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Word Usage Questions for LIC AAO, SBI PO Pre, IBPS PO Pre, SBI Clerk Mains and IBPS Clerk Mains Exams.

Word Usage Quiz 4

Direction: In the paragraph below there are five sentences. In each sentence there are pairs of highlighted words (A, B). Select the most appropriate words to form correct sentences. Then from the options given select the correct option.

1. Rewari's Civil Hospital is a drab; double-storey structure that **A) carries B) caters** to roughly 15 lakh people living in and around the district. Sitting on a wooden bench in the hospital premises, in a small park **A) utilized B) littered** with plastic cups, cigarette butts and polythene bags, is a frail man, mostly unnoticed by the crowd of visitors hurrying past him. In his late forties, he is a **A) meagerly B) genuinely** paid Physical Training Instructor at a local school. He **A) augments B) moderates** his modest income by training kabaddi students in his village. He fought against all odds, including the **A) determined B) violently** patriarchal mindset entrenched in Haryana's culture, to fulfil the aspirations of his teenage daughter, a Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) topper in Haryana.

A. ABABA B. BBAAB C. AAABB D. ABAAB E. None of the above

2. The Reserve Bank of India pulled a **A) statistics B) surprise** on the markets on Friday by keeping its benchmark interest rate unchanged at 6.5%. The decision to stand pat comes even as the central bank **A) changed B) categorized** its policy stance from "neutral" to "calibrated tightening", indicating that rates could either go up or stay steady in the coming months. The **A) consensus B) determination** on the street was that the RBI would raise rates by at least 25 basis points to support the rupee, with some even predicting a hike of 50 basis points. Not surprisingly, the rupee **A) rectified B) weakened** past the 74-mark to the U.S. dollar for the first time ever after the news of the RBI holding rates steady hit the markets. Stocks, which have been on a downtrend since September, also took a hit on Friday while bond yields **A) departed B) fell**.

A. BBBA B. BAAAA C. BABAA D. BAABB E. ABABA

3. The Nobel Prize for Chemistry this year is a **A) tribute B) retribution** to the power of evolution. The laureates **A) hated B) harnessed** evolution and used it in the laboratory with amazing results. Frances H. Arnold, an American who was given one-half of the prize, used 'directed evolution' to **A) synthesize B) called** variants of naturally occurring enzymes that could be used to manufacture biofuels and pharmaceuticals. The other half went to George P. Smith, also of the U.S., and Sir Gregory P. Winter, from the U.K., who evolved antibodies to **A) combat B) confuse** autoimmune diseases and even metastatic cancer through a process called phage display. The prizes reaffirm the **A) execution B) importance** of the concept of evolution in our understanding of life as among the most profound of forces we are exposed to.

A. AABBA B. ABABB C. ABAAB D. BABBB E. AAAAA

4. Within months of announcing **A) gratuitous B) generous** hikes in the minimum support price (MSP) for several crops in the kharif summer season, the NDA government on Wednesday approved an increase in the MSP offered for rabi crops. These increases **A) mark B) maximize** a sharp change from the cautious approach adopted by the Narendra Modi government in raising MSPs during the first half of its tenure. The latest hikes are generous, even if they are **A) moderate B) tremendous** compared to those fixed for the kharif crop. By way of **A) comparison B) connotation**, the highest increase over the previous kharif season's MSP was 52.5% for the cereal ragi. Now the highest season-on-season **A) height B) hike** for the rabi crops is 20.6% for safflower.

A. ABABB B. BAAAB C. ABABA D. BABAA E. None of the above

5. Waste volumes continue to grow as economic growth **A) spurs B) controls** consumption. The laws on municipal solid waste, protection of water sources and pollution control are just not being **A) enforced B) distributed**. The official machinery required to enforce legal provisions vigorously, and the infrastructure to manage waste scientifically are **A) utilizing B) inadequate**, making it unlikely that there will be significant public health outcomes flowing from high-profile cleaning campaigns. Without full **A) confirmation B) commitment** to these aspects of development, there is little chance of meaningfully achieving the Sustainable Development Goals on water and sanitation anytime soon. Besides ending manual scavenging, the Swachh Bharat Mission must **A) ensure B) experience** that the manual cleaning of septic tanks, which is killing so many workers each year, is stopped and that funds for rehabilitation reach them.

A. ABBBB B. AABBA C. ABABA D. BBABA E. BABAB

6. Twenty-one opposition parties expressed **A) anguish B) felicity** over what they alleged was "blatant politicisation" of the sacrifices of armed forces and **A) instructed B) urged** the government to take the nation into confidence on all measures to **A) augment B) protect** India's sovereignty, unity and integrity. After a meeting, which **A) complied B) lasted** over three hours, in the Parliament Library, the leaders of these parties issued a joint statement, expressing concern over the **A) prevailing B) remaining** security situation in the country.

