that she could not attend the university in Warsaw, she felt _____.
(a) hopeless (b) annoyed (c) depressed (d) worried
- (v) Which element is widely used for treating cancer?
- (vi) Why was Marie awarded the Nobel Prize?
- (vii) Where did she earn her master's degree and doctorate in physics?
- (viii) Give the noun form of 'desolate'.
- (ix) How was Pierre killed?
- (x) Whom did she succeed as a physics professor at the Sorbonne?

Passage -3

Cardamom, the queen of all spices, has a history as old as the human race. It is the dried fruit of a herbaceous perennial plant. Warm humid climate, loamy soil rich in organic matter, distributed rainfall and special cultivation and processing methods all combine to make Indian cardamom truly unique in aroma, flavour, size and it has a parrot green colour.

Two types of cardamom are produced in India. The first type is the large one, which has not much significance as it is not traded in the future market. It is cultivated in north-eastern area of the country. The second type is produced in the southern states and these are traded in the future market. These are mainly cultivated in Kerala, Tamil Nādu and Karnataka. As per the future market rules, only 7 mm quality was previously traded in exchanges. But later, it relaxed its norms and now 6 mm quality is also traded in the exchanges.

Cardamom is an expensive spice, secondly to saffron. Indian cardamom is known in two main varieties: Malabar cardamom and Mysore cardamom. The Mysore variety contains leaves of cineol, limonene and hence is more aromatic. India is the world's largest producer and exporter emerged as the leading producer and exporter of cardamom.

The main harvest season of cardamom in India is between August-February. Cardamom reaches at yielding stage two years after the plantation. The primary physical markets of cardamom are Kumily Vanden Modu, Jhekkady, Puliarmala in Kerala and Bodynaikkaur and Cumbum in Tamil Nādu.

Kerala is the main producer of cardamom and contributes upto 60% in total production. Karnataka produces around 25% of the total production cardamom. Ooty is the main producer of cardamom in Tamilnadu and contributes around 10-15% of the total production. Besides India, Guatemala also produces around 1,000-2,000-ton cardamom per year. Due to low quality of cardamom from Guatemala, it remains available at cheaper rates.

Questions-

- (i) Mysore variety contains leaves of :
(a) Limonene (b) Cineol (c) Both (a) and (b) (d) None of these

- (ii) Indian Cardamom is:
 (a) poor in quality (b) average in quality (c) better in quality (d) none of these
- iii) Guatemala produces cardamom :
 (a) more but poor in quality (b) less but good in quality
 (c) more and good in quality (d) less and poor in quality
- (iv) Main harvest season of cardamom in India is :
 (a) August-February (b) August-March (c) November (d) February-April
- (v) Cardamom reaches at its yielding stage in :
 (a) Immediately after plantation (b) depends upon the plantation
 (c) one year after plantation (d) two years after plantation
- (vi) India produces cardamom of
 (a) one type (b) two types (c) three types (d) none of the above
- (vii) Which of the following is the variety of Indian cardamom?
 (a) Malabar cardamom (b) Mysore cardamom
 (c) Both (a) and (b) (d) None of the above
- (viii) Which of the following is the production of cardamom by Karnataka?
 (a) 25% (b) 10% (c) 15% (d) 60%
- (ix) Find the antonym of the word 'cheap'.
 (a) expensive (b) moderate (c) common (d) reasonable
- (x) The synonym of the word 'fragrance' -
 (a) aroma (b) variety (c) stale (d) stinking

Passage-4

Many people believe that science and religion are contrary to each other. But his notation is wrong. As a matter of fact, both are correlated to each other. There is no doubt that the method of science and religion are different.

The method of science is observation, experimentation and experience. Science takes its recourse to progressive march towards perfection. The rules of religion are faith, intuition and spoken word of the enlightened. In general, while science is inclined towards reason and rationality, spiritualism is the essence of religion.

In earlier times when man appeared on Earth, he was over-awed at the sight of violent and powerful aspects of nature. In certain cases, the usefulness of different natural objects of nature overwhelmed man. Thus began the worship of forces of nature — fire, the sun, the rivers, the rocks, the trees, the snakes etc. The holy scriptures were written by those who had developed harmony between external nature and their inner self. Their objective was to ennoble, elevate and liberate the human spirit and mind. But the priestly class took upon itself the monopoly of scriptural knowledge and interpretation to its own advantage.

Thus, the entire human race was in chains. Truth was flouted and progressive, liberal and truthful ideas or ideas expressing doubt and scepticism were suppressed and their holders punished. It was in these trying circumstances the science emerged as a saviour of mankind. But its path was not smooth and safe. The scientists and free thinkers were tortured. This was the fate of Copernicus, Galileo, Bruno and others. But side by side science gained ground.

