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Comprehension Test Questions for IBPS RRB SCALE - I (Mains) Exams.

Passage No 177

Directions: Kindly read the passage carefully and answer the questions given beside.

Facebook had invested \$5.7 billion into Reliance Jio led by Asia's richest man Mukesh Ambani. Reliance Jio is the most valued ancillary of Reliance Industries, the oil-to-telecoms conglomerate. The company has been able to upend India's telecoms market in this short span by **proffering** very low data prices, which has brooked it to keep competition at bay.

With a presence across a suite of services such as mobile telephony, live TV, music streaming and payments, Facebook will be looking to drive synergies across services and further consolidate its position in India.

This deal also comes in at a particularly opportune time for Mr Ambani, who has been making a concerted effort to reduce the debt on his books. He's ploughed in a reported \$25 billion into Jio in recent years towards capital expenditure. At a group level Reliance's liabilities have jumped to \$65 billion in financial year 2019, from \$19 billion in 2015. The goal is to enable new opportunities for businesses of all sizes, but especially for the more than 60 million small businesses across India. They account for the majority of jobs in the country, and form the heart and soul of rural and urban communities alike.

Mr Ambani has confirmed that his digital new commerce platform Jio Mart will collaborate with Whatsapp in the near future to help 'mom and pop' shops transact digitally with their customers in the neighbourhood. Since launching in 2016 Jio has attracted some 370 million subscribers to its service.

That **expeditious** growth has seen the company borrow large amounts of money and the deal with Facebook will help it to deliver on its plan to cut net debt to zero soon as India is seen as a pivotal market for the growth of both Facebook and its WhatsApp messaging platform. The number of internet users in the world's largest democracy will grow to around 850m in 2022, according to consultancy firm PwC.

The move marks a further tie-up between the Indian telecoms platform and US technology giants. Last year Microsoft announced plans to partner with Jio to offer cloud computing to businesses.

The deals come as the Indian market has become increasingly difficult for American companies to get into, as the government has imposed new restrictions to overseas businesses operating

there. *Facebook, in its application to the competition commission, argued that the deal does not _____ the competitive landscape in any relevant market.* Regulatory filings show Facebook and its unit WhatsApp Inc. have proposed to set up a digital marketplace as part of the investment in Jio. India, with its 1.3 billion population, is one of the world's fastest growing online arenas, where Amazon to Google are vying for dominance.

The competition commission is also probing Amazon and Walmart Inc.'s Flipkart Online Services Pvt. over exclusive arrangements between the retailers and certain mobile phone brands, and preferential treatment given to some sellers. E-commerce in India has come under intense criticism by local traders, who blame the industry for anti-competitive activities such as deep discounting.

1. Which of the following can replace the word 'proffering' in the passage?

- | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| A. Offer or put forward | B. Hold back | C. Withdraw |
| D. To lure | E. Giveaway | |

2. Which of the following is true with respect to the passage?

- I. The growth of Jio has led to a huge capital spending.
II. The government is highly co-operative when American companies want to invest in India.
III. Reliance Jio is the most vital subsidiary of the whole Reliance industry.
- | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| A. Both I and III | B. Only II | C. Both II and III |
| D. Only I | E. None of I, II and III is true | |

3. Which of the following best describes the tone of the passage?

- | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|-------------|
| A. Incendiary | B. Speculative | C. Dogmatic |
| D. Sarcastic | E. Contemptuous | |

4. Which of the following best describes the tone of the passage?

- | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|-------------|
| A. Incendiary | B. Speculative | C. Dogmatic |
| D. Sarcastic | E. Contemptuous | |

5. A sentence has been italicised. Choose the option which can fit the blank provided in the sentence?

- | | | |
|-------------|----------|------------|
| A. Diminish | B. Mar | C. Enhance |
| D. Alter | E. Elate | |

6 . Why is the Competition Commission of India investigating companies offering online services?

- A. As some the financial liabilities of these companies can adversely affect India's economic health.
- B. As these companies tend to favour certain specific brands, vendors and companies.
- C. As these companies can dominate over the local markets and inculcate huge loss.
- D. As the involvement of these companies would promote our dependence making India vulnerable,
- E. All of the above

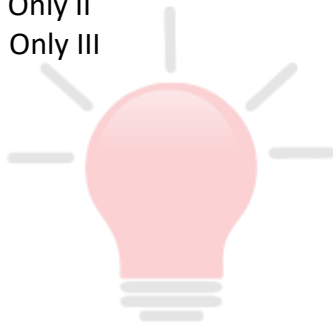
7. Which of the following can be speculated as the merits of Facebook- Reliance deal?