A. ABBAB B. ABBBA C. BAABA D. ABABB E. None of these

7. There's practically no improvement — even when the court **A) mandated B) referred** one can't sell acid without a licence, there's very little regulation on this. We started a campaign where volunteers secretly filmed **A) buying B) throwing** acid. They got it easily. But awareness has increased. There are fewer problems for survivors in **A) doing B) getting** jobs. Last year, two women got government jobs, albeit after a struggle. Earlier, one heard **A) nasty B) bullish** comments from people — but things have changed. Now people respect us — some even want to get pictures **A) clicked B) clinked** with us. Women have begun to speak out — and speaking up changes things.

A. AABAA B. ABAAB C. BAABA D. ABAAB E. None of these

8. The terrorist attack at Pulwama, killing 40 Indian soldiers, provides Narendra Modi a huge but risky chance to **A) extract B) portray** himself as the toughest politician in India. Atal Bihari Vajpayee's victory in the 1999 Kargil war **A) conserved B) helped** him win the next general election. Modi must avoid military action, which could **A) backfire B) occur** badly. Far wiser would be new forms of political theatre, similar to his "surgical strikes" in 2016, in **A) revelation B) retaliation** for the attack on our armed forces at Uri. That satisfied the public demand for action without **A) profiting B) risking** dangerous escalation into all-out war.

- A. BABBA B. ABBAB C. ABAAB D. BBABB E. None of these

9. One Mig 21 Bison of the Indian Air Force was shot down and its pilot has been 'missing in action', external affairs ministry spokesperson Raveesh Kumar said on Wednesday. Kumar also told reporters that one fighter jet of Pakistan Air Force was also shot down in the **A) aerial B) marine** engagement by IAF's Mig 21 Bison. The Pakistani jet was seen falling down on the other side by the Indian ground forces, he said. The air-to-air engagement took place after PAF jets violated Indian air space to target military **A) installations B) fittings** on the Indian side. The press briefing came soon after reports **A) happened B) emerged** that jets from Pakistan Air Force have **A) violated B) debased** Indian air space in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch and Nowshera sectors. The attack was successfully **A) repelled B) ratified** by the Indian Air Force.

- A. AABAA B. ABABA C. AABAB D. ABAAB E. None of these

10. **A) Genuine B) Acclaimed** patriots know that love of the country cannot be based on hatred of any manufactured or imagined enemy within, but needs to be predicated on a **A) realistic B) forgery** mission to keep India's unity and harmony alive. Liberal patriotism builds and **A) debase B) strengthens** the nation, muscular nationalism directed inwards tends to **A) assemble B) create** social infighting, just at the precise time the terrorist is seeking to **A) ignite B) abolish** civil war.

- A. BAABA B. ABAAB C. AABBA D. ABABB E. None of these

Correct Answers:

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

Explanations :

1. Smart approach:

Most of you must be wondering that it would be very time consuming to attempt these questions. But being smart is what it takes to attempt such questions correctly in order to get some brownie points over your competitors.

Let's take the example of this question:

If we go through the first blank in this sentence, we see that B will fit here according to the given context that the Rewari Civil Hospitals give service to around 15 lakhs patients. A can be eliminated.

Now, you come to the options. In the options, only Option B is there that starts with B as the word for the first blank. There is no other option that starts with B. So, our answer will be B only. With this approach, you don't even need to go through the other options and also the rest of the passage.

Detailed Explanation:

For blank I, A is not correct since the implication is that the said hospital gives service to 15 lakhs people residing in the village and by this logic *caters* is the right choice in this context.

Coming to Blank II, the context is that there are plastic cups all around the park in the premises of the Rewari Civil Hospital. Among the given words, B can actually mean that the park is full of plastic cups and other garbage.

For blank III, it is clear from the given context that the person was not earning enough and that is why he had to supplement his income with income from other sources. B cannot imply this sense whereas A is correct in order to imply the intended meaning.

Blank IV should be filled with A since we are talking about supporting the income of the person from the other sources and B will not fit in this context.

For blank V, we should go with B since it correctly explains the intended meaning of the author that the mindset revolves around patriarchy in the state of Haryana.

This makes the correct combination as **BBAAB**

Hence, option B is the correct choice among the given options.

2. Smart Approach:

Most of you must be wondering that it would be very time consuming to attempt these questions. But being smart is what it takes to attempt such questions correctly in order to get some brownie points over your competitors.

For this sentence, blank I will be filled by B only since it talks about an unexpected move by the RBI in its bi-monetary policy decisions. So, our answer will start with B only.

Coming to the options, there are four options that start with B and it will eliminate E anyway.

Now coming to Blank II, we are talking about some alterations made by RBI in the policy. So, A should be the correct word here. And with this, we can eliminate A also.