Questions:

- 1) What are the reasons for man worship the forces of nature?
 (a) The holy scriptures advocate the worship of forces of nature.
 (b) The worship elevates and liberates the human spirit and mind.
 (c) The worship makes man believe in faith and intuition.
 (d) Forces of nature teach us spiritualism.

- ii) According to the passage science and religion both:
- (a) Emerged out of the fear of man
 - (b) Emerged from the desire of man to worship the forces of nature
 - (c) Employed different methods of enquiry
 - (d) work at the cross-purpose of each other
- (iii) What was the objective of the authors of the holy scriptures?
- (a) To teach man the methods of worshipping nature
 - (b) To educate and raise the human spirit and mind
 - (c) To develop harmony between external nature and their inner self
 - (d) None of these
- (iv) According to the passage, at present juncture there is a need to:
- (a) free man from all sorts of bondages
 - (b) judiciously mix the principles of science and true spirit of religion
 - (c) teach people to worship the forces of nature
 - (d) encourage spiritualism as much as possible
- (v) Why it is said in the passage that, "science emerged as a saviour of mankind?"
- (a) Science takes recourse to progressive march towards perfection.
 - (b) Science is inclined towards reason and rationality.
 - (c) Man was bound in chains by religious orthodoxy.
 - (d) The free thinkers and enlightened men were tortured.
- (vi) Truth was -
- (a) flouted (b) progressive (c) both (a) and (b) (d) none of these
- (vii) Find the synonym of the word 'belief'.
- (a) observation (b) experience (c) faith (d) enlightened
- (viii) Find the synonym of the word 'show up'.
- (a) appear (b) scripture (c) developed (d) usefulness
- (ix) Find the antonym of the word 'non contradictory'.
- (a) different (b) same (c) common (d) contrary
- (x) Find the antonym of the word 'retrogression'.
- (a) flout (b) progress (c) truth (d) liberal

Passage-5

The song of birds is one of the loveliest sounds in nature. Sometimes when we are out in the country and we hear birds singing, it seems to us they are calling back and forth, that they are telling one another something. The fact is that birds do communicate with one another, just as many other animals do. Of course, at times the sounds birds make are more expressions of joy, just as we may make cries of 'Oh!' and 'Ah!'. But for the most part, the sounds that birds make are attempts at communication. A mother hen makes sounds that warns her children of danger and causes them to crouch down motionless. Then she gives another call which collects them together. When wild birds migrate at night, they cry out. These cries may keep the birds together and help lost ones return to the flock. But the language of birds is different from language as we use it. We use words to express ideas and these words have to be learned. Birds don't learn their language. It is an inborn instinct with them. In one experiment, for example, chicks were kept away, from cocks and hens so they could not hear the sounds they made. Yet when they grew up they were able to make those sounds just as well as chicks that had grown up with cocks and hens! This does not mean that birds can't learn how to sing. In fact some birds can learn the songs of other birds. This is how the mocking bird gets its name.

Questions-

- 1) In nature, one of the loveliest sounds is:
- (a) the sound of film song
 - (b) the roar of a lion
 - (c) the song of a crow
 - (d) the song of birds

- ii) When wild birds migrate at night, they cry out:
- (a) to keep them warm
 - (b) to keep the birds together
 - (c) to keep the enemy away
 - (d) to keep the young lings tight
- (iii) We human beings use words:
- (a) to express ideas
 - (b) to express meanings
 - (c) to express other's speech
 - (d) to express talent
- (iv) Birds don't learn their language as:
- (a) It is tough to learn.
 - (b) It is only a quality with human.
 - (c) It is an inborn instinct with them.
 - (d) It is developed with extra intelligence.
- (v) The noun form of 'mocking is:
- (a) mock (c) mockery (b) mockingly (d) mocked
- (vi) The sounds of birds are an attempt to-
- (a) to sing a song (b) to communicate (c) to fly (d) to start a meeting
- (vii) Which of the following has the similar meaning of 'a group of birds'?
- (a) banish (b) flock (c) apart (d) herd
- (viii) Which of these is the main idea of the above passage?
- (a) importance of nature
 - (b) necessity of sounds of birds
 - (c) importance of sounds of birds
 - (d) importance of ecosystem
- (ix) Why does a mother hen make sounds?
- (a) to feed her chicks
 - (b) to protect her chicks
 - (c) to gather her chicks
 - (d) both (b) and (c)
- (x) Which of the following is true about the birds?
- (a) They learn making sounds by themselves.
 - (b) They know how to communicate with humans.
 - (c) They can learn sounds of other birds.
 - (d) both (a) and (c)

Passage-6

Ants are common insects. There are more than 12,000 kinds in the world. They are born, and live and work in a colony with many other ants. An ant goes through four stages of development: egg, larva, pupa/cocoon and adult. An ant egg is about the size of a period at the end of a sentence. An egg is kidney-shaped and soft. It has a sticky surface. It can clump together with other eggs. This allows a group of eggs to be carried away quickly if danger occurs. Some eggs don't survive because they are eaten by other ants.

