Directions: Read the following information carefully and answer the questions given below:

Four of the most popular forms i.e. facebook, twitter, snapchat, and instagram of social media ___A____ great damage upon young people’s mental health. These four platforms have a negative effect because they can____B____ children’s and young people’s body image worries, and worsen bullying, sleep problems, anxiety, depression and loneliness. The findings follow growing ___C____ among politicians, health bodies, doctors, and parents about young people suffering harm as a result of cyber bullying and social media ___D____ feelings of self-loathing and leading them to commit suicide. However, the leader of the UK’s psychiatrists said these findings were too simplistic and they ____E____ blamed social media for the complex reasons why the mental health of so many young people is suffering.

1. A. desecrate  B. impious  C. inflict  D. perpetrating  E. None of the above
2. B. mitigate  B. exacerbate  C. alleviate  D. effectuate  E. None of the above
3. C. bridle  B. consternate  C. poise  D. concern  E. None of the above
4. D. reinforcing  B. ebbing  C. augment  D. accentuate  E. None of the above
5. E. legitimately  B. outlandish  C. unfairly  D. impartially  E. None of the above

Correct Answers:

Explanations:

1. Option A “desecrate” means ‘treat a sacred place or thing with violent disrespect’ and can be ruled out as it makes the sentence incoherent.

   Option B “impious” means ‘non-pious’ and can be eliminated as it is not related to the context of the passage.

   Option D “perpetrating” means ‘to commit’ and though it seems to be in sync with the context, its usage makes the sentence grammatically incorrect. Rather ‘perpetrate’ should be used.

   Option C “inflict” means ‘cause something unpleasant or painful by someone or something’ and it aptly fits the context and makes the sentence a meaningful one.

   Hence, option C is correct.

2. Options A and C “mitigate” and “alleviate” mean ‘make something bad less severe’ and can be eliminated as they have positive connotation and contradict the sentence.

   Option D can be ruled out as “effectuate” means ‘put into force or operation’ and is vague in the context of the sentence.

   Option B “exacerbate” means ‘make a problem, bad situation, or negative feeling worse’ and is apt as it fits in the blank perfectly. It rightly points at the fact that the social media platforms are worsening the mindset of young people.

   Hence, option B is correct.

3. Option A “bridle” means ‘show one's resentment or anger’ can be eliminated as its usage renders the sentence incoherent.

   Option B “consternate” means ‘to fill someone with anxiety’ and can be eliminated as it makes the sentence grammatically incorrect. Rather, ‘consternation’ should be used.

   Option C “poise” means ‘graceful and elegant bearing in a person’ and can be eliminated as it does not lend any meaning to the sentence and is contextual misfit.

   Option D “concern” means ‘make someone anxious or worried’ and here it aptly shows that the politicians, doctors, parents were anxious about the wellbeing of young people.

   Hence, option D is correct.
4. The sentence as a whole talks about propagating negative thoughts among youngsters. Thus, the word to be used in the blank should indicate strengthening these thoughts among youngsters.

Option A “reinforcing” means ‘to strengthen and support’ and conforms itself to the explanation above.

Option B “ebbing” means ‘gradually decrease in terms of an emotion or quality’ and can be eliminated as it is contradictory to the meaning expressed in the passage.

Options C and D “augment” and “accentuate” mean ‘making something greater by adding to it or noticeable’ and are not usually used with “feelings”.

Hence, option A is correct.

5. The sentence hints at various complex reasons for which the social media cannot be held responsible for governing the mental wellbeing of young people.

Option C “unfairly” means ‘in a manner that is not in accordance with the principles of equality and justice’ and aptly fits the context and makes the sentence a meaningful one.

Options A and D “legitimately” and “impartially” mean ‘justly’ and can be ruled out as make the sentence logically incorrect as they have positive connotation.

Option B “outlandish” means ‘looking or sounding bizarre or unfamiliar’ and can be eliminated as it is nowhere related to the context of the passage.

Hence, option C is correct.
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