Coming to blank III, A will be the correct choice since the market was expecting something from RBI. It will now eliminate option C.

Left with options B and D, we can see that they are differentiated by the word that will fill the Blank IV. Blank IV can be filled with B only and it will give us the assurance that B can be eliminated also.

So, we are now left with our correct choice option D.

Detailed Explanation:

For Blank I, it is clear that we are talking about something unexpected announced by the RBI in its monetary policy review done recently. So, B would be the correct word to be used here since it was a surprise given by the RBI to the market as well as all the other stakeholders.

For blank II, we are talking about the alteration in the stance of the RBI and simply put, it is a change on the part of the RBI towards the monetary policy of the central bank. A should be the correct word to be used here.

For blank III, A is the correct choice since it is clear that there was an expectation of the market and there was also concurrence regarding such expectation of the market. B can be ruled out from consideration.

Blank IV should be filled with B since it is very much evident that the Indian currency has fallen in the recent months and now it has breached the 74 mark also in the foreign exchange market of the country.

Blank V should be filled with B since we are talking about falling bond yields in the country along with the depreciation of the currency of the country.

This makes the correct combination as **BAABB**

Hence, option D is the correct choice among the given options.

3. Smart Approach:

Most of you must be wondering that it would be very time consuming to attempt these questions. But being smart is what it takes to attempt such questions correctly in order to get some brownie points over your competitors.

Coming to Blank I, it can be filled by A only since the Nobel Prize will only be given to recognize the value of something. So, our answer will only start with A. It will eliminate option D from our consideration.

For Blank II, B is our word since *hated* is simply irrelevant to the given context. So, our answer should start with 'AB...'. And we have only options B and C like this.

Among B and C, it is observed that the fourth word will be the deciding factor. For Blank IV, A is an easy pick since B is not making any sense in this context. With this, B can be eliminated from consideration.

And, we get our option C as the correct choice among the given options.

Detailed explanation:

For blank I, it should be *tribute* since it correctly explains that the Nobel Prize has been given to recognize the importance of the works done by the scientists. *Retribution* refers to *punishment inflicted on someone as vengeance for a wrong or criminal act*.

Coming to Blank II, *hated* can be ruled out since it does not make any sense in the given context but *harnessed* should be used in order to imply that the scientists did research regarding the evolution.

Blank III can be filled with *synthesize* since it correctly explains the meaning of the research carried out by the scientists. The other word is simply irrelevant in the context of the passage.

Blank IV should be filled with A since we are talking about research that has been successful to address the needs of the human beings in addressing various diseases. B can be ruled out easily as the correct option since it is not making any sense in the given context.

Blank V can be filled with B only since the passage talks about the importance accorded to the research works of the scientists who have been awarded with the Nobel Prize in chemistry this year.

This makes the correct combination as **ABAAB**

Hence, option C is the correct choice among the given options.

4. Smart approach:

Most of you must be wondering that it would be very time consuming to attempt these questions. But being smart is what it takes to attempt such questions correctly in order to get some brownie points over your competitors.

Coming to our options, the first blank can be filled with B since we are talking about hikes in the MSPs of rabi and kharif crops. A cannot fit in this context and can be easily ruled out.

So, our answer must start with B. We have options B and D only that start with B.

Left with two options, the best way to find the correct answer is to see where the two options are going different ways. Here, the third word will be able to differentiate the two options.

In blank III, A is our word since it correctly explains the implication of the context that the hike in MSPs of kharif crops and rabi crops is not the same since one is more than the other but both can be termed as moderate.

We have option B that has A in the third blank whereas option D has B in the same place.

This gives us our correct choice option B among the given options.

Detailed explanation:

For Blank I, B should be the correct word since the passage denotes that the hike in MSP of the kharif crops was very good and the hike in the MSP of rabi crops is not that much as compared to the previous hike. A can be ruled out as the correct word.

Blank II can be filled with *mark* since we are talking about the significance of the approach taken by the Government regarding the increase in MSP of the crops. *Maximize* does not imply the intended meaning and can be ruled out.

Blank III can be filled with *moderate* since we are talking about the hike in the prices of rabi crops by the government in comparison to the same in case of kharif crops. The hike this time is not as much as it was the last time for the Kharif crops. *Tremendous* is not fit for the given context and can be eliminated.

Blank IV can be filled with *comparison* since we are talking about the comparison between the MSP Hikes of kharif crops and the rabi crops. *Connotation* does not even fit in the given context and hence can be eliminated.

Blank V can be filled with *hike* rather than *height* since the whole passage is regarding the hike in the prices of the Kharif Crops and the Rabi crops as announced by the government in the form of the MSP.

The correct combination is **BAAAB**

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

5. Smart Approach:

Most of you must be wondering that it would be very time consuming to attempt these questions. But being smart is what it takes to attempt such questions correctly in order to get some brownie points over your competitors.

