

# RBI Assistant Mains 2017– English Language

Memory Based Practice Paper | 40 Questions | 30 Minutes

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## Q.1 Why is the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis considered controversial?

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it. Certain words/phrases are printed in **bold** to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.

The relationship between language and thought has fascinated philosophers, linguists, and cognitive scientists for centuries. One of the central debates in this field concerns whether language shapes thought or whether thought exists independently of language. The Sapir-Whorf hypothesis, also known as linguistic relativity, argues that the language a person speaks influences—and in its stronger form, determines—the way they perceive and categorize reality. According to this view, speakers of different languages literally inhabit different cognitive worlds. Evidence in support of this hypothesis comes from studies comparing color perception across cultures. Some languages have more color terms than others, and research suggests that speakers of languages with more color distinctions are faster at discriminating between colors that have distinct names in their language. Similarly, spatial reasoning differs across cultures depending on whether the language uses relative terms such as "left" and "right" or absolute terms like "north" and "south." Speakers of languages that rely on absolute directions maintain a remarkable sense of orientation and navigate differently from speakers of relative-direction languages. Critics, however, argue that much of this evidence is correlational rather than causal. They point out that thought is possible without language—infants think before they can speak, and people often experience difficulty finding words to express an idea they already have. The idea that language completely determines thought is seen by many as an overreach. Nevertheless, the moderate position—that language influences some aspects of cognition without fully constraining thought—has gained considerable acceptance in recent years, supported by growing experimental evidence from across the world.

- A. It argues that all languages are essentially the same.
- B. It suggests that language is completely unrelated to thought.
- C. It claims that the language one speaks influences or determines how one perceives reality.
- D. It denies the role of culture in shaping cognition.
- E. It holds that infants are incapable of thought before learning to speak.

**Answer: C**

**Sol:**

Refer to the first paragraph: '...the language a person speaks influences—and in its stronger form, determines—the way they perceive and categorize reality.' This is seen as controversial because critics dispute how strong this influence actually is.

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## Q.2 Which of the following best supports the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis as described in the passage?

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it. Certain words/phrases are printed in **bold** to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.

The relationship between language and thought has fascinated philosophers, linguists, and cognitive scientists for centuries. One of the central debates in this field concerns whether language shapes thought or whether thought exists independently of language. The Sapir-Whorf hypothesis, also known as linguistic relativity, argues that the language a person speaks influences—and in its stronger form, determines—the way they perceive and categorize reality. According to this view, speakers of different languages literally inhabit different cognitive worlds. Evidence in support of this hypothesis comes from studies comparing color perception across cultures. Some languages have more color terms than others, and research suggests that speakers of languages with more color distinctions are faster at discriminating between colors that have distinct names in their language. Similarly, spatial reasoning differs across cultures depending on whether the language uses relative terms such as "left" and "right" or absolute terms like "north" and "south." Speakers of languages that rely on absolute directions maintain a remarkable sense of orientation and navigate differently from speakers of relative-direction languages. Critics, however, argue that much of this evidence is correlational rather than causal. They point out that thought is possible without language—infants think before they can speak, and people often experience difficulty finding words to express an idea they already have. The idea that language completely determines thought is seen by many as an overreach. Nevertheless, the moderate position—that language influences some aspects of cognition without fully constraining thought—has

gained considerable acceptance in recent years, supported by growing experimental evidence from across the world.

- A. Infants are capable of complex thought before they acquire language.
- B. Speakers of languages with more color terms discriminate colors more quickly.
- C. Some people find it difficult to put their thoughts into words.
- D. Thought is possible without language.
- E. Language is a product of culture, not of cognition.

**Answer: B**

**Sol:**

Refer to the second paragraph: '...research suggests that speakers of languages with more color distinctions are faster at discriminating between colors that have distinct names in their language.' This directly supports the hypothesis.

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### Q.3 What do critics of the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis primarily argue?

*Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it. Certain words/phrases are printed in **bold** to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.*

The relationship between language and thought has fascinated philosophers, linguists, and cognitive scientists for centuries. One of the central debates in this field concerns whether language shapes thought or whether thought exists independently of language. The Sapir-Whorf hypothesis, also known as linguistic relativity, argues that the language a person speaks influences—and in its stronger form, determines—the way they perceive and categorize reality. According to this view, speakers of different languages literally inhabit different cognitive worlds. Evidence in support of this hypothesis comes from studies comparing color perception across cultures. Some languages have more color terms than others, and research suggests that speakers of languages with more color distinctions are faster at discriminating between colors that have distinct names in their language. Similarly, spatial reasoning differs across cultures depending on whether the language uses relative terms such as "left" and "right" or absolute terms like "north" and "south." Speakers of languages that rely on absolute directions maintain a remarkable sense of orientation and navigate differently from speakers of relative-direction languages. Critics, however, argue that much of this evidence is correlational rather than causal. They point out that thought is possible without language—infants think before they can speak, and people often experience difficulty finding words to express an idea they already have. The idea that language completely determines thought is seen by many as an overreach. Nevertheless, the moderate position—that language influences some aspects of cognition without fully constraining thought—has gained considerable acceptance in recent years, supported by growing experimental evidence from across the world.

- A. Spatial reasoning is identical across all cultures.
- B. Color perception is not influenced by language at all.
- C. Evidence linking language and thought is correlational, not causal.
- D. The hypothesis applies only to color perception.
- E. Language is the only factor that shapes human cognition.

**Answer: C**

**Sol:**

Refer to the third paragraph: 'Critics, however, argue that much of this evidence is correlational rather than causal.' They also note that thought exists independently of language.

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### Q.4 Which of the following conclusions does the passage suggest is now widely accepted?

*Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it. Certain words/phrases are printed in **bold** to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.*

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across cultures depending on whether the language uses relative terms such as "left" and "right" or absolute terms like "north" and "south." Speakers of languages that rely on absolute directions maintain a remarkable sense of orientation and navigate differently from speakers of relative-direction languages. Critics, however, argue that much of this evidence is correlational rather than causal. They point out that thought is possible without language—infants think before they can speak, and people often experience difficulty finding words to express an idea they already have. The idea that language completely determines thought is seen by many as an overreach. Nevertheless, the moderate position—that language influences some aspects of cognition without fully constraining thought—has gained considerable acceptance in recent years, supported by growing experimental evidence from across the world.

- A. Language has no effect whatsoever on human thought.
- B. Language completely determines thought, with no exceptions.
- C. The strongest form of the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis has been proven conclusively.
- D. Language influences some aspects of cognition without fully controlling thought.
- E. Spatial reasoning is unaffected by the type of language spoken.

