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Cloze Test Ex. 54

Directions: In the following passage, some of the words have been left out, each of which is indicated by a letter. Find the suitable word from the options given against each letter and fill up the blanks with appropriate words to make the paragraph meaningful.

The Doklam plateau has become the unlikely scene of the latest India-China ___ A ___. The region falls within Bhutanese territory, but this is now questioned by China. The Chumbi valley is vital for India, and any change is fraught with dangerous possibilities. The incident ___ B ___ from differences between Bhutan and India on the one hand and China on the other as to the exact location of the tri-junction between the three countries.

In 2007, India and Bhutan had negotiated a Friendship Treaty to replace an earlier one. According to the revised treaty, the two countries are committed to coordinate on issues relating to their national interests. The terms of the 2007 Friendship Treaty are somewhat milder than the one it replaced, which provided India greater ___ C ___ in determining Bhutan's foreign relations, but there is little doubt about the import of the revised treaty.

China's current claims over the Doklam plateau should be seen as yet another instance of ___ D ___ aggression, which China ___ E ___ engages in. It is, however, China's action of building an all-weather road on Bhutan's territory, one capable of sustaining heavy vehicles, that has ___ F ___ Bhutan and India to coordinate their actions in their joint national interests, under the terms of the 2007 Friendship Treaty.

Many of the points involved in the current stand-off are disputed or disputable. The Sikkim (India) - China border was the only ___ G ___ of the nearly 4,000-km-long India-China border.

1. A

A. meet B. imbroglio C. association D. enclave E. gore

2. B

A. discard B. reflects C. stems D. acts E. prevents

3. C

A. benefit B. strength C. latitude D. compass E. ambit

4. D

A. demographic B. psychological C. historic D. cartographic E. catastrophic

5. E

A. undeniably B. unwillingly C. often D. rarely E. seldom

6. F

A. rapped B. dissuade C. consolidate D. prompted E. lured

7. G

A. segment B. delineation C. boundary D. surplus E. edge

Correct Answers:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
B	C	C	D	C	D	A

Explanations :

1. Out of the given choices only the word '**Imbroglia**' which means '**an extremely confused, complicated, or embarrassing situation**' fits the blank both grammatically and contextually.

The passage talks about the latest conflicts among Bhutan, China and India over the territory issue of 'The Doklam plateau' and either of the words 'meet' and 'association' does not go well with the context.

'Enclave' means a portion of territory surrounded by a larger territory and the word is not completing the sentence in a meaningful manner either.

'Gore' refers to 'blood that has been shed, especially as a result of violence' and this also would be absurd in the context.

Option B is hence the correct answer.

2. The blank needs a verb in singular form and hence the verb 'discard' gets eliminated here.

The word 'reflects' would have been a suitable choice here, had the preposition 'from' not been there in the sentence.

Neither 'acts' nor 'prevents' fit the blank meaningfully.

Here the word 'stems' would fit the blank perfectly as it implies the origin of the issue or problem.

Ex. Much of the instability **stems from** the economic effects of the war.

Option C is hence the correct answer.

3. Though either of the words 'benefit' and 'strength' would be grammatically correct, neither of them adds a meaningful context to the sentence. Both of them hence get eliminated.

'Compass' and 'ambit' are synonyms and refer to 'the limit of a person's knowledge, experience, or interest'. Clearly, neither of them would fit the blank appropriately.

The beginning of the sentence implies that the terms of treaty are milder and hence, the word 'latitude' which means 'freedom, leeway or elbow room' would be the best choice among the given ones.

Option C is hence the correct answer.

4. The word 'demographic' relates to the structure of populations and hence can be eliminated here.

Similarly, 'catastrophic' means involving or causing sudden great damage or suffering and this word would be absolutely absurd in the context given in the passage.

Either of the words 'psychological' and 'historic' too doesn't add any meaning to the context. They too can be eliminated.

Out of the available choices, only the word 'cartographic' which relates to the science or practice of drawing maps. As the passage talks about the same, 'cartographic' would be the best choice.

Option D is hence the correct answer.

5. The passage has mentioned 'another instance' of aggression by China in the previous part, hence it gives us a clue that the word in the blank must be implying that for China this action is thing of habit. Therefore neither 'rarely' nor 'seldom' is suitable for the blank.

'Undeniably' means true or certain. It doesn't makes any sense here.

Similarly, the adverb 'unwillingly' would also be absurd here in the context.

'Often' is used as an adverb here. It means frequently or many times and hence it fits the blank contextually.

Option C is the correct answer.

6. Here the blank requires a word that implies encouragement as the context points towards national interest.

'Rap' means to criticize something. We, therefore, can eliminate it immediately.

The word 'consolidate' is in present form and hence can be eliminated too.

'Dissuade' means to discourage someone and usage of it would be opposite in the context of the passage.

'Lure' means 'to attract' or 'to entice' and it doesn't fit the blank appropriately.

"Prompt" means to make them decide something or 'to evoke'.

Clearly, out of the choices given, the best word for the blank is option D.

7. If you delineate something, you describe it, draw it or define it, often in a lot of detail. Clearly, it doesn't make sense here.

'Boundary' means a dividing line, hence it is unsuitable as well for the blank.

Similarly, both the words 'surplus' and 'edge' are not adding anything meaningful to the context and hence can be eliminated as well.

A segment of something is one part of it, considered separately from the rest. Therefore, out of the available words, the best choice would be 'segment'.

Option A is the correct answer.



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