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# Paragraph Completion Questions Bank Exams (IBPS PO Mains, RBI Grade B, SBI PO Mains)

## Paragraph Completion Quiz 5

Directions: In each of the following questions a short passage is given with one of the lines in the passage missing and represented by a blank. Select the best out of the five answer choices given, to make the passage complete and coherent (coherent means logically complete and sound).

**1. After the categorical verdict of the Delhi High Court that the Capital is a Union Territory, it was quite clear that any decision made by Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal without the Lieutenant Governor's approval will be rendered illegal. \_\_\_\_\_ . The appointments, made in March 2015, suffered from multiple legal infirmities. Apart from the lack of the LG's concurrence, it raised the question of whether it was an 'office of profit' under the government, something legislators are barred from holding. The penalty stipulated in the Constitution for a legislator holding an office of profit is disqualification.**

A. The Election Commission has also reserved its verdict on the question whether these 21 MLAs have incurred such disqualification, and it is possible for the Aam Aadmi Party now to ask the matter to be closed, citing the court's setting aside of the appointments.

B. Counsel for the Delhi government had to concede the point in court, leading to the appointment of 21 Delhi legislators as parliamentary secretaries being set aside.

C. At the same time, it cannot be denied that the EC could still choose to decide whether these MLAs had indeed held an office of profit for nearly a year-and-a-half.

D. They had been rendered further vulnerable after the President withheld assent to a Delhi Bill to protect them from incurring disqualification — once again because it was introduced without the LG's approval.

E. Mr. Kejriwal could have avoided this setback had he not given executive oversight responsibilities to so many of his party's legislators.

**2. Labour is restive today. It is apprehensive about what the future bodes for itself. But it's not as if labour militancy has gone up in recent years. \_\_\_\_\_ . These figures are considerably lower than those in the 1970s and 1980s. However, there is little doubt that organised labour in India, as in the rest of the world, sees itself as a loser in the changes unleashed by liberalisation and globalisation. It fears that if the government goes ahead with some of its proposed "reforms", its losses will begin to mount.**

A. Besides, Indian businesspeople as well as many economists have long clamoured for greater "flexibility" in labour laws, a euphemism for freedom to hire and fire.

B. One of the principal demands of the unions was an increase in the daily minimum wage for unskilled workers from Rs.246 to Rs.692.

C. However, this argument may have well been overtaken by events in the global economy.

D. An estimated 120 million workers took part.

E. On the contrary, man-days lost due to industrial disputes came down from 23.7 million in 2001 to 13 million in 2012 before rising to 19 million in 2013.

**3. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) crossed an important milestone with the successful launch of weather satellite INSAT-3DR using a Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle equipped with the indigenous cryogenic upper stage. \_\_\_\_\_ . That September 8 launch marks the third consecutive success; the fact that it is the first operational flight by the GSLV carrying the indigenous cryogenic upper stage is confirmation that India now belongs to the elite club of countries that have mastered the cryogenic technology.**

A. ISRO is a research and development organisation and not a production organisation, but the lack of greater industry participation has resulted in it being unable to launch more satellites in a year using the GSLV.

B. Unlike in the case of the PSLV where industry participation is around 80 per cent, it is only about half in the case of the GSLV.

C. The successful launch marks a departure from the long history of failures with the GSLV; except for the first, every launch of the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV), the workhorse of ISRO, has been a success.

D. The first experimental flight using the GSLV-Mk III is scheduled to take place by the end of this year and will use a new cryogenic engine.

E. With an ability to provide double the thrust compared with the current cryogenic technology, the vehicle would be able to carry payloads up to four tonnes.

**4. Each year a specific aspect of water is highlighted while observing International World Water Day; this year's theme was "wastewater", which is defined as any water that has been adversely affected in quality by anthropogenic influences and as a result of domestic, industrial, commercial and agricultural activities. \_\_\_\_\_ . Most of our freshwater sources are under threat. When public awareness of pollution is limited, the cost of pollution to our health and the ecosystem is huge. The victims are generally the poor or socially vulnerable communities, and the end result is a high financial burden on the community and government.**

A. In recent decades, population growth, accelerated urbanisation and economic development have resulted in an increase in the quantity of wastewater and the overall pollution load being generated.

B. Globally, over 80% of the wastewater generated goes back to the ecosystem without being treated or reused.

C. The opportunities for exploiting wastewater as a resource are enormous.

D. Another fact is that 1.8 billion people use drinking water contaminated with faeces which increases their risk of contracting cholera, dysentery, typhoid and polio.

E. The benefits to our health and in terms of economic development and environmental sustainability, business opportunities and 'green' jobs far outweigh the costs of wastewater management.