Coming to our options, for Blank I, we go with A since economic growth of the country is actually improving the consumption and if B is used, it may mean both ways regarding the effect of economic growth on consumption pattern of a country.

Our answer should start with A and we have options A, B and C starting with A.

Let's move on to the second blank of the passage. In this case, our pick would be A since B is not making any sense here. With this, we are left with our correct answer i.e. Option B since both the others have B in the second place.

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

Detailed explanation:

For blank I, *spurs* should be used in order to indicate that the economic growth in the country is contribution towards an increase in the consumption levels of the population of the country. This is also a factor behind the increase in generation of waste in the country. The other word can be ruled out since does not explain the given context properly.

Coming to Blank II, it is clear that the author is talking about enforcing the machinery and it makes A the correct word here. B can be ruled out very easily for this.

Blank III should be filled with B since we are talking about the machinery to implement the municipal laws in the country so that waste management can be made more effective in the country and because of the insufficiency of this mechanism; the country is finding it difficult. A can be ruled out easily as it does not fit in the given context.

Blank IV can be filled with *commitment* since we are talking about the dedication and determination of the government towards the various facets of development. *Confirmation* can be ruled out easily from the given context.

Blank V can be filled with *ensure* since it is very much necessary that the government should make sure that manual scavenging is done away with from the country and *experience* is not the perfect fit for this given context.

So, the correct combination is **AABBA**

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

6. Opposition parties would obviously be distressed over the issue that they are claimed of politicizing such an issue related to Nation's security. Thus the sequence must start with choice A "anguish".

Then moving forward we can surely say that opposition can only demand but cannot order or give command to the ruling government, thus use of choice B "urged" is correct.

So, the sequence becomes AB as of now.

Augment means to enhance. Integrity and Sovereignty are the things that cannot be increased but maintained or protected. So, choice B 'protected' is suitable.

Complied means to meet some standards which is purely absurd, thus again choice B 'lasted' remains more suitable here. The series now becomes ABBB.

"Prevailing" shows the current scenario whereas "remaining" reflects something left out. The opposition has gathered for a current issue, thus prevailing should be used in place of remaining.

Thus the series is ABBBA.

Hence option B is correct.

7. Regulation is needed on something only when it is passed or permitted by Law. Thus the court must have mandated the buying of Acid rather than referring it. So, choice A is preferred over here.

The earlier sentences express concern over the little regulation on buying and selling of Acid even after the court has mandated it to be stopped. This takes the same issue forward stating that a secret campaign has been running to showcase the flexibility of regulations. In benefit of which people can buy acid easily. So, the correct word should be "buying".

Thus the sequence becomes AA.

The coming sentence talks about two survivors getting a government job. Thus the previous sentence should also be based upon "getting a job" rather than maintaining the job. So, choice B is more suitable.

As we can see in the paragraph that "Change in society" is observed, thus earlier there has to be some negativity which is now changed and things are getting positive. So, use of "nasty" is correct. So, choice A is correct.

Clinked means to make a sound through striking objects, which is simply absurd as photographs can be clicked rather than clinked. So, choice A is correctly placed.

Thus the sequence is AABAA.

Hence option A is correct.

8. Portray means to showcase, so the move of counter terrorist attack could showcase Mr. Modi as the toughest Prime minister rather than extracting him. So, choice B is correct.

The Kargil victory has helped Mr. Vajpayee to ensure political win, but not conserved his win, thus use of “helped” is more suitable.

This act of bravery can also have ill effects for BJP, if the number of casualties increase, so the idea of showcasing bravery could “backfire” or act negatively for him as well. So, choice A is correct here.

Retaliation is “tit for tat behavior” in simple words attack for an attack, Surgical strike was done to counter terrorist attack in Uri. SO choice B fits more here.

Again “risking’ is better and suits the context as compared to profiting.

Thus the correct sequence is BBABB.

Hence option D is correct.

9. It is obvious that Indian Air force would be involved in air related engagements, thus “aerial” is correctly placed.

Military Installations refers to the military establishments whereas fittings is absurd.

Reports happened sounds incomplete, while reports of Indo-Pak aerial engagement emerged fits the context very well.

Debase means to degrade, which is absurd to the context as the paragraph is about air space violation by Pak Air force. Thus “violated” is a better word.

Repelled means to retaliate, which is contextually more apt.

Thus the sequence is AABAA.

Hence option A is correct.

10. Acclaimed means praised, which is not apt as per the context, thus the correct choice is A “genuine”.

Forgery is absurd.

Debase is contradictory with the context according to which Liberal patriotism build nation.

Create is more preferred than assembled.

Terrorist can always ignite or start a proxy war but can never end it. SO the correct sequence is AABBA.

Hence option C is correct.



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