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NOVEMBER GA QUIZ 57

Direction: Read the following passage and answer the question that follows.

A lot has been written since the government launched the Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana (Saubhagya) for universal household electrification in September 2017 and subsequently announced the electrification of all villages in April 2018. In fact, ___(A)___ progress has been made with respect to village electrification and providing electricity connections to rural households, for over a decade. (B) *During this period, rural electrification has evidence a paradigm shift from demand-driven village electrification programmes of the 1950s to the 1990s, to small targeted household electrification drives between the 1980s and 2005.* But, concerted efforts began with the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) in 2005 that aimed to provide free electricity connections to rural households below the poverty line (BPL), besides creating rural electricity infrastructure. This was followed by successive central government schemes, which were based on similar programme design. (C) The **provide (1)** behind these schemes was to **vision (2)** quality, reliable, and affordable power to **enable (3)** livelihood and **productive (4)** activities, such that electrification catalyses development. This has been the vision for electrification the world over and has been central to electrification drives in the United States, China, Thailand, Brazil and South. This article takes stock of the achievements of rural electrification in India till date, and discusses ___(D)___ towards reliable and affordable power for all made by various successive governments. The state electricity boards (SEBs) set up immediately after independence had the ___(E)___ to supply electricity beyond the major cities. Rural electrification was then a by-product of electrifying towns, and villages near the grid benefited. With the (F) **virtuosity** of the green revolution, the focus of rural electrification was also to provide impetus to the use of electric pump sets among farmers, especially in Punjab, Haryana, Maharashtra, Gujarat and the southern states. A lot of these efforts were also strengthened and sustained due to farmers' demands. The pace of rural electrification slowed down during the power sector reforms initiated in the 1990s where the focus was on efficiency improvement and financial health of the sector. (G) During this period, rural electrification departments in many SEBs were neglected or even removed, and only households close to electricity lines that could afford connection charges benefited. By 2001, many states with high village electrification levels had low household access. (H) Concerted focus on rural electrification **contemporary (1)** network expansion was **initiated (2)** by the National Common Minimum Programme of the UPA (United Progressive Alliance) government whose main

electoral **agenda (3)** for coming to power was the **beyond (4)** rural distress. RGGVY, launched in 2005, was driven and financed by the central government and focused on giving free connections to BPL households. It also had provisions for capital investment in rural distribution networks. This was also the first programme to provide required funds directly to the project implementers (Distribution Companies [DISCOMs] or Central Public Sector Utilities) on a turnkey basis, instead of the state governments. *(I) Between 2005 and 2014, about 2.16 crore BPL households were provided connections under RGGVY and capital investment worth Rs. 33,800 crore were made to strengthen rural networks.* However, there were several challenges in planning, implementation and sustainability of this rural electrification programme one such being the exclusion of non-BPL households, **(J)** that more than half of the non-electrified households were not eligible for free connections by 2011–12.

1. Which of the following word given in the options should come at the place marked as (A) in the above paragraph to make it grammatically correct and meaningful? Also, the word should fill in the two sentences given below to make them contextually correct and meaningful.

I. In order to support the theory of evolution, many _____ facts can be adduced so that nobody is left with any kind of doubt regarding this.

II. Though a lot was expected of the new President, there has been no _____ change in the political situation of the country since his election.

A. Pathetic

B. Excessive

C. Significant

D. Statistical

E. Tragedy

2. In the passage given, a sentence (B) is given in italics. There may or may not be an error in one part of the sentence. Choose the part which has an error in it as your answer. If there is no error then choose option (E) as your answer.

A. During this period, rural electrification has evidence a paradigm shift.

B. from demand-driven village electrification programmes

C. of the 1950s to the 1990s, to small targeted household electrification

D. drives between the 1980s and 2005.

E. No error

7. Two sentences are given in italics on both sides of (G). Which of the following statements can come in between the two sentences in place of (G) and maintain the continuity of the paragraph?

A. The expectation perhaps was that improvements in access to electricity will automatically follow.

B. It also shows disbursal of connections, which was highest towards the end of the Eleventh Five Year Plan followed by a slump in new connections, which has been rising steadily in the recent years.

C. Many of these supply and service quality issues, crucial to the sustainability of electrification efforts, have also been identified in successive government-led evaluations of the rural electrification programmes.

D. As policies perceive “electrification” to be synonymous with “access to connections” alone, there have been no concerted efforts to improve the quality of supply.

E. Thus, if adequate attention is not given, such issues could impede the progress towards meaningful access to electricity, increase the possibility of the networks being disused or consumers resorting to power theft.

8. The sentence given in (H) has four words given in bold. Amongst the given bold words which of the following must replace each other to make the sentence contextually correct and meaningful?

A. 2-4

B. 3-4

C. 1-4

D. 1-2

E. 1-3

9. In the passage given, a sentence (I) is given in italics. There may or may not be an error in one part of the sentence. Choose the part which has an error in it as your answer. If there is no error then choose option (E) as your answer.

A. Between 2005 and 2014, about 2.16 crore BPL households were

B. provided connections under RGGVY and

C. capital investment worth Rs. 33,800 crore were

D. made to strengthen rural networks.

E. No error

10. Which of the following words should fill the blank given in (J) to make it contextually correct and meaningful?

A. Interrogating

B. Investigating

C. Rectifying

D. Utilizing

E. Implying



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Correct answers:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
C	A	D	A	E	D	A	C	C	E

Explanations:

1.

The given context is regarding the rural electrification in the country and the significant progress made in this regard in the country by various initiatives of the government. If we now come to the two given statements, the first one is regarding evidence in support of the theory of evolution whereas the next one is regarding the expected change in the political situation of the country since the time he has become the President of the country.