The ant egg cells divide for 7-14 days and a larva appears. The larva will shed its skin about 3 times. It eats constantly. It will get bigger each time it sheds. The larva sucks up the liquids from the food brought to it. Sometimes adult ants eat food and spit it up for the larva. The larva will also get hairier. It will have hooked-like hairs. These hairs allow groups of them to be picked up and carried like the eggs. A larva doesn't have any feet. It can bend a little towards food. Some types can also move along. About 25 days later a larva changes into a pupa.

Like other insects, ants have jointed legs, three body parts, and two antennae. The three body parts are covered by an exoskeleton. An exoskeleton is a skeleton located on the outside of their body. An ant's head contains its brain. It also holds two compound eyes, and pharynx (the start of the digestive system). The antennae are attached to the head, too. The mandibles (jaws) on his head can bite and chew food.

Three kinds of ants live in a colony. Queens are ants who lay the eggs for the whole colony. They are bigger than other ants. They were fed more as larvae. They have wings. If a queen should die, the whole colony falls apart. There is no one to produce new ants. Female worker ants do not have wings. They gather food, clean and take care of the young ants. The male ants only help in reproduction and do not work.

Questions:

- (i) An ant goes through following stages of development-
(a)two (b) three (c) four (d)none of these
- (ii) A larva does not have any feet. (True/ False)
- (iii) Which of these is located on the head-
(a)Thorax (b) abdomen (c)mandible(d) pharynx
- (iv) Which of the following statements is NOT true?
(a)An ant's brain is in the thorax. (b)The thorax is the chest area.
(c)Ants don't have lungs. (d) Queens lay eggs for the whole colony.
- (v) Which of the following is the best description of an ant's egg?
(a) It has a hard layer outside. (b)It is soft and sticky.
(c) It is circular. (d)It is the size of the nail of a little finger.
- (vi) An ant egg is about the size of-
(a) a ball (b) a period at the end of the sentence (c) a hen's egg (d)none of these
- (vii) Which of the following is the purpose of the Female worker ants?
(a) to do all of the work(b) to gather food(c) to take care of new ants(d)all of these
- (viii) What happens if a queen should die-
(a) eggs will die (b) larvae will die (c) New ants are not produced (d) other ants will die
- (ix) Which of these has similar meaning of 'clump'?
(a) individual (b)group (c) one (d)none of these
- (x) How does an ant chew and bite?
(a) with teeth (b) with pharynx (c) with mandibles (d) none of these

Passage-7

Shyam Prashad Rajasekaran, a young entrepreneur (who is the founder of Veg route) says that his thought behind the formation of Veg route is to encourage farmers and help them get economical prices for their produce. Veg route is an app which helps farmers to connect directly with customers without any mediators. This helps farmers to get the right price for their crop and this also helps customers. In addition to this Customer always demand for the fresh and best quality products which is also satisfied with the help of this app.

And Shyam Prasad came up with this idea as he could see the difficulty faced by the farmers in his own family, as his grandparents were also farmers. In 2020, during covid pandemic Shyam observed how farmers are getting affected due to pandemic and he started to work upon it and learnt more about their problems. As a part of that, he went to Coimbatore and met a few farmers. Firstly, he discussed problems faced with these farmers and decided to create an impact on agricultural technology. So, he started Veg route in July 2020 with his friend Anand Alagarsamy. Secondly, he started the company with 23 customers and now it has developed over 1500 farmers who have become a part of Veg route. Including Coimbatore, Veg route now is functioning in 6 more districts. They are Chennai, Madurai, Tirupur, Tuticorin, Bengaluru, and Goa. It is soon planning to get launched in Kanyakumari, Mumbai, Nashik, Hyderabad, Virudhunagar, and Delhi (NCR).

Veg Route is an app in which agro products are taken from a direct farm place, given to the customer with the fresh produce, and immediate cash provided to farmers. The main concept behind founding Veg route is to eradicate the middleman concept in the supply process. This company goes directly to the farm, checks the quality and delivers them freshly to the customers. This startup company is also planning to employ nearly 100 transgender women, as a part to uplift their community. Perhaps the Veg route has been a good source of employment and created employment opportunities for many unemployed individuals. Finally last month, this startup raised over \$125,000 from a fintech startup company.