**Answer: D**

**Sol:**

Refer to the final paragraph: '...the moderate position—that language influences some aspects of cognition without fully constraining thought—has gained considerable acceptance in recent years...'

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**Q.5 The example of spatial reasoning in the passage is used to...**

*Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it. Certain words/phrases are printed in **bold** to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.*

The relationship between language and thought has fascinated philosophers, linguists, and cognitive scientists for centuries. One of the central debates in this field concerns whether language shapes thought or whether thought exists independently of language. The Sapir-Whorf hypothesis, also known as linguistic relativity, argues that the language a person speaks influences—and in its stronger form, determines—the way they perceive and categorize reality. According to this view, speakers of different languages literally inhabit different cognitive worlds. Evidence in support of this hypothesis comes from studies comparing color perception across cultures. Some languages have more color terms than others, and research suggests that speakers of languages with more color distinctions are faster at discriminating between colors that have distinct names in their language. Similarly, spatial reasoning differs across cultures depending on whether the language uses relative terms such as "left" and "right" or absolute terms like "north" and "south." Speakers of languages that rely on absolute directions maintain a remarkable sense of orientation and navigate differently from speakers of relative-direction languages. Critics, however, argue that much of this evidence is correlational rather than causal. They point out that thought is possible without language—infants think before they can speak, and people often experience difficulty finding words to express an idea they already have. The idea that language completely determines thought is seen by many as an overreach. Nevertheless, the moderate position—that language influences some aspects of cognition without fully constraining thought—has gained considerable acceptance in recent years, supported by growing experimental evidence from across the world.

- A. show that all languages use absolute directional terms.
- B. demonstrate that cognitive differences across cultures are imaginary.
- C. illustrate how language differences can correspond to differences in cognition.
- D. prove that relative directional terms are superior to absolute ones.
- E. argue that navigation skills are innate and unrelated to language.

**Answer: C**

**Sol:**

Refer to the second paragraph. The contrast between relative and absolute spatial terms, and corresponding differences in navigation and orientation, is given as an example of how language structure may relate to cognitive differences.

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**Q.6 Which of the following is NOT mentioned in the passage as evidence against the strong form of the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis?**

*Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it. Certain words/phrases are printed in **bold** to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.*

The relationship between language and thought has fascinated philosophers, linguists, and cognitive scientists for centuries. One of the central debates in this field concerns whether language shapes thought or whether thought exists independently of language. The Sapir-Whorf hypothesis, also known as linguistic relativity, argues that the language a person speaks influences—and in its stronger form, determines—the way they perceive and categorize reality. According to this view, speakers of different languages literally inhabit different cognitive worlds. Evidence in support of this hypothesis comes from studies comparing color perception across cultures. Some languages have more color terms than others, and research suggests that speakers of languages with more color distinctions are faster at discriminating between colors that have distinct names in their language. Similarly, spatial reasoning differs across cultures depending on whether the language uses relative terms such as "left" and "right" or absolute terms like "north" and "south." Speakers of languages that rely on absolute directions maintain a remarkable sense of orientation and navigate differently from speakers of relative-direction languages. Critics, however, argue that much of this evidence is correlational rather than causal. They point out that thought is possible without language—infants think before they can speak, and people often experience difficulty finding words to express an idea they already have. The idea that language completely determines thought is seen by many as an overreach. Nevertheless, the moderate position—that language influences some aspects of cognition without fully constraining thought—has gained considerable acceptance in recent years, supported by growing experimental evidence from across the world.

- A. Infants think before they can speak.
- B. People sometimes struggle to find words for ideas they already have.
- C. Speakers of all languages can learn new color terms easily.
- D. The evidence linking language and thought is correlational.
- E. Thought is possible without language.

**Answer: C**

**Sol:**

The passage mentions infants thinking before speaking, difficulty finding words for existing thoughts, and the correlational nature of evidence. The claim that speakers can easily learn new color terms is not mentioned.

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**Q.7 Choose the word which is SIMILAR in meaning to the word 'constrain' as used in the passage.**

*Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it. Certain words/phrases are printed in **bold** to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.*

The relationship between language and thought has fascinated philosophers, linguists, and cognitive scientists for centuries. One of the central debates in this field concerns whether language shapes thought or whether thought exists independently of language. The Sapir-Whorf hypothesis, also known as linguistic relativity, argues that the language a person speaks influences—and in its stronger form, determines—the way they perceive and categorize reality. According to this view, speakers of different languages literally inhabit different cognitive worlds. Evidence in support of this hypothesis comes from studies comparing color perception across cultures. Some languages have more color terms than others, and research suggests that speakers of languages with more color distinctions are faster at discriminating between colors that have distinct names in their language. Similarly, spatial reasoning differs across cultures depending on whether the language uses relative terms such as "left" and "right" or absolute terms like "north" and "south." Speakers of languages that rely on absolute directions maintain a remarkable sense of orientation and navigate differently from speakers of relative-direction languages. Critics, however, argue that much of this evidence is correlational rather than causal. They point out that thought is possible without language—infants think before they can speak, and people often experience difficulty finding words to express an idea they already have. The idea that language completely determines thought is seen by many as an overreach. Nevertheless, the moderate position—that language influences some aspects of cognition without fully constraining thought—has gained considerable acceptance in recent years, supported by growing experimental evidence from across the world.

- A. liberate
- B. restrict
- C. encourage
- D. evaluate
- E. dismiss

**Answer: B**

**Sol:**

'Constrain' means to limit or restrict. 'Restrict' is the closest synonym. 'Liberate' would be its antonym.

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**Q.8 According to Burke, what produces the peculiar delight associated with the sublime?**

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below them. Certain words/phrases have been printed in **bold** to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.

The concept of the sublime, as developed in eighteenth-century European aesthetics, refers to an experience of awe and terror provoked by encounters with vast, overwhelming natural phenomena—stormy seas, towering mountains, and raging tempests. Unlike the beautiful, which offers pleasure through harmony and proportion, the sublime unsettles and destabilizes, confronting the observer with forces that exceed human comprehension or control. Philosophers such as Edmund Burke and Immanuel Kant explored this experience at length, arguing that the sublime reveals something fundamental about the relationship between humanity and the natural world. For Burke, the sublime was rooted in the experience of pain and danger at a safe distance. When we observe a powerful storm from the shelter of our home, the very threat that terrifies us also produces a peculiar form of delight. Kant, however, moved the experience inward: for him, the sublime was not a quality of nature itself but of the human mind's response to it. When confronted with something that overwhelms the imagination, reason asserts itself and reminds us of our moral dignity—our capacity to transcend nature through thought. In this way, the experience of the sublime paradoxically affirms human greatness even in the face of apparent insignificance. The concept of the sublime has had a lasting influence not only on philosophy but also on literature, painting, and music. Romantic artists sought to capture the grandeur of nature in their work, deliberately evoking feelings of wonder and terror in their audiences. In the modern era, the sublime has been extended beyond nature to encompass encounters with the vastness of technology, urban landscapes, and even digital environments. Whether natural or artificial, the experience of the sublime continues to provoke reflection on what it means to be human in a world that so often exceeds our grasp.