We have to choose a word that will fit in all these statements correctly and will also be contextually correct. A can be ruled out since it will not fit in any of the given blanks and same can be said regarding B also. Coming Options D and E, they are also irrelevant in the context of the passage. Only Option C is there that may fit in all the three blanks and all these statements will become meaningful and contextually correct.

This makes option C the correct choice among the given options.

2.

There is an error in the first part of the statement since the verb form used here is not correct for the present perfect tense. Here, the sentence is talking in the present perfect tense whereas the verb used is in the simple present tense of the verb. Has evidence is not the correct usage but it should have been has evidenced. This is the correct usage of the verb in this part of the statement.

There is no other error in any part of the statement.

The correct statement would be:

During this period, rural electrification has evidenced a paradigm shift from demand-driven village electrification programmes of the 1950s to the 1990s, to small targeted household electrification drives between the 1980s and 2005.

This makes Option A the correct choice among the given options.

3.

The given statement is regarding the effect of electrification on the development of a country since it is required that affordable power is provided to everybody. This will make it possible for everybody to do something productive and remunerative. If we go through the statement, we shall see that the words in 1 and 2 have been interchanged and if we change them back, the statement would be meaningful and also contextually correct.

The correct statement would be:

The vision behind these schemes was to provide quality, reliable, and affordable power to enable livelihood and productive activities, such that electrification catalyses development.

This makes option D the correct choice among the given options.

4.

If we go through the context of this statement, it is clear that the sentence is regarding the past achievements of India in the area of rural electrification whereas it also discusses the future challenges and objectives to be followed by the country in this regard.

Among the given options, B is not correct since it talks about only village electrification and it does not fit into the context of the passage whereas C can be ruled out from consideration because it is talking about something irrelevant in the context of this statement. Option D talks about the speed of rural electrification in India and can be eliminated. Option E is not correct since it is not going with the given context of the sentence.

Option A is the correct choice that talks about the future achievements that should be attempted by the government in the field of rural electrification in the country.

The complete statement would be:

This article takes stock of the achievements of rural electrification in India till date, and discusses the next many goalposts to meet the political commitment towards reliable and affordable power for all made by various successive governments.

This makes option A the correct choice among the given options.

5.

The given statement is regarding the objectives and the duties of the State Electricity Boards set up just after the independence. The context is regarding the legal responsibility or mandate given to the State Electricity Boards in the country.

Now coming to the given statements, for the first statement we can also use the word mandate since that implies the popular opinion. As per the opinion of the citizens, the right-wing candidate has won the general election held after a long time in the country. This can be used in the second statement also since that implies the duty and power of the IAS Officers regarding declaration of holidays during emergency periods in any district of the country.

All the other options can hence be eliminated since they do not fit in the given context.

This makes option E the correct choice among the given options.

6.

The context is regarding the emergence of the Green Revolution in the history of the agriculture in India and the focus of the electricity connection provided during such times. It is certain that the given word in bold is not representing the actual meaning of the sentence and that needs to be replaced.

Among the given options, accreditation refers to the process of officially recognizing something as having a particular level of excellence whereas other words are also not relevant in the context of the given statement. Only option D is there that will fit in the given context since it will make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct.

This makes option D the correct choice among the given options.

7.

The statement to be inserted can be understood if we go through the context of the statement. The context can be understood from the preceding and the succeeding statement of the paragraph. The preceding statement is regarding the status of the rural electrification in India in

the 1990s. It says that the electrification slowed down in the rural areas whereas the succeeding sentence talks about the state of affairs at the State Electricity Boards.

The statement between these two should focus on the issue that faced India during this time since the missing sentence has to conform to the context.

Among the given options, option B is not correct since it talks about the issue of disbursement of the electricity connections in the rural areas and it is not contextual in this case. Option C can be ruled out since it talks about the supply level issues in the electrification drives in the country whereas option D can also be eliminated since it is again regarding the problem of supply in rural electrification whereas option E can be ruled out due to the fact that it is not relevant in the given context.

Only option A is there that can fit in the given context since it will make it meaningfully and contextually correct.

This makes option A the correct choice among the given options.

8.

Regarding the context of the given statement, it is regarding the efforts of the UPA government towards the rural electrification target of the country. It talks about the main focus of the government in this regard.

Now if we go through the given statement, the words in 1 and 4 should be interchanged so that the statement becomes meaningfully and contextually correct.

The complete statement would be:

Concerted focus on rural electrification beyond network expansion was initiated by the National Common Minimum Programme of the UPA (United Progressive Alliance) government whose main electoral agenda for coming to power was the contemporary rural distress.

This makes option C the correct choice among the given options.

9.

There is an error in Part C of the sentence since we are talking about a singular subject and a plural verb has been used in this part of the sentence. There is an error of the subject-verb agreement here. The subject is capital investment worth 33800 crore whereas the verb used is were. This is not correct and it should have been was, in this part of the sentence.

The correct statement would be:

Between 2005 and 2014, about 2.16 crore BPL households were provided connections under RGGVY and capital investment worth Rs. 33,800 crore was made to strengthen rural networks.

This makes option C the correct choice among the given options.

10.

The given statement has been used in order to imply that the non-inclusion of the non-BPL households has made the rural electrification drive of the government exclusive of certain sections of the society. This means that a lot of people are out of the ambit of the rural electrification program of the government.

Among the given options, interrogating refers to asking questions regarding something whereas investigating refers to finding the truth of something. Rectifying means correcting something and utilizing means making use of something. Only option E is there which will fit in the given context of the sentence.

This makes option E the correct choice among the given options.



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