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# Comprehension Test for SBI Clerk

## Passage No. 6

**Directions (Q.1 to 15) Read the following passage to answer the given questions based on it. Some words/phrases are printed in bold to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.**

Women all over the world in general and Indian women in particular have been facing different problems. A recent report titled 'Women and children in India' and a nearly simultaneous report on 'Indian women their Health and Economic productivity' **highlight** the international importance bring given to the problems of the Indian women.

Unfortunately, both the reports fail to either convey a fresh understanding of the issues or to suggest **innovative** and workable approaches for women's development. The former is because the reports restrict themselves to old statistics. We are told, for example, that the ratio of women to men remains below its natural level and that it is related to other parameters, such as the level of literacy and the **availability** of primary health care.

The failure to suggest a fresh approach is less understandable given that a variety of approaches to women's development has been tried out all over the world. In India, the State has made a strong political and economic commitment to women. In 1990, the National Commitment to Women was established. In 1969 two major policy documents were released. Ever since the Sixth Five-year plan there has been a special section on socio-economic programmes for women. Poverty alleviation programmes have a 30% **target** for women. Special programmes like Development of women and children in Rural Areas have also been started. These government and other approaches have had mixed results. For example, certain organization's approach of using bank credit to organize self-employed women has worked well. So did women's literacy programmes in Kerala. On the other hand, some of the legislated reforms like dowry prohibition have not worked well. The issue of whether women should be identified as separate participator in the development process is also not free from controversy. In this context, it is disappointing to read in one of the reports that one of the government's target for 1991-95 ought to be to foster "an ethos of caring in the community-not to let a child **go to bed hungry**, be subjected to a preventable disease or remain without learning opportunity-this could not the beginning of a social process towards a more humane order". Is the report saying then, that Indians do not love their children, as a matter a cultural practice? Both the reports are likely to be highly influential on opinion leaders and policy

makers. It is very unfortunate that these reports have become superficial and do not delve sufficiently deep into the real problems.

### Question

**1. Which of the following statement (s) is / are correct in the context of the passage in regard to development schemes?**

**I. All people are of the opinion that women should be given special status.**

**II. No one feels that women should be given special status.**

**III. There is no controversy regarding women being given special status.**

A. Only I      B. Only II      C. Only III      D. All the three      E. None of these

**2. Which of the following is not put forward by the author of the passage as a defect of the report?**

A. They highlight the problems of Indian women

B. They contain outdated statistical data

C. The reports have not suggested any new measures

D. Some of the suggestions in the reports are superficial

E. The reports are not analytical

**3. Which of the following is specifically put forward as a reason for the unequal sex ratio in the population?**

A. Natural causes

B. Economic development

C. Literacy level and healthcare

D. Socio-economic programmes

E. Poverty alleviation programmes

**4. Which of the following is FALSE according to the passage?**

**I. The problem of women in general is attracting attention the world over.**

**II. Indian people do not love their children as much as they should.**

**III. Right from independence women have been receiving special attention for development.**

A. Only I      B. Only II      C. Only III      D. Only II and III      E. Only I and II

**5. Which of the following would correctly reflect the tone of the author of the passage to the two reports mentioned in the first paragraph?**

A. Biased      B. Critical      C. Neutral      D. Praiseful      E. Appreciative

**6. Which of the following is conveying the SAME meaning as the word 'mark' as is used in the passage?**

A. Symbolise      B. Sign      C. Distinguish      D. Notice      E. Start

**7. Why has according to the passage, the legislation prohibiting dowry failed in India?**

- A. Due to cultural ethos in the country
- B. Because of the fact that it was passed as law
- C. No social organizations were involved as law
- D. Literacy rate among women is poor
- E. Reason not mentioned in the passage

**8. Which of the following is TRUE in the context of the passage?**

- A. Some development programmes have failed in India.
- B. All development programmes and schemes are generally a success.
- C. Indian women do not manage their finances well.
- D. Women literacy programmes are held all over India.
- E. Culturally, Indians do not love their children.

**9. Choose the word that is most SIMILAR in meaning:**

**TARGET**

A. Aim      B. Margin      C. Quota      D. Schemes      E. Attempt

**10. Choose the word that is most SIMILAR in meaning:**

**Go to bed hungry**

- A. Malnutrition      B. Insomnia      C. Famine      D. Undernourishment  
E. Unsatisfied

**11. Which of the following has not been mentioned as necessary in one of the reports to start a new social order?**

- A. Prevent hunger of children  
B. Prevent disease in children  
C. Community care of children  
D. All of these have been mentioned in the report  
E. None of these

**12. Why does the author say that the reports are unable to convey a fresh understanding to the issues?**

- A. The problems are dealt with superficiality  
B. Outdated data are used in the reports  
C. Some of the development schemes are not dealt with.  
D. Indian problems cannot be understood by foreigners.  
E. None of these

**13. Choose the word that is most OPPOSITE in meaning:**

**INNOVATIVE**

- A. Obsolete      B. Tentative      C. Novel      D. Imperative      E. Changing

**14. Choose the word that is most OPPOSITE in meaning:**

**HIGHLIGHT**

- A. Underestimate      B. Underplay      C. Enhance      D. Unveil      E. Uncover

**15. Choose the word that is most OPPOSITE in meaning:**

**AVAILABILITY**

- A. Accessibility      B. Undesirability      C. Abundance      D. Scarcity      E. Indifference

**Correct Answers:**

<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
E	A	C	D	B	A	E	A	C	D	C	B	A	B	D

**Explanations:**

**1.**

In the given context of the passage, none of these statements is true.

**2.**

The statement which says that the reports highlighted the problems of Indian women can't be considered as a defect of the reports. The answer, hence, is A.

**3.**

Kindly refer to the last sentence of the 2nd paragraph.

**4.**

Except statement 1, the other two (2 & 3) are not true in the context of the passage. The answer, therefore, is D.

**5.**

The author's tone is critical throughout the passage as he criticizes the findings of the two reports for being outdated and not pragmatic.

**6.**

In the given context of the passage, the most similar word to 'Mark' is 'Symbolise' or 'Reresent'.

**7.**

In the given context, no reason has been mentioned in the passage about failure of the legislation prohibiting Dowry in India.

**8**

In the given context of the passage, only statement 1 is true and it can be inferred from 8th or 9th sentences of the 2nd paragraph.

**9.**

In the given context of the passage, the most similar word to 'Target' is 'Quota'.

**10.**

In the given context of the passage, the most similar word to the phrase 'Go to bed hungry' is 'To remain undernourished'. The answer, hence, is 'Undernourishment'.

**11.**

In the given context of the passage, 'Community care of children' has necessarily not been mentioned to start a new social order. The answer, hence, is C.

**12.**

The answer can be inferred from the 2nd sentence of the 2nd paragraph.

**13.**

In the given context, the most opposite word of 'Innovative' is 'Obsolete' which means no longer in use.

**14.**

In the given context, the most opposite word of 'Highlight' is 'Underplay' or 'Downplay' which means to make something less important.

**15.**

In the given context, the most opposite of 'Availability' is 'Scarcity' which means insufficiency of something.



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