- A. The experience of genuine physical danger.
- B. Witnessing natural beauty from up close.
- C. Observing a powerful threat from a position of safety.
- D. The mind's assertion of its own moral dignity.
- E. The recognition that humans are morally superior to nature.

**Answer: C**

**Sol:**

Refer to the second paragraph: 'When we observe a powerful storm from the shelter of our home, the very threat that terrifies us also produces a peculiar form of delight.' Burke's sublime involves perceived danger at a safe distance.

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**Q.9 In the sentence 'the sublime paradoxically affirms human greatness even in the face of apparent insignificance' (second paragraph), what two developments is the author referring to?**

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below them. Certain words/phrases have been printed in **bold** to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.

The concept of the sublime, as developed in eighteenth-century European aesthetics, refers to an experience of awe and terror provoked by encounters with vast, overwhelming natural phenomena—stormy seas, towering mountains, and raging tempests. Unlike the beautiful, which offers pleasure through harmony and proportion, the sublime unsettles and destabilizes, confronting the observer with forces that exceed human comprehension or control. Philosophers such as Edmund Burke and Immanuel Kant explored this experience at length, arguing that the sublime reveals something fundamental about the relationship between humanity and the natural world. For Burke, the sublime was rooted in the experience of pain and danger at a safe distance. When we observe a powerful storm from the shelter of our home, the very threat that terrifies us also produces a peculiar form of delight. Kant, however, moved the experience inward: for him, the sublime was not a quality of nature itself but of the human mind's response to it. When confronted with something that overwhelms the imagination, reason asserts itself and reminds us of our moral dignity—our capacity to transcend nature through thought. In this way, the experience of the sublime paradoxically affirms human greatness even in the face of apparent insignificance. The concept of the sublime has had a lasting influence not only on philosophy but also on literature, painting, and music. Romantic artists sought to capture the grandeur of nature in their work, deliberately evoking feelings of wonder and terror in their audiences. In the modern era, the sublime has been extended beyond nature to encompass encounters with the vastness of technology, urban landscapes, and even digital environments. Whether natural or artificial, the experience of the sublime continues to provoke reflection on what it means to be human in a world that so often exceeds our grasp.

- A. The beauty of nature and the smallness of human beings.
- B. Being overwhelmed by nature and yet feeling morally elevated through reason.
- C. The terror of storms and the pleasure of art.
- D. Burke's theory and Kant's theory of aesthetics.
- E. The destruction caused by nature and the rebuilding done by humans.

**Answer: B**

**Sol:**

Refer to the second paragraph. Kant argues that when the imagination is overwhelmed by nature, reason asserts itself and affirms our moral dignity—so the very experience of feeling small paradoxically reveals human greatness.

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**Q.10 Which of the following is NOT necessarily true based on the passage?**

*Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below them. Certain words/phrases have been printed in **bold** to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.*

The concept of the sublime, as developed in eighteenth-century European aesthetics, refers to an experience of awe and terror provoked by encounters with vast, overwhelming natural phenomena—stormy seas, towering mountains, and raging tempests. Unlike the beautiful, which offers pleasure through harmony and proportion, the sublime unsettles and destabilizes, confronting the observer with forces that exceed human comprehension or control. Philosophers such as Edmund Burke and Immanuel Kant explored this experience at length, arguing that the sublime reveals something fundamental about the relationship between humanity and the natural world. For Burke, the sublime was rooted in the experience of pain and danger at a safe distance. When we observe a powerful storm from the shelter of our home, the very threat that terrifies us also produces a peculiar form of delight. Kant, however, moved the experience inward: for him, the sublime was not a quality of nature itself but of the human mind's response to it. When confronted with something that overwhelms the imagination, reason asserts itself and reminds us of our moral dignity—our capacity to transcend nature through thought. In this way, the experience of the sublime paradoxically affirms human greatness even in the face of apparent insignificance. The concept of the sublime has had a lasting influence not only on philosophy but also on literature, painting, and music. Romantic artists sought to capture the grandeur of nature in their work, deliberately evoking feelings of wonder and terror in their audiences. In the modern era, the sublime has been extended beyond nature to encompass encounters with the vastness of technology, urban landscapes, and even digital environments. Whether natural or artificial, the experience of the sublime continues to provoke reflection on what it means to be human in a world that so often exceeds our grasp.

- A. The beautiful and the sublime are distinct aesthetic experiences.
- B. Kant located the sublime in the response of the human mind rather than in nature.
- C. Burke and Kant agreed completely on the definition of the sublime.
- D. Romantic artists were influenced by the concept of the sublime.
- E. The sublime has been extended to include encounters with technology and urban landscapes.

**Answer: C**

**Sol:**

The passage describes both Burke's and Kant's theories and shows that they differ: Burke roots the sublime in pain and danger, while Kant locates it in the mind's response. They did not agree completely.

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**Q.11 In the context of the passage, which of the following statements would NOT be true?**

*Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below them. Certain words/phrases have been printed in **bold** to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.*

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- A. The beautiful is associated with harmony and proportion.
- B. The sublime necessarily requires a direct physical encounter with danger.
- C. Kant's view of the sublime emphasizes human moral dignity.
- D. Romantic artists sought to evoke wonder and terror in their audiences.
- E. The sublime has been applied to artificial environments in the modern era.

**Answer: B**

**Sol:**

Burke's account involves observing danger from safety, not direct encounter. Kant moves the experience entirely into the mind. The passage does not require direct physical danger as a condition of the sublime.

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**Q.12 Which of the following views is taken by the author of the passage?**

*Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below them. Certain words/phrases have been printed in **bold** to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.*

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- A. The sublime is purely a natural phenomenon with no relevance to modern life.
- B. Burke's theory is superior to Kant's theory in every respect.
- C. The concept of the sublime continues to be relevant and has expanded beyond its original scope.
- D. Romantic artists misunderstood the true nature of the sublime.
- E. The experience of the sublime is identical across all cultures and historical periods.

**Answer: C**

**Sol:**

Refer to the final paragraph. The author notes that the sublime has been extended to technology, urban landscapes, and digital environments, and concludes that it 'continues to provoke reflection on what it means to be human.'

