

b) ---- how long you've been using tobacco, you can still overcome your addiction to smoking.

- i) Regarding ii) Although iii) No matter iv) However v) Even though

7. Identify the author's purpose

a) A website saying that a new shopping mall should not be built because it threatens an endangered bald eagle's home. The website also lists other reasons why the mall should not be built.

b) A sticker on the trash compactor that shows how to operate it.

8. a) For each sentence below, use the context to help you determine the meaning of the italicized word.

One brother is an *erudite* professor; the other brother, however, has never shown any interest in books or learning.

- i) Old; elderly ii) Well-educated; well-read iii) Snobbish; stuck up

b) The waiter was so *brusque* that we left only a small tip. He was impolite and impatient, and seemed annoyed whenever we asked for something.

- i) Acting or speaking in a rude, abrupt manner
 ii) Frightening looking
 iii) Knowledgeable and skill

9. Give the given article an appropriate title.

Yahoo recently shocked the digital music world by announcing a low-cost music subscription service that dramatically undercut its competition. I've been using Yahoo's new Y! Unlimited service for the past several days and, despite a few minor glitches, it delivers on its claim. For as little as \$5 a month, Yahoo Music gives subscribers access to a library of more than a million songs. The service is very similar to those offered by Napster and Real Networks except for two important differences: price and reach.

10. To forgive an injury is often considered to be a sign of weakness; it is really a sign of strength. It is easy to allow oneself to be carried away by resentment and hate into an act of vengeance; but it takes a strong character to restrain those natural passions. The man who forgives an injury proves himself to be the superior of the man who wronged himself and puts the wrong-doer to shame.

The passage best supports the statement that:

- a) the sufferer alone knows the intensity of his sufferings.
 b) natural passions are difficult to suppress.
 c) people tend to forgive the things happened in the past.
 d) mercy is the noblest form of revenge.
 e) A person with calm and composed nature has depth of thought and vision.

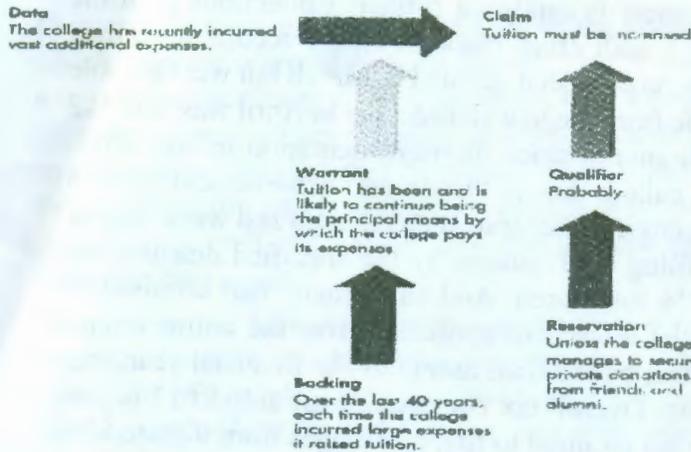
Part-B (5 × 10 = 50 Marks)

11. a) Last week Facebook offered billions of dollars to buy Snapchat, the social media app that lets users send posts that disappear shortly after being viewed. When the yet-to-be-profitable upstart refused the whopping 10-digit offer, many have started asking the same question: [5]

Is Facebook losing its edge? Use your red thinking hat to answer this question?

b) Your friend is about to make a very poor decision (quit his job, discontinue his course of study...)...convince him/her of what he/she should do instead and why? Use Ethos and Logos in your talk. [5]

- a) Select one of the "claims" that follow and construct and diagram an argument using Toulmin's system [5]
 One has been done for you
 Claim: Tuition must be increased.



Claims:

- i) Reservations based on castes should be abolished
 - ii) Exercise Daily
 - iii) Computer literacy is a must
- b) Give this editorial an appropriate title. [5]

Collections from the Goods and Services Tax crossed the 1 lakh crore mark in April, according to data released by the Finance Ministry on tax receipts that accrued in March but were payable in April. To be precise, the total revenue from the new indirect tax in April was 1,03,458 crore, the highest recorded in a single month since its implementation in July 2017. Finance Minister Arun Jaitley has called this a "landmark achievement" and a "confirmation of increased economic activity". Separate data released last week suggest the number of registered tax-payers filing GST returns by the specified deadline has risen from 57% for July to nearly 63% for March. And since many had consistently failed to meet the deadline in the initial months of confusion over the online returns filing system, it is heartening to note that by the final month of the financial year, they had caught up on their past arrears too. Overall tax compliance for July 2017 is now over 96% of registered taxpayers who are required to file, and ranges from 92% to 80% for each month thereafter, till December. Further simplification of the returns, hanging fire for a while now, must be expedited to improve compliance. Though it referred to the record GST collections as a sign of an upswing in the economy, the government, to be fair, also stressed that this number may be driven by the human tendency to wrap up pending official dues at the last moment — which in this case is the last month of the financial year. Yet, even delayed compliance is a welcome 'new normal'.

