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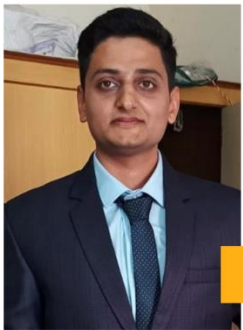
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# Cloze test for RBI Assistant Mains, SBI Clerk Mains and IBPS Clerk Mains Exams.

Ex 88

**Directions:** In the following passage, there are blanks, each of which have been numbered. These numbers correspond to the question numbers; against each question, five words have been suggested, one of which fills the blanks appropriately.

India's 'water crisis' took over social media recently. Usually, a delayed monsoon or a drought, **combined** with compelling images of parched lands and queues for water in urban areas raise an alarm in the minds of the public. Similarly, episodes of inter-State river water disputes catch public attention. **However**, this time, it was somewhat different. Videos and news reports claiming that Indian cities are running out of groundwater went viral. These news items could not have gained the traction but for the fact that they **relied** on a 2018 report of India's own Niti Aayog, which was titled 'Composite Water Management Index: A tool for water management.'

The Niti Aayog's projection was only a means to an end goal: leveraging some **action** from the Indian States. The report's central goal was to propose a tool, an index, to monitor the States' water resource management strategies and provide the necessary course-shift, beyond supply augmentation approaches. The report may have had a lofty goal of promoting 'cooperative and competitive federalism' but was, in reality, a desperate move to engage with the States, in the absence of any **substantive** leverage to influence their approaches to water resources management. This also **underscored** that the fulcrum of any course correction lies with States.

Yet, what **baffles** us is the question: Just how did such 'zombie statistics' gain traction? This is disturbing as it shows there is an absence of **critical** engagement or institutional accountability. India needs to reconsider the institutional processes for dissemination of knowledge **about** water resource management. There is a certain amount of danger inherent in the casual manner **in** which knowledge about water resources is legitimised and consumed, particularly in these days of 'viral' information.

1. A.

A. Combined      B. Along      C. With      D. Multiplied      E. Exacted

2. B.

A. Also      B. Similarly      C. However      D. Mostly      E. Notwithstanding

3. C.

- A. Depended      B. Relied      C. Counted      D. Banked      E. All of the above

4. D.

- A. Drama      B. Action      C. Process      D. Smooth      E. Working

5. E.

- A. Subsidy      B. Minor      C. Help      D. Substantive      E. Perfect

6. F.

- A. Referred      B. Results      C. Dominates      D. Highlighting      E. Underscored

7. G.

- A. Baffles      B. Ensures      C. Hardens      D. Enlightens      E. Irritates

8. H.

- A. Engage      B. Critical      C. Unused      D. Must      E. Condemn

9. I.

- A. About      B. For      C. With      D. Or      E. And

10. J.

- A. On      B. In      C. Into      D. Inside      E. Under

**Correct Answers:**

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



## Explanations:

1. The statement tries to convey that a number of things combined together give an impression of scarcity of water.

The only option that fits in is option A.

2. Here, the statement after the blank states a point contrary to the ones before it. Thus, we can eliminate options A, B and D. Option C is the best fit here.

Hence, option C is the correct answer.

3. All of the words convey the correct meaning about the false news mostly relying on the NITI Aayog report on water management.

Hence, option E is correct.

4. The author clarifies on the NITI Aayog report stating it was more to get some action out of the states than an alarm bell. The correct word here is 'action'.

Hence, Option B is correct.

5. The author talks about the plight of NITI Aayog in the absence of any viable/major leverage to influence states.

The correct word is *substantive* here which means *major*.

Hence, option D is correct.

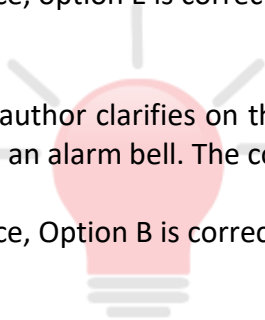
6. The author tries to *highlight* that the onus of action lies on the states. Option D is incorrect grammatically.

Hence, option E is correct.

7. Here, the author tries to convey his puzzlement about factors leading to such fast spreading of false information.

The correct word is *baffled*.

Hence, option A is correct.



8. The author states that there is no analysis of the information being spread and people believe what they read. 'Critical' here refers to this analysis and is the correct answer.

Hence, option B is correct.

9. The statement states that Indian needs to rethink on the subject of water information dissemination. We need a preposition here and the correct one is 'about'.

Hence, Option A is correct.

10. The statement talks about the danger present in the way information is spread. We need a preposition here and hence, 'in' is correct.

Hence, option B is correct.



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