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**Q.13 Choose the word/group of words which is most OPPOSITE in meaning to the word 'destabilizes' as used in the passage.**

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below them. Certain words/phrases have been printed in **bold** to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.

The concept of the sublime, as developed in eighteenth-century European aesthetics, refers to an experience of awe and terror provoked by encounters with vast, overwhelming natural phenomena—stormy seas, towering mountains, and raging tempests. Unlike the beautiful, which offers pleasure through harmony and proportion, the sublime unsettles and destabilizes, confronting the observer with forces that exceed human comprehension or control. Philosophers such as Edmund Burke and Immanuel Kant explored this experience at length, arguing that the sublime reveals something fundamental about the relationship between humanity and the natural world. For Burke, the sublime was rooted in the experience of pain and danger at a safe distance. When we observe a powerful storm from the shelter of our home, the very threat that terrifies us also produces a peculiar form of delight. Kant, however, moved the experience inward: for him, the sublime was not a quality of nature itself but of the human mind's response to it. When confronted with something that overwhelms the imagination, reason asserts itself and reminds us of our moral dignity—our capacity to transcend nature through thought. In this way, the experience of the sublime paradoxically affirms human greatness even in the face of apparent insignificance. The concept of the sublime has had a lasting influence not only on philosophy but also on literature, painting, and music. Romantic artists sought to capture the grandeur of nature in their work, deliberately evoking feelings of wonder and terror in their audiences. In the modern era, the sublime has been extended beyond nature to encompass encounters with the vastness of technology, urban landscapes, and even digital environments. Whether natural or artificial, the experience of the sublime continues to provoke reflection on what it means to be human in a world that so often exceeds our grasp.

- A. agitates
- B. anchors
- C. overwhelms
- D. disrupts
- E. terrifies

**Answer: B**

**Sol:**

'Destabilize' means to make unstable or unsettled. The opposite would be to ground or anchor something. 'Anchors' best captures this sense of stabilizing or securing.

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**Q.14 Choose the word/group of words which is most SIMILAR in meaning to the word 'transcend' as used in the passage.**

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below them. Certain words/phrases have been printed in **bold** to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.

The concept of the sublime, as developed in eighteenth-century European aesthetics, refers to an experience of awe and terror provoked by encounters with vast, overwhelming natural phenomena—stormy seas, towering mountains, and raging tempests. Unlike the beautiful, which offers pleasure through harmony and proportion, the sublime unsettles and destabilizes, confronting the observer with forces that exceed human comprehension or control. Philosophers such as Edmund Burke and Immanuel Kant explored this experience at length, arguing that the sublime reveals something fundamental about the relationship between humanity and the natural world. For Burke, the sublime was rooted in the experience of pain and danger at a safe distance. When we observe a powerful storm from the shelter of our home, the very threat that terrifies us also produces a peculiar form of delight. Kant, however, moved the experience inward: for him, the sublime was not a quality of nature itself but of the human mind's response to it. When confronted with something that overwhelms the imagination, reason asserts itself and reminds us of our moral dignity—our capacity to transcend nature through thought. In this way, the experience of the sublime paradoxically affirms human greatness even in the face of apparent insignificance. The concept of the sublime has had a lasting influence not only on philosophy but also on literature, painting, and music. Romantic artists sought to capture the grandeur of nature in their work, deliberately evoking feelings of wonder and terror in their audiences. In the modern era, the sublime has been extended beyond nature to encompass encounters with the vastness of technology, urban landscapes, and even digital environments. Whether natural or artificial, the experience of the sublime continues to provoke reflection on what it means to be human in a world that so often exceeds our grasp.

- A. submit
- B. imitate
- C. surpass

- D. reject
- E. obscure

**Answer: C**

**Sol:**

'Transcend' means to go beyond or rise above the limits of something. 'Surpass' most closely captures this meaning.

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**Q.15 Choose the word/group of words which is most SIMILAR in meaning to the word 'optimize' as used in the passage.**

*Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below them. Certain words/phrases have been printed in **bold** to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.*

The growing global demand for food has intensified pressure on agricultural systems, prompting researchers and policymakers to seek more sustainable and productive methods of cultivation. Among the most promising developments is the use of precision agriculture, which employs advanced technologies such as GPS, remote sensing, and data analytics to optimize the use of inputs—water, fertilizers, pesticides—on a field-by-field or even plant-by-plant basis. Unlike traditional farming, which applies inputs uniformly across large areas, precision agriculture tailors interventions to the specific needs of different zones within a farm, reducing waste and improving yields simultaneously. Soil health has emerged as a central concern in these discussions. Decades of intensive cultivation have degraded soils in many parts of the world, reducing their ability to support crops and store carbon. Practices such as crop rotation, cover cropping, and the incorporation of organic matter are increasingly recognized as essential for restoring and maintaining soil fertility. These approaches are not new—many of them were practiced by traditional farming communities long before the advent of industrial agriculture—but they are now being revisited with renewed urgency as the limitations of purely chemical approaches become apparent. Water management presents another critical challenge. Agriculture accounts for roughly seventy percent of global freshwater withdrawals, and inefficient irrigation systems waste enormous quantities of a resource that is already scarce in many regions. Drip irrigation and other precision water delivery systems have demonstrated the ability to reduce water consumption by up to fifty percent in some contexts without any reduction in yields. Scaling up these technologies, however, requires significant investment and infrastructure, as well as shifts in the incentive structures that currently encourage wasteful use.

- A. damage
- B. maximize efficiency of
- C. standardize
- D. undermine
- E. regulate strictly

**Answer: B**

**Sol:**

'Optimize' means to make the best or most effective use of something. 'Maximize efficiency of' best captures this meaning in context.

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**Q.16 \_\_\_\_\_ migratory birds navigate using the Earth's magnetic field, the discovery of magnetite crystals in their beaks is extremely \_\_\_\_\_.**

*The given sentence has two blanks. Each blank indicates that something has been omitted. Choose the set of words that best fit the meaning of the sentence.*

- A. Although – irrelevant
- B. Recently – unusual
- C. Since – significant
- D. Perhaps – ordinary
- E. Furthermore – welcome

**Answer: C**

**Sol:**

'Since – significant' is the correct usage. 'Since' expresses the causal reason for the discovery being noteworthy, and 'significant' appropriately describes its importance.

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**Q.17 The Great Barrier Reef, which is \_\_\_\_\_ off the northeastern coast of Australia, was first mapped in the eighteenth century and now faces \_\_\_\_\_ damage due to rising ocean temperatures.**

*The given sentence has two blanks. Each blank indicates that something has been omitted. Choose the set of words that best fit the meaning of the sentence.*

- A. somewhere – minor
- B. situated – severe
- C. position – extensive
- D. located – par
- E. vicinity – unexpected

**Answer: B**

**Sol:**

'Situated – severe' is the correct usage. 'Situated' correctly describes the reef's location, and 'severe' appropriately conveys the extent of the damage it faces.