Questions:

- (i) How did Shyam prasad help farmers?
(a) by giving funds (b) by educating farmers (c) by making an app (d) by removing social evils
- (ii) Why did Shyam Prasad go to Coimbatore?
(a) to see the city (b) to meet his friends (c) to meet farmers (d) to visit farms
- (iii) How did Shyam Prasad come up with the idea of Veg route?
(a) when he witnessed difficulties faced by farmers in his family
(b) when he saw effects of pandemic on farmers
(c) both(a) and (b) (d) when he saw profit in selling agro products
- (iv) What is Veg route?
(a) It is a road for farmers. (b) It is an entertainment app.
(c) It is an app for farmers. (d) It is a shop.
- (v) What is the purpose behind Veg route?
(a) to help customers (b) to help farmers (c) to motivate farmers (d) to help new businessmen
- (vi) What do you understand about start-ups?
(a) a company in initial stage (b) a fully grown company (c) a bunch of companies (d) none of these
- (vii) How does the Veg route work?
(a) no middleman
(b) the customer gets fresh farm products
(c) farmers get instant cash (d) all of these
- (viii) Which of these has the same meaning of the word 'entrepreneur'?
(a) agent (b) clerk (c) a business person (d) company person
- (ix) Write synonyms for fresh.
(a) old (b) stale (c) common (d) new
- (x) The passage is about-
(a) an app Veg route (b) Shyam Prasad (c) a start-up (d) all of these

Passage-8

According to fitness experts, if you think muscles are just for gym enthusiasts, think again! Latest research conducted at the University of Texas in the US says that a 30-minute workout a day could turn you into a genius. We show you five ways how working out can make smarter. Says fitness expert, "Exercise improves your mood. It works as an antidepressant and thus helps lift your mood instantly. Apart from this, it also helps you to concentrate on things that do on a daily basis. So, working out on a daily basis can actually make you smarter and more confident about yourself."

Did you know the more you move, the more energised you feel? Well, we all think that moving around too much or exercising a lot can make you feel tired and dizzy. But regular activity improves your muscle strength and boosts your endurance. It gives you the energy to think clearer and come up with new ideas. If you move around for a good 15 minutes, it will make your body produce more energy at the cellular level. An author said exercise improves your brain in the short term by raising your focus for two to three

hours afterwards. For example, if you have a presentation to make at work or have to make a speech, try to work out an hour before. It is believed that you will be at your peak when you perform.

Exercise is known to trigger endorphins, which improve the functioning of your brain. Thus, after you've exercised, your ability to sort out priorities improves, allowing you to block out distractions in life and also concentrate better on the tasks at hand.

Do you know that your brain retains more when your body is active? In an experiment published in a journal, students were asked to memorise a string of letters and were then allowed to run, lift weights or sit quietly. The students who worked out were more accurate with their answers than those who chose to sit quietly after memorising.

Have you ever heard of the saying, 'If you want something done, give it to the busy person.' When you're productive and efficient, you are bound to succeed. It is also said that workers who exercise once mid-day between working hours, tend to contribute more than what others do. They are also more productive at work.

Question:

(i) How does exercise improve muscle strength?

(a) by raising our focus (b) by making us healthy (c) by boosting endurance (d) by regular activity

(ii) (b) How does our focus sharpen?

(a) through making a speech (b) through working out an hour before an important task

(c) through pumping of blood (d) through brain ageing

(iii) What does endorphins improve?

(a) functioning of brain (b) blocking distractions (c) increasing concentration (d) all of these

(iv) How is memory improved?

(a) by sitting quietly (b) by memorizing notes (c) by regular work out (d) by eating junk food

(v) What does the word 'endurance' in the passage mean?

(a) creation (b) tiredness (c) ability to continue (d) power

(vi) What is the main idea of the passage?

(a) Importance of productivity (b) Importance of physical exercise (c) Importance of priorities

(d) all the above

(vii) Which of the following is true about the passage?

(a) Exercise makes a person young. (b) Exercise keeps a person active.

(c) Exercise improves memory. (d) both (b) and (c)

(viii) How can we get our work done?

(a) by work out (b) by exercise (c) by an active and productive person (d) none of these distractions

(ix) Which of these is the correct synonym of the word 'distraction'?

(a) disturbance (b) divergent (c) dimension (d) concentration

(x) "It is believed that you will be at your peak when you perform."

Which of the following gives the correct meaning of the underlined word in the above sentence?

(a) top of mountain (b) highest point (c) specific time (d) maximum