True, the revenue influx in April cannot be taken as a firm trend for the future. But given the tumult the GST caused in its initial months and the fear of high evasion levels that gripped officials when revenues tumbled after three months of 90,000 crore-plus collections, it is fair to say that the new tax system has ended its first three quarters on a robust note. By virtue of just the April inflows, the average monthly collection has gone from 89,885 crore in the first eight months to over 91,300 crore. This number is important, as by the government's own reckoning the new regime needed to deliver about 91,000 crore a month to ensure that revenues lost by the Centre and the States under the earlier indirect tax system are covered. Fresh anti-evasion measures introduced in the past few weeks, such as the e-way billing to track movement of goods,

could plug leakages to some extent. The government is keen to start matching tax credits claimed by businesses for inputs from suppliers. While these should boost GST revenues in the new financial year, nothing will beat fiscal stress better than a sustained revival in consumption and investment demand. Policymakers need to ensure that the uptick in car sales and demand for steel and cement is catalysed further. Collections from the Goods and Services Tax crossed the 1 lakh crore mark in April, according to data released by the Finance Ministry on tax receipts that accrued in March but were payable in April. To be precise, the total revenue from the new indirect tax in April was 1,03,458 crore, the highest recorded in a single month since its implementation in July 2017. Finance Minister Arun Jaitley has called this a "landmark achievement" and a "confirmation of increased economic activity". Separate data released last week suggest the number of registered tax-payers filing GST returns by the specified deadline has risen from 57% for July to nearly 63% for March. And since many had consistently failed to meet the deadline in the initial months of confusion over the online returns filing system, it is heartening to note that by the final month of the financial year, they had caught up on their past arrears too. Overall tax compliance for July 2017 is now over 96% of registered taxpayers who are required to file, and ranges from 92% to 80% for each month thereafter, till December. Further simplification of the returns, hanging fire for a while now, must be expedited to improve compliance. Though it referred to the record GST collections as a sign of an upswing in the economy, the government, to be fair, also stressed that this number may be driven by the human tendency to wrap up pending official dues at the last moment — which in this case is the last month of the financial year. Yet, even delayed compliance is a welcome 'new normal'.

13. a) Write an essay on the picture given below and give it an appropriate title. (word limit 350-400 words) [5]



- b) You are a reporter in a leading newspaper. You are asked to write a report on the 10th Class Board Paper leak. (word limit 100 to 150 words) [5]
14. a) Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow. Refer to the text to check your answers when appropriate. [5]

You know that you're doing something big when your company name becomes a verb. Ask Xerox. In 1959 they created the first plain paper copy machine. It was one of the most successful products ever. The company name Xerox grew into a verb that means "to copy," as in "Bob, can you Xerox this for me?" Around 50 years later, the same thing happened to Google. Their company name grew into a verb that means "to do an internet search." Now everyone and their grandma know what it means to Google it. Unlike Xerox, Google wasn't the first company to invent their product, not by a long shot. Lycos released their search engine in 1993. Yahoo! came out in 1994.

AltaVista began serving results in 1995. Google did not come out until years later, in 1998. Though a few years difference may not seem like much, this is a major head start in the fast moving world of tech. So how did Google do it? How did they overtake their competitors who had such huge leads in time and money? Maybe one good idea made all the difference.

There are millions and millions of sites on the internet. How does a search engine know which ones are relevant to your search? This is a question that great minds have been working on for decades. To understand how Google changed the game, you need to know how search engines worked in 1998. Back then most websites looked at the words in your query. They counted how many times those words appeared on each page. Then they might return pages where the words in your query appeared the most. This system did not work well and people often had to click through pages and pages of results to find what they wanted.

Google was the first search engine that began considering links. Links are those blue underlined words that take you to other pages when you click on them. Larry Page, cofounder of Google, believed that meaningful data could be drawn from how those links connect. Page figured that websites with many links pointing at them were more important than those that had few. He was right. Google's search results were much better than their rivals. They would soon become the world's most used search engine.