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**Q.18 Many textile workers employ \_\_\_\_\_ looms and outdated machinery, making the cost of handmade fabrics \_\_\_\_\_ as high as machine-produced alternatives.**

*The given sentence has two blanks. Each blank indicates that something has been omitted. Choose the set of words that best fit the meaning of the sentence.*

- A. automated – unnecessarily
- B. modern – less
- C. ancient – marginally
- D. traditional – nearly
- E. sustainable – relatively

**Answer: D**

**Sol:**

'Traditional – nearly' is the correct usage. 'Traditional' describes the type of looms, and 'nearly' accurately conveys that costs approach but may not fully match those of machine-produced fabrics.

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**Q.19 Some researchers believe that the most effective \_\_\_\_\_ to curb the rise in lifestyle diseases is to design urban environments \_\_\_\_\_ physical activity into daily routines.**

*The given sentence has two blanks. Each blank indicates that something has been omitted. Choose the set of words that best fit the meaning of the sentence.*

- A. remedy – discouraging
- B. approach – integrating
- C. part – facilitating
- D. decision – expediting
- E. method – further

**Answer: B**

**Sol:**

'Approach – integrating' is the correct usage. 'Approach' describes the strategy, and 'integrating' correctly indicates the method of building physical activity into daily life.

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**Q.20 Digital payment systems are \_\_\_\_\_ for communities in remote areas where banking infrastructure is limited, and they help to \_\_\_\_\_ financial inclusion across underserved regions.**

*The given sentence has two blanks. Each blank indicates that something has been omitted. Choose the set of words that best fit the meaning of the sentence.*

- A. fundamental – compute
- B. prerequisite – undermine
- C. vital – accelerate
- D. essentially – bolster
- E. Inherent – foster

**Answer: C**

**Sol:**

'Vital – accelerate' is the correct usage. 'Vital' means critically important, and 'accelerate' correctly describes the role of digital payments in speeding up financial inclusion.

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**Q.21 Identify the grammatically incorrect sentence.**

*In each of the following questions, five options are given and you have to choose the one which has some or any grammatical error in it. In the questions where the fifth option is 'all are correct' and all the given four options are correct, choose option (E) as your choice.*

- A. By the time she arrived at the station, the train had already departed.
- B. Neither the manager nor his assistants was present at the meeting.
- C. The committee has submitted its final report to the board of directors.
- D. He would have succeeded if he had worked a little harder.
- E. All are correct.

**Answer: B**

**Sol:**

In 'Neither...nor' constructions, the verb agrees with the subject closest to it. Here, 'assistants' is plural, so the verb should be 'were', not 'was'. Correct form: 'Neither the manager nor his assistants were present.'

---

**Q.22 Identify the grammatically incorrect sentence.**

*In each of the following questions, five options are given and you have to choose the one which has some or any grammatical error in it. In the questions where the fifth option is 'all are correct' and all the given four options are correct, choose option (E) as your choice.*

- A. She insisted on completing the project before the deadline.
- B. The team was praised for their outstanding performance during the season.
- C. He looked forward to meet his old friends after so many years.
- D. Despite the heavy rain, the match continued without interruption.
- E. All are correct.

**Answer: C**

**Sol:**

'Look forward to' is a phrasal verb in which 'to' is a preposition, not part of an infinitive. It must be followed by a noun or gerund, not a base verb. Correct form: 'He looked forward to meeting his old friends.'

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**Q.23 Identify the grammatically incorrect sentence.**

*In each of the following questions, five options are given and you have to choose the one which has some or any grammatical error in it. In the questions where the fifth option is 'all are correct' and all the given four options are correct, choose option (E) as your choice.*

- A. The new regulations will come into effect from the first of next month.
- B. A number of students have submitted their assignments ahead of schedule.
- C. The information provided in the report are outdated and unreliable.
- D. She was awarded a scholarship for her exceptional academic performance.
- E. All are correct.

**Answer: C**

**Sol:**

'Information' is an uncountable noun and always takes a singular verb. Correct form: 'The information provided in the report is outdated and unreliable.'

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**Q.24 Identify the grammatically incorrect sentence.**

*In each of the following questions, five options are given and you have to choose the one which has some or any grammatical error in it. In the questions where the fifth option is 'all are correct' and all the given four options are correct, choose option (E) as your choice.*

- A. The jury has delivered its verdict after three days of deliberation.
- B. Only she can understand the difficulties he faces every day.
- C. It is I who am responsible for the delay in submitting the report.
- D. He is one of those officials who takes their responsibilities lightly.
- E. All are correct.

**Answer: D**

**Sol:**

In the construction 'one of those + plural noun + relative clause', the verb in the relative clause agrees with the plural noun, not with 'one'. Correct form: '...officials who take their responsibilities lightly.'

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**Q.25 Identify the grammatically incorrect sentence.**

*In each of the following questions, five options are given and you have to choose the one which has some or any grammatical error in it. In the questions where the fifth option is 'all are correct' and all the given four options are correct, choose option (E) as your choice.*

- A. The beautiful old stone bridge has stood for over three centuries.
- B. In a moment of anger he tore up a important document his colleague had prepared.
- C. It is the symbol of a proud tradition rooted in the history of the region.
- D. It has been a challenge for that talented student to adapt to the new curriculum.
- E. That rich aroma of freshly brewed coffee filled every corner of the café.

**Answer: B**

**Sol:**

Before a word beginning with a vowel sound, the article 'an' must be used instead of 'a'. Correct form: '...he tore up an important document...'

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**Q.26 Which of the following should be the FIRST sentence after rearrangement?**

*Rearrange the following five sentences (A), (B), (C), (D) and (E) in the proper sequence to form a paragraph; then answer the questions given below them. A. Policymakers must therefore invest in developing the digital infrastructure and regulatory frameworks necessary to support this transition. B. The rapid spread of artificial intelligence across industries has raised fundamental questions about the future of work and economic distribution. C. At the same time, history suggests that technological revolutions, while disruptive in the short term, tend to create more jobs than they eliminate over the long run. D. On the one hand, automation threatens to displace millions of workers in routine and semi-skilled occupations, exacerbating existing inequalities. E. Navigating this tension between disruption and opportunity will be among the defining challenges of the coming decades.*

- A. A
- B. B
- C. C
- D. D
- E. E

**Answer: B**

**Sol:**

The correct sequence is B D C A E. Sentence B introduces the broad topic—AI spreading across industries and raising questions about work—making it the natural opening.