**5. When Myanmar's previous president, Thein Sein, assumed charge in 2011, he presented a broad vision, including in foreign policy, before Parliament. \_\_\_\_\_ . On all substantial matters, the nation and the international community look to Ms. Suu Kyi, the de facto leader of the government, to articulate Myanmar's goals and plans.**

A. On the contrary, Ms. Suu Kyi talked about the economic policy of the government in detail right after taking oath.

B. In contrast, U Htin Kyaw, the new President, delivered the shortest possible speech in March 2016.

C. In contrast, Ms. Suu Kyi's visit to Thailand drew much attention.

D. Shortly after assuming office, Ms. Suu Kyi met foreign ambassadors in Naypyidaw and informed them that the new government's aim was to foster "better relations with neighbours.

E. Even as Beijing unleashed a charm offensive, Myanmar took its time to respond to its overtures.

**6. Several legislative efforts have been made to curb defections. The 52nd Constitution Amendment provided for disqualification of defectors other than in the case of a split in the party, involving a group of not less than one-third of its members. \_\_\_\_\_ . This too did not prove to be a deterrent, as has been evident in Arunachal Pradesh. True, defections engineered through unscrupulous means undermine democratic institutions and subvert the people's mandate.**

A. The reason adduced for the switchover is laughable: to have better relations with the BJP-led government at the Centre.

B. Ideally, the matter of dealing with defection should be left in the hands of the voters. Legal remedies to what is essentially a political issue will never work.

C. A later amendment disallowed splits, and provided only for merger in cases where at least two-thirds of the members of one party merged with another party.

D. When defection is made more difficult, the means adopted become even more inventive.

E. This must have seemed the easiest way to stay in power for those who had allied with the earlier government of Congress rebels.

**7. In a clear statement of the philosophical basis of copyright law, Justice Endlaw rejects the populist and uni-dimensional assumption that copyright is about the protection of the property rights of owners. He notes instead: "Copyright, specially in literary works, is thus not an inevitable, divine, or natural right that confers on authors the absolute ownership of their creations. \_\_\_\_\_ . Copyright is intended to increase and not to impede the harvest of knowledge. It is intended to motivate the creative activity of authors and inventors in order to benefit the public."**

A. The judgment has immense consequences beyond India and is a bold articulation of the principles of equitable access to knowledge — and one that deserves to be emulated globally.

B. To make this point, Justice Endlaw contrasts his own experiences as a law student where photocopying was very limited and studying entailed students copying by hand, scribe like, pages after pages of books.

C. This case, which was being closely tracked by students, teachers and the publishing industry alike, was seen as one with immense significance for questions of access to knowledge.

D. In his considered and sharply reasoned judgment, Justice Rajiv Sahai Endlaw examines the gamut of arguments made by both sides and arrives at the conclusion that copyright is a statutory right and not a natural right.

E. It is designed rather to stimulate activity and progress in the arts for the intellectual enrichment of the public.

**8. In September last year, the United Nations General Assembly adopted global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which were laid out in the document, 'Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development'. There are 17 SDGs with their associated 169 targets, developed as the next step in the evolution of what were previously known as the Millennium Development Goals. \_\_\_\_\_ . The SDGs broadly relate to human dignity, prosperity, protecting the biosphere, and promoting peace and security.**

- A. Countries are now formulating indicators to track their progress towards the targets.
- B. International development aid, public and private funds, a redesign of tax structures, and other international mechanisms have been discussed and may be considered by individual countries as sources of finance for these targets.
- C. India has an enormous but also an opportune challenge ahead of it with regard to the SDGs.
- D. The interconnected nature of the SDGs makes them complex, but also demonstrates complementary benefits from specific goals and targets.
- E. It was earlier agreed that since climate change, the 13th SDG, is under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the targets for this goal would be determined by the Convention.

**9. A dynasty of politicians is not unheard of in world politics. The Kennedy-clan in the U.S. is one such example. \_\_\_\_\_. But in India, there seems to be a difference. The uncle-nephew spat in the political hierarchy in the ruling Samajwadi Party in Uttar Pradesh has once again demonstrated the fragility of political dispensations that depend largely on the numerical strength of kith and kin. It goes without saying that the simmering discontent between family members in the party will have a destabilizing effect on the politics of the State.**

- A. Yet, this Kennedy-clan exerted enormous power thanks to the seniority and committee chairmanships.
- B. The Kennedy Family has been a major part of the Democrat Party for a century.
- C. The Kennedy family is an American family that has been prominent in American politics, public service, and business during the 20th century.
- D. Yet as prominent members in American politics, John, Robert and Edward Kennedy did contribute fairly to the betterment of the U.S.
- E. Outsized in their ambition, their flaws, their tragedies and their accomplishments, the Kennedys have long occupied prime real estate in the political arena and the public imagination.

**10.** Where India does excel is in its space programme, as it is the only country in South Asia that has independently launched satellites on indigenously developed launch vehicles. However, in recent years Pakistan and Sri Lanka have launched satellites with assistance from China, while Afghanistan, the Maldives and Nepal are also understood to have discussed satellite projects with China. \_\_\_\_\_ . With the GSLV launch India is showing that where it is capable its commitment to the development of its neighbours is strong.