- I. This deal makes way for more deals between US techs and Indian telecom industry.
- II. Facebook will make a mark in India with this deal and can contemplate more such deals.
- III. This deal will also reduce the debt on Reliance industries which had increased with the rapid growth of Reliance Jio.

- A. Only II
- D. Only III

- B. Only I
- E. All I, II and III

- C. I and III



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Correct Answers:

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

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Explanations:

1. 'Proffering' means 'hold out or present'.

'Hold back' means 'hesitate to act or speak.'

'Withdraw' means 'eave or cause to leave a place or situation'.

'To lure' means 'tempt (a person or animal) to do something.'

'Giveaway' means 'a thing that is given free, often for promotional purposes.'

Thus, from all the options 'offer or put forward' can replace 'proffering'.

Option A is hence the correct answer.

2. **Statement I:**

The growth of Jio in the recent years has led to a huge capital spending.

Refer to:

"He"s ploughed in a reported \$25 billion into Jio in recent years towards capital expenditure. At a group level Reliance"s liabilities have jumped to \$65 billion in financial year 2019, from \$19 billion in 2015."

The above fragment confirms that **the statement I is true.**

Statement II:

The government is highly co-operative when American companies want to invest in India.

Refer to:

"The deals come as the Indian market has become increasingly difficult for American companies to get into, as the government has imposed new restrictions to overseas businesses operating there."

Evidently, **statement II is false.**

Statement III:

Reliance Jio is the most vital subsidiary of the whole Reliance industry.

Refer to:

“Reliance Jio is the most valued ancillary of Reliance Industries, the oil-to-telecoms conglomerate.”

Thus, **statement III is true**

Option A is hence the correct answer.

3. The tone of the above passage is Speculative since it depicts an expert opinion on the deal between Facebook and Jio.

Hence, B is the correct answer.

4. ‘Expeditious’ means ‘done with speed and efficiency or rapid’.

‘Nimble’ means ‘quick and light in movement or action or agile’.

‘Whirlwind’ means ‘used with reference to a very energetic person or a tumultuous process’.

‘Dawdling’ means ‘moving very slowly and idly in a particular direction’

‘Pondering’ means ‘thinking about (something) carefully, especially before making a decision or reaching a conclusion.’

Thus, ‘Dawdling’ is the word which is the most suitable option as an antonym of ‘expeditious’.

Option C is hence the correct answer.

5. Refer to:

"The deals come as the Indian market has become increasingly difficult for American companies to get into, as the government has imposed new restrictions to overseas businesses operating there. Facebook, in its application to the competition commission, argued that the deal does not _____ the competitive landscape in any relevant market."

Here, the Facebook wants to convey that its deal with Reliance does not bring any change in the competitive landscape in market, thus 'alter' is the most suitable fit for the blank as it means 'to change or amend'.

Let us learn the meanings of the other words:

'Diminish' means 'make or become less'.

'Enhance' means 'intensify, increase, or further improve the quality, value, or extent of'.

'Elate' means 'make (someone) ecstatically happy'.

Option D is hence the correct answer.

6. Refer to:

"The competition commission is also probing Amazon and Walmart Inc.'s Flipkart Online Services Pvt. over exclusive arrangements between the retailers and certain mobile phone brands, and preferential treatment given to some sellers. E-commerce in India has come under intense criticism by local traders, who blame the industry for anti-competitive activities such as deep discounting."

After reading the above segment it can be clearly deduced that option B is the most relevant choice for the question asked whereas rest of the options are totally absurd and incorrect.

Option B is hence the correct answer.



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7. Statement I:

This deal makes way for more deals between US techs and Indian telecom industry.

Refer to:

"The move marks a further tie-up between the Indian telecoms platform and US technology giants. Last year Microsoft announced plans to partner with Jio to offer cloud computing to businesses."

Thus, statement I can be inferred from the passage.

Statement II:

Facebook will make a mark in India with this deal and can contemplate more such deals.

Refer to:

"Facebook will be looking to drive synergies across services and further consolidate its position in India."

Thus, Statement II can be inferred.

Statement III:

This deal will also reduce the debt on Reliance industries which had increased with the rapid growth of Reliance Jio.

Refer to:

"This deal also comes in at a particularly opportune time for Mr Ambani, who has been making a concerted effort to reduce the debt on his books. He's ploughed in a reported \$25 billion into Jio in recent years towards capital expenditure. At a group level Reliance's liabilities have jumped to \$65 billion in financial year 2019, from \$19 billion in 2015."

Thus, statement III can also be inferred.

Option E is hence the correct answer.



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