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**Q.27 Which of the following should be the SECOND sentence after rearrangement?**

*Rearrange the following five sentences (A), (B), (C), (D) and (E) in the proper sequence to form a paragraph; then answer the questions given below them. A. Policymakers must therefore invest in developing the digital infrastructure and regulatory frameworks necessary to support this transition. B. The rapid spread of artificial intelligence across industries has raised fundamental questions about the future of work and economic distribution. C. At the same time, history suggests that technological revolutions, while disruptive in the short term, tend to create more jobs than they eliminate over the long run. D. On the one hand, automation threatens to displace millions of workers in routine and semi-skilled occupations, exacerbating existing inequalities. E. Navigating this tension between disruption and opportunity will be among the defining challenges of the coming decades.*

- A. E
- B. D
- C. C
- D. B
- E. A

**Answer: B**

**Sol:**

The correct sequence is B D C A E. Sentence D follows logically, elaborating on the threat of automation—'On the one hand'—which is the first side of the argument introduced in B.

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**Q.28 Which of the following should be the THIRD sentence after rearrangement?**

*Rearrange the following five sentences (A), (B), (C), (D) and (E) in the proper sequence to form a paragraph; then answer the questions given below them. A. Policymakers must therefore invest in developing the digital infrastructure and regulatory frameworks necessary to support this transition. B. The rapid spread of artificial intelligence across industries has raised fundamental questions about the future of work and economic distribution. C. At the same time, history suggests that technological revolutions, while disruptive in the short term, tend to create more jobs than they eliminate over the long run. D. On the one hand, automation threatens to displace millions of workers in routine and semi-skilled occupations, exacerbating existing inequalities. E. Navigating this tension between disruption and opportunity will be among the defining challenges of the coming decades.*

- A. A
- B. B
- C. C
- D. D
- E. E

**Answer: C**

**Sol:**

The correct sequence is B D C A E. Sentence C introduces the contrasting perspective—'At the same time'—providing the counter-argument to D's negative outlook.

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**Q.29 Which of the following should be the FOURTH sentence after rearrangement?**

*Rearrange the following five sentences (A), (B), (C), (D) and (E) in the proper sequence to form a paragraph; then answer the questions given below them. A. Policymakers must therefore invest in developing the digital infrastructure and regulatory frameworks necessary to support this transition. B. The rapid spread of artificial intelligence across industries has raised fundamental questions about the future of work and economic distribution. C. At the same time, history suggests that technological revolutions, while disruptive in the short term, tend to create more jobs than they eliminate over the long run. D. On the one hand, automation threatens to displace millions of workers in routine and semi-skilled occupations, exacerbating existing inequalities. E. Navigating this tension between disruption and opportunity will be among the defining challenges of the coming decades.*

- A. E
- B. D
- C. C
- D. A
- E. B

**Answer: D**

**Sol:**

The correct sequence is B D C A E. Sentence A follows C by moving from historical observation to the practical implication: that policymakers must act to support the transition.

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**Q.30 Which of the following should be the FIFTH (LAST) sentence after rearrangement?**

*Rearrange the following five sentences (A), (B), (C), (D) and (E) in the proper sequence to form a paragraph; then answer the questions given below them. A. Policymakers must therefore invest in developing the digital infrastructure and regulatory frameworks necessary to support this transition. B. The rapid spread of artificial intelligence across industries has raised fundamental questions about the future of work and economic distribution. C. At the same time,*

history suggests that technological revolutions, while disruptive in the short term, tend to create more jobs than they eliminate over the long run. D. On the one hand, automation threatens to displace millions of workers in routine and semi-skilled occupations, exacerbating existing inequalities. E. Navigating this tension between disruption and opportunity will be among the defining challenges of the coming decades.

- A. A
- B. B
- C. C
- D. D
- E. E

**Answer: E**

**Sol:**

The correct sequence is B D C A E. Sentence E provides a fitting conclusion by describing the challenge of balancing disruption and opportunity as a defining issue of the coming decades.

**Q.31 Fortuitously [A] / Fortunately [B] the rescue team arrived before the situation became critical. Her continuous [A] / continual [B] efforts to improve her scores finally paid off at the national competition. The accused was asked to lay [A] / lie [B] down his weapons before the authorities. The professor's lecture had an adverse [A] / averse [B] effect on the students' enthusiasm for the subject. The factory has complied [A] / complied [B] with all the environmental regulations set by the government.**

*In each question, there are sentences with a pair of words/phrases that are italicized or highlighted. From the highlighted word(s)/phrase(s), select the most appropriate word/phrase to form correct sentences. Then, from the given options, choose the best one.*

- A. BAABA
- B. AAABA
- C. BBBAB
- D. BBAAB
- E. BABAB

**Answer: D**

**Sol:**

'Fortunately' (not 'fortuitously') fits better for a rescue; 'continual' (repeated) fits ongoing efforts; 'lay' requires an object here (lay down weapons); 'adverse' means harmful effect (correct); 'complied' is the same in both. Sequence: B B A A B → D.

**Q.32 The minister unveiled [A] / unravelled [B] a new policy to boost rural employment in the state. Citizens who wish to appeal [A] / appeal [B] against the ruling must do so within thirty days. She sought his council [A] / counsel [B] before making the difficult decision. The speaker made several allusions [A] / illusions [B] to classical literature in his address. The athlete's performance was effected [A] / affected [B] by the extreme heat on the day of the race.**

*In each question, there are sentences with a pair of words/phrases that are italicized or highlighted. From the highlighted word(s)/phrase(s), select the most appropriate word/phrase to form correct sentences. Then, from the given options, choose the best one.*

- A. BABAA
- B. BABAB
- C. BAAAB
- D. ABAAB
- E. BAABA

**Answer: D**

**Sol:**

'Unveiled' is correct (B wrong); 'appeal' is correct; 'counsel' means advice (correct, so B); 'allusions' means references (correct, so A); 'affected' means influenced (correct, so B). Sequence: A B A A B → D.