It wasn't just the great search results that led to Google becoming so well liked. It also had to do with the way that they presented their product. Most of the other search engines were cluttered. Their home pages were filled with everything from news stories to stock quotes. But Google's homepage was, and still is, clean. There's nothing on it but the logo, the search box, and a few links. It almost appears empty. In fact, when they were first testing it, users would wait at the home page and not do anything. When asked why, they said that they were, "waiting for the rest of the page to load." People couldn't imagine such a clean and open page as being complete. But the fresh design grew on people once they got used to it.

These days Google has its hands in everything from self-driving cars to helping humans live longer. Though they have many other popular products, they will always be best known for their search engine. The Google search engine has changed our lives and our language. Not only is it a fantastic product, it is a standing example that one good idea (and a lot of hard work) can change the world.

I. Which title best expresses the author's main purpose in writing this text?

- i) Xerox Vs. Google: Battle of the Titans
- ii) Search Engines: How They Work and Why They're Important
- iii) A Better Way: How Google Rose to the Top
- iv) Search Engines: A Short History of Important Tools

II. What can readers learn about Google's approach to doing business based on reading this article? Use information from the text to support your response.

III. Explain how Google was able to overcome its competitors. Cite information from the text to support your response.

IV. What do Google and Xerox have in common? Support your answer with information from the text.

b) Instruction: Read the given passage and guess the meanings of the words from the context. [5]

Each of these passages has faults of its own, but, quite apart from a avoidable ugliness; two qualities are common to all of them. The first is **staleness** of **imagery**; the other is lack of **precision**. The writer either has a meaning and cannot express it, or he

inadvertently says something else, or he is almost **indifferent** as to whether his words mean anything or not. This mixture of vagueness and sheer incompetence is the most marked characteristic of modern English prose, and especially of any kind of political writing. As soon as certain topics are raised, the concrete melts into the abstract and no one seems able to think of turns of speech that are not **hackneyed**: prose consists less and less of words chosen for the sake of their meaning, and more and more of phrases tacked together like the sections of a **prefabricated** henhouse. I list below, with notes and examples, various of the tricks by means of which the work of prose construction is habitually **dodged**.

15. a) Rameshwar has been working with ABC Co. Ltd. for the last five years and has been rated as one of the efficient workers on the job. One day he is caught with a small value stolen item while leaving the duty. The management is in a predicament. What should it do? [5]
- b) A handicraft company is suffering heavy losses and its sales have dipped substantially. You are the head of the team and have to discuss various reasons for the same. The team is also supposed to suggest possible solution to the identified problems. [5]
16. a) Edward De Bono's six thinking hats can be applied in Group Discussions. Each 'Thinking Hat' is a different style of thinking. Match the following. [6]

Hat	Use
White Hat	eliminate, alter and prepare contingency plans to counter weak points
Red Hat	Optimistic viewpoint
Black Hat	process control
Yellow Hat	Intuition, Gut and emotion to address problems
Green Hat	Available Data
Blue Hat	develop creative solutions to a problem

- b) I. Read the situation given below and select all those that apply. [4]
- Situation 1: Arvind is a smooth talker, he can speak fluently and can charm people he has no issues with language and yet for the GD round at XYZ Company he was rejected.
- Arvind was rejected because:
- The company did not really look for communication skills as it is not important.
 - They did not want to employ smart people.
 - Arvind's contribution was meaningless as he did not have relevant content.
- II. Read the situation given below and select all those that apply.
- Situation 2: Roopa walked into a GD and realized that she knew nothing about the given topic. While most of the participants in her group seemed to be smacking their lips in anticipation, she was sweating buckets about even making sense of the topic. Yet she got through the group discussion round She was very well able to create the right impact on the panel.
- She managed to do that because:
- When you don't have the content, you can make your logic count. She made her logic count.
 - She built on the content by supporting or demolishing arguments put forth by other speakers
 - She was able to express her opinion by drawing examples from similar situations.
 - She was related to the HR personnel in the company

Answer any *two* of the following:

- a) Write down your inference from the given picture. Give it an appropriate title. [5]



- b) Winning is so highly valued in American sports that the result of a contest seems to have become more important than the playing of it. A century ago it might have been said, "It matters not who won or lost, but how you played the game"; today, a much more appropriate maxim would appear to be, "Winning isn't everything; it's the only thing." [5]

In the context of this passage, "maxim" most nearly means --

- i) truth ii) zenith iii) fallacy iv) saying v) goal.

After questioning hundreds of people about their daydreams, Jerome L. Singer has concluded that virtually everyone daydreams, and he has identified three different types of daydreamers. The first type typically has anxious daydreams, often centered on fears of failure. These daydreams are unorganized, fleeting, and vague. The second type of daydreamer is given to self-criticism and self-doubt and is most likely to have hostile fantasies. The third type, whom Singer calls the "happy daydreamer," has positive fantasies, with clear visual images. Not surprisingly, people in the third group enjoy daydreaming the most.