A. The Bangladesh Telecommunication and Regulatory Commission (BTRC) signed a Tk 1951.75 crore deal with French company ThalesAlenia Space last year to procure equipment for the satellite project.

B. It is India’s attempt to counter the growing dominance of Chinese soft power in our neighbourhood.

C. China has pledged billions of dollars in projects to each of the countries in the region; that, India is obviously not in a position to match.

D. But the government’s persistence indicates it will not be deterred by the obvious domestic constraints of the SAARC grouping.

E. Bangladesh, which will launch its first satellite Bangabandhu-1 this year, is working with a European agency.

**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	E	C	A	B	C	E	A	D	E

**Explanations:**

**1.** This question is a sitter!

Kindly observe the sentence that follows the blank. It starts with the noun phrase ‘The appointments’ and the only sentence that talks about the appointment is the sentence B.

Sentence A, and C can be eliminated because of the presence of the phrase ‘these MLAs’ as the preceding statement doesn’t introduce anything related to MLAs.

Sentence D doesn’t imply what ‘they’ or ‘them’ refers to. This eliminates it as well.

Sentence E would fit somewhere in a latter part of the paragraph or of the passage.

Option B is hence the correct answer.

**2.** Again an easy one.

The sentence preceding the blank talks about the rise of 'labour militancy' The sentence following the blank starts with the phrase 'These figures' that refers to some kind of data or the other.

If read the sentences given as options, we can observe that the only sentence that presents data as well takes the discussion forward is the sentence E. Here the phrase 'labour militancy' links to 'industrial disputes'.

No other option fits in the context of the paragraph.

Option E is hence the correct answer.

**3.** In we read the paragraph carefully, we can observe that the first three sentences - the one preceding the blank, the one for the blank, and the one following the blank speak of three consecutive success with respect to ISRO.

Among the given choices, Option C is the best fit for the blank as it takes the discussion further and points to the second success in a row.

Option C is hence the correct answer.

**4.** The following statement points to the most of our freshwater sources being under threat. And if we read the sentences given as options carefully, we can observe that the only statement that talks about the occurrences that may lead to this possible 'threat' is statement A.

Option A is hence the correct answer.

**5.** The sentence preceding the blank states 'Thein Sein presented a broad vision'. Now among the given options, option B states 'In contrast, U Htin Kyaw, the new President, delivered the shortest possible speech.' gives an immediate contrast to the preceding sentence.

We can thus observe that the two statements mentioned above are contradictory to each other and option B fits in the context of the paragraph well.

No other option is coherent for the blank.

Option B is hence the correct answer.



**6.** If we carefully read the sentence preceding the blank, we can observe that it talks about the 52<sup>nd</sup> amendment of the Constitution provided for disqualification of defectors in the case of split in the party. The only option that expresses ideas in line with it is the option C in which the writer specifies a later amendment that disallowed splits.

No other option, however, fits the blank appropriately.

Option C is clearly the correct answer.

**7.** This is really a very easy question of paragraph completion.

If you can observe, the blank part comes between the double quotes in which Justice Endlaw elaborates Copyrights in the purview of his judgment. Among the choices given, all other sentences except option E are parts of the description given by the author, while the sentence given as option E is clearly a quote made by Justice Endlaw regarding his judgment on the Copyright Act. And the pronoun 'It' (which is used for 'Copyright' which was the subject of the previous statement) in the beginning of the sentence also confirms it.

Option E is hence the correct answer.

**8.** Four out of five given options – A, B, D and E have the keyword “targets” but if we read the paragraph carefully we can infer that the whole paragraph introduces the topic and thus the sentence for the blank has to be introductory in nature.

We can see that both the options B and E are quite elaborative and the points discussed in them are not yet mentioned anywhere in the paragraph. We can hence eliminate options B and E.

Option D also talks about the interconnected nature of the SDGs, a link of which can't be inferred from the paragraph given. We can thus eliminate option D as well.

Clearly, option A would fit the blank most appropriately.

Option A is hence the correct answer.

**9.** Other than the option D, all other sentences centre around Kennedy family and none of these sentences adds any meaning to the context the paragraph.

Option D while referring to the US politics, however, presents a contrast between a dynasty of politicians in the USA and a dynasty of politicians in India. The sentence clearly fits the blank both grammatically and contextually.

Option D is hence the correct answer.

**10.** In the given paragraph, it's been mentioned by the writer that while India is exceling at its space programs, every other south Asian country has taken satellites projects seriously. After mentioning Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Maldives and Afghanistan, it has to be Bangladesh which needs to be included in the discussion.

Among the choices given, only the options A and E talk about Bangladesh and its planning related to satellite project. Now, between these two sentences, sentence E seems to be a better choice for as the blank as it introduces its first satellite to be launched, while sentence A must follow sentence E as it describes the details about the deal that Bangladesh signed with France for the satellite project.

Option E is hence the correct answer.



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