**Q.33 Choose the appropriate word/phrase for blank (33).**

In the following passage there are blanks, each of which has been numbered. These numbers are printed below the passage and against each, five words/phrases are suggested, one of which fits the blank appropriately. Find out the appropriate word/phrase in each case. It is widely recognized that the state of a nation's public health infrastructure is one of the most reliable indicators of its overall development. A robust health system not only ... (33) ... the population against the burden of preventable diseases but also contributes directly to economic productivity by ensuring that workers remain healthy and capable of contributing to growth. In countries where health systems are ... (34) ..., the consequences extend far beyond individual suffering: entire communities are left vulnerable, economic development stalls, and social cohesion begins to ... (35) ... Investment in primary healthcare, in particular, has repeatedly been shown to yield the greatest ... (36) ... for the money spent. When people have access to affordable and quality care at the community level, the demand for expensive hospital services decreases significantly, ... (37) ... overall healthcare costs while improving outcomes. Moreover, communities with strong primary health networks tend to report better maternal and child health indicators, lower rates of infectious disease, and higher life expectancy. Despite this evidence, many low- and middle-income countries continue to ... (38) ... hospital-based care over community health approaches. This reflects both political pressures—hospitals are more visible and generate more public goodwill—and the ... (39) ... influence of pharmaceutical and medical equipment industries that benefit from high-technology interventions. Shifting the balance toward preventive and primary care will require not only changes in funding priorities but also a ... (40) ... transformation in how health systems are designed and evaluated.

- A. exposes
- B. protects
- C. isolates
- D. removes
- E. advises

**Answer: B**

**Sol:**

'Protects' is the correct choice. A robust health system 'protects the population against the burden of preventable diseases.' The other options do not make logical sense in context.

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**Q.34 Choose the appropriate word/phrase for blank (34).**

In the following passage there are blanks, each of which has been numbered. These numbers are printed below the passage and against each, five words/phrases are suggested, one of which fits the blank appropriately. Find out the appropriate word/phrase in each case. It is widely recognized that the state of a nation's public health infrastructure is one of the most reliable indicators of its overall development. A robust health system not only ... (33) ... the population against the burden of preventable diseases but also contributes directly to economic productivity by ensuring that workers remain healthy and capable of contributing to growth. In countries where health systems are ... (34) ..., the consequences extend far beyond individual suffering: entire communities are left vulnerable, economic development stalls, and social cohesion begins to ... (35) ... Investment in primary healthcare, in particular, has repeatedly been shown to yield the greatest ... (36) ... for the money spent. When people have access to affordable and quality care at the community level, the demand for expensive hospital services decreases significantly, ... (37) ... overall healthcare costs while improving outcomes. Moreover, communities with strong primary health networks tend to report better maternal and child health indicators, lower rates of infectious disease, and higher life expectancy. Despite this evidence, many low- and middle-income countries continue to ... (38) ... hospital-based care over community health approaches. This reflects both political pressures—hospitals are more visible and generate more public goodwill—and the ... (39) ... influence of pharmaceutical and medical equipment industries that benefit from high-technology interventions. Shifting the balance toward preventive and primary care will require not only changes in funding priorities but also a ... (40) ... transformation in how health systems are designed and evaluated.

- A. advanced
- B. modern
- C. fragile
- D. experimental
- E. resourceful

**Answer: C**

**Sol:**

'Fragile' is the correct choice. The sentence contrasts countries with fragile/weak health systems against those with robust ones, and describes the negative consequences of such fragility.

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**Q.35 Choose the appropriate word/phrase for blank (35).**

*In the following passage there are blanks, each of which has been numbered. These numbers are printed below the passage and against each, five words/phrases are suggested, one of which fits the blank appropriately. Find out the appropriate word/phrase in each case. It is widely recognized that the state of a nation's public health infrastructure is one of the most reliable indicators of its overall development. A robust health system not only ...(33)... the population against the burden of preventable diseases but also contributes directly to economic productivity by ensuring that workers remain healthy and capable of contributing to growth. In countries where health systems are ...(34)..., the consequences extend far beyond individual suffering: entire communities are left vulnerable, economic development stalls, and social cohesion begins to ...(35)... Investment in primary healthcare, in particular, has repeatedly been shown to yield the greatest ...(36)... for the money spent. When people have access to affordable and quality care at the community level, the demand for expensive hospital services decreases significantly, ...(37)... overall healthcare costs while improving outcomes. Moreover, communities with strong primary health networks tend to report better maternal and child health indicators, lower rates of infectious disease, and higher life expectancy. Despite this evidence, many low- and middle-income countries continue to ...(38)... hospital-based care over community health approaches. This reflects both political pressures—hospitals are more visible and generate more public goodwill—and the ...(39)... influence of pharmaceutical and medical equipment industries that benefit from high-technology interventions. Shifting the balance toward preventive and primary care will require not only changes in funding priorities but also a ...(40)... transformation in how health systems are designed and evaluated.*

- A. strengthen
- B. expand
- C. integrate
- D. erode
- E. consolidate

**Answer: D**

**Sol:**

'Erode' is the correct choice. Social cohesion begins to erode (gradually weaken) when a community faces the negative consequences of poor health systems—matching the negative tone of the sentence.

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**Q.36 Choose the appropriate word/phrase for blank (36).**

*In the following passage there are blanks, each of which has been numbered. These numbers are printed below the passage and against each, five words/phrases are suggested, one of which fits the blank appropriately. Find out the appropriate word/phrase in each case. It is widely recognized that the state of a nation's public health infrastructure is one of the most reliable indicators of its overall development. A robust health system not only ...(33)... the population against the burden of preventable diseases but also contributes directly to economic productivity by ensuring that workers remain healthy and capable of contributing to growth. In countries where health systems are ...(34)..., the consequences extend far beyond individual suffering: entire communities are left vulnerable, economic development stalls, and social cohesion begins to ...(35)... Investment in primary healthcare, in particular, has repeatedly been shown to yield the greatest ...(36)... for the money spent. When people have access to affordable and quality care at the community level, the demand for expensive hospital services decreases significantly, ...(37)... overall healthcare costs while improving outcomes. Moreover, communities with strong primary health networks tend to report better maternal and child health indicators, lower rates of infectious disease, and higher life expectancy. Despite this evidence, many low- and middle-income countries continue to ...(38)... hospital-based care over community health approaches. This reflects both political pressures—hospitals are more visible and generate more public goodwill—and the ...(39)... influence of pharmaceutical and medical equipment industries that benefit from high-technology interventions. Shifting the balance toward preventive and primary care will require not only changes in funding priorities but also a ...(40)... transformation in how health systems are designed and evaluated.*

- A. risk
- B. returns
- C. deficits
- D. uncertainty
- E. complications

**Answer: B**

**Sol:**

'Returns' is the correct choice. 'Yield the greatest returns for the money spent' is a standard expression meaning the best value or outcomes for investment.

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**Q.37 Choose the appropriate word/phrase for blank (37).**

*In the following passage there are blanks, each of which has been numbered. These numbers are printed below the passage and against each, five words/phrases are suggested, one of which fits the blank appropriately. Find out the appropriate word/phrase in each case. It is widely recognized that the state of a nation's public health infrastructure is one of the most reliable indicators of its overall development. A robust health system not only ... (33) ... the population against the burden of preventable diseases but also contributes directly to economic productivity by ensuring that workers remain healthy and capable of contributing to growth. In countries where health systems are ... (34) ..., the consequences extend far beyond individual suffering: entire communities are left vulnerable, economic development stalls, and social cohesion begins to ... (35) ... Investment in primary healthcare, in particular, has repeatedly been shown to yield the greatest ... (36) ... for the money spent. When people have access to affordable and quality care at the community level, the demand for expensive hospital services decreases significantly, ... (37) ... overall healthcare costs while improving outcomes. Moreover, communities with strong primary health networks tend to report better maternal and child health indicators, lower rates of infectious disease, and higher life expectancy. Despite this evidence, many low- and middle-income countries continue to ... (38) ... hospital-based care over community health approaches. This reflects both political pressures—hospitals are more visible and generate more public goodwill—and the ... (39) ... influence of pharmaceutical and medical equipment industries that benefit from high-technology interventions. Shifting the balance toward preventive and primary care will require not only changes in funding priorities but also a ... (40) ... transformation in how health systems are designed and evaluated.*

- A. inflating
- B. ignoring
- C. reducing
- D. estimating
- E. complicating

**Answer: C**

**Sol:**

'Reducing' is the correct choice. When demand for expensive hospital services decreases, it results in 'reducing overall healthcare costs while improving outcomes.'

---

**Q.38 Choose the appropriate word/phrase for blank (38).**

*In the following passage there are blanks, each of which has been numbered. These numbers are printed below the passage and against each, five words/phrases are suggested, one of which fits the blank appropriately. Find out the appropriate word/phrase in each case. It is widely recognized that the state of a nation's public health infrastructure is one of the most reliable indicators of its overall development. A robust health system not only ... (33) ... the population against the burden of preventable diseases but also contributes directly to economic productivity by ensuring that workers remain healthy and capable of contributing to growth. In countries where health systems are ... (34) ..., the consequences extend far beyond individual suffering: entire communities are left vulnerable, economic development stalls, and social cohesion begins to ... (35) ... Investment in primary healthcare, in particular, has repeatedly been shown to yield the greatest ... (36) ... for the money spent. When people have access to affordable and quality care at the community level, the demand for expensive hospital services decreases significantly, ... (37) ... overall healthcare costs while improving outcomes. Moreover, communities with strong primary health networks tend to report better maternal and child health indicators, lower rates of infectious disease, and higher life expectancy. Despite this evidence, many low- and middle-income countries continue to ... (38) ... hospital-based care over community health approaches. This reflects both political pressures—hospitals are more visible and generate more public goodwill—and the ... (39) ... influence of pharmaceutical and medical equipment industries that benefit from high-technology interventions. Shifting the balance toward preventive and primary care will require not only changes in funding priorities but also a ... (40) ... transformation in how health systems are designed and evaluated.*

- A. abandon
- B. prioritize
- C. regulate
- D. research
- E. resist

**Answer: B**

**Sol:**

'Prioritize' is the correct choice. The passage says countries continue to prefer or prioritize 'hospital-based care over community health approaches,' despite evidence favouring the latter.

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**Q.39 Choose the appropriate word/phrase for blank (39).**

*In the following passage there are blanks, each of which has been numbered. These numbers are printed below the passage and against each, five words/phrases are suggested, one of which fits the blank appropriately. Find out the appropriate word/phrase in each case. It is widely recognized that the state of a nation's public health infrastructure is one of the most reliable indicators of its overall development. A robust health system not only ... (33) ... the population against the burden of preventable diseases but also contributes directly to economic productivity by ensuring that workers remain healthy and capable of contributing to growth. In countries where health systems are ... (34) ..., the consequences extend far beyond individual suffering: entire communities are left vulnerable, economic development stalls, and social cohesion begins to ... (35) ... Investment in primary healthcare, in particular, has repeatedly been shown to yield the greatest ... (36) ... for the money spent. When people have access to affordable and quality care at the community level, the demand for expensive hospital services decreases significantly, ... (37) ... overall healthcare costs while improving outcomes. Moreover, communities with strong primary health networks tend to report better maternal and child health indicators, lower rates of infectious disease, and higher life expectancy. Despite this evidence, many low- and middle-income countries continue to ... (38) ... hospital-based care over community health approaches. This reflects both political pressures—hospitals are more visible and generate more public goodwill—and the ... (39) ... influence of pharmaceutical and medical equipment industries that benefit from high-technology interventions. Shifting the balance toward preventive and primary care will require not only changes in funding priorities but also a ... (40) ... transformation in how health systems are designed and evaluated.*

- A. marginal
- B. declining
- C. disproportionate
- D. legitimate
- E. transparent

**Answer: C**

**Sol:**

'Disproportionate' is the correct choice. The passage implies that pharmaceutical and medical equipment industries exert an outsized or disproportionate influence on health policy decisions.

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**Q.40 Choose the appropriate word/phrase for blank (40).**

*In the following passage there are blanks, each of which has been numbered. These numbers are printed below the passage and against each, five words/phrases are suggested, one of which fits the blank appropriately. Find out the appropriate word/phrase in each case. It is widely recognized that the state of a nation's public health infrastructure is one of the most reliable indicators of its overall development. A robust health system not only ... (33) ... the population against the burden of preventable diseases but also contributes directly to economic productivity by ensuring that workers remain healthy and capable of contributing to growth. In countries where health systems are ... (34) ..., the consequences extend far beyond individual suffering: entire communities are left vulnerable, economic development stalls, and social cohesion begins to ... (35) ... Investment in primary healthcare, in particular, has repeatedly been shown to yield the greatest ... (36) ... for the money spent. When people have access to affordable and quality care at the community level, the demand for expensive hospital services decreases significantly, ... (37) ... overall healthcare costs while improving outcomes. Moreover, communities with strong primary health networks tend to report better maternal and child health indicators, lower rates of infectious disease, and higher life expectancy. Despite this evidence, many low- and middle-income countries continue to ... (38) ... hospital-based care over community health approaches. This reflects both political pressures—hospitals are more visible and generate more public goodwill—and the ... (39) ... influence of pharmaceutical and medical equipment industries that benefit from high-technology interventions. Shifting the balance toward preventive and primary care will require not only changes in funding priorities but also a ... (40) ... transformation in how health systems are designed and evaluated.*

- A. superficial
- B. temporary
- C. fundamental

D. cosmetic

E. cautious

**Answer: C**

**Sol:**

'Fundamental' is the correct choice. The passage calls for deep, foundational change—a 'fundamental transformation'—in how health systems are designed, not merely surface-level adjustments.

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