Which of the following best defines "fleeting" as it is used in the third sentence of the passage?

- i) altering the position of ii) gliding away, fading iii) passing quickly iv) rushing nimbly v) sailing windward

- c) Grant Grand was a superstar high school athlete from a small town where football was revered. The people of this town placed such a high value on victories that a top performer like Grant was given privileges and exceptions that all others were denied. Grant did not have to struggle his way through rigorous courses in high school. Instead he attended special study sessions with members of the athletic department where the participants studied little other than football. To the surprise of few, Grant was given a full ride to a reputable university based on his athletic prowess, but Grant was not prepared for this new experience. He expected the university to make numerous special exceptions for him as his high school had, and while he did receive quite a few of these exceptions, it was not enough to compensate for how woefully underprepared he was. Despite numerous good faith interventions by the university, Grant failed to get it together, lost his scholarship, and dropped out after his freshman year. [5]

- i) What is the theme of the story
ii) What happens in the story that leads you to believe this?



Hall Ticket Number:

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Code No. : 32027 SS

VASAVI COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING (Autonomous), HYDERABAD
B.E. III Year II-Semester Main & Backlog Examinations, May-2018

Finishing School-IV : Soft Skills
 (Common to all branches)

Time: 1½ hours

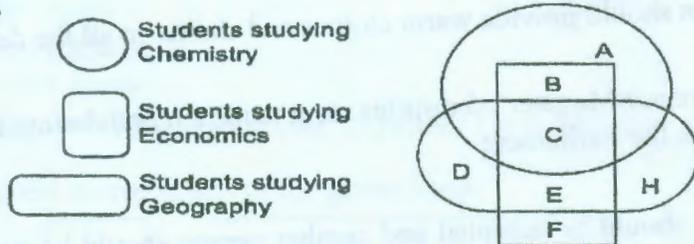
Max. Marks: 35

Note: Answer ALL questions in Part-A and any FIVE from Part-B

Part-A (5 × 2 = 10 Marks)

1. a) i. Lata is a year older than Sunita.
 ii. Sunita is two years older than Bindu.
 iii. Rajan is a year older than Bindu.
 Who is the youngest of all?
 (a) Sunita (b) Bindu (c) Rajan (d) Cannot be determined
- b) CHOP : MINCE :: _____ : _____
 (a) Fry : Bake (b) Meat : Cake (c) Axe : Mallet (d) Stir : Beat
2. a) If in a cricket one day match, there were no wide balls, no wides, no extras and no overthrows.
 What is the maximum number of runs that a batsman can score in an ideal case scenario?
 (a) 1550 (b) 1653 (c) 1555 (d) 1553

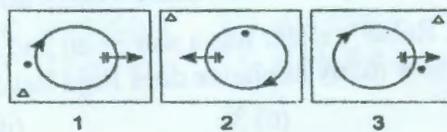
b) In the following diagram, Students who study economics and geography are represented by _____.



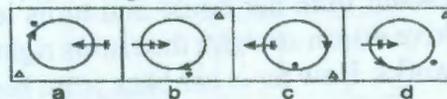
- (a) B (b) D (c) E (d) A

3. a) Select a figure from amongst the Answer Figures which will continue the same series as established by the five

Problem Figures

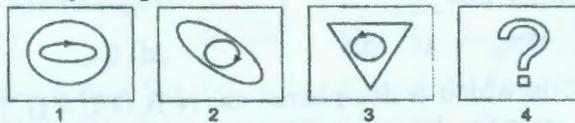


Answer Figures

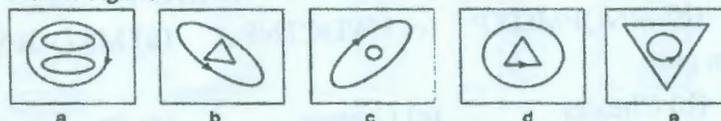


b) Identify the figure that completes the pattern.

Incomplete Figure



Answer Figures



4. Directions (4a & 4b): Give answer
- (a) If only assumption I is implicit (b) If only assumption II is implicit
 (c) If either I or II is implicit (d) If neither I nor II is implicit
 (e) If both I and II are implicit.
- a) Statement: "Please put more people on the job to make up for the delay."
 Assumptions
 i. Delay is inevitable in most jobs.
 ii. Output will increase with more number of people on the job.
- b) Statement: "If you are an engineer, we have a challenging job for you."
 Assumptions
 i. We need an engineer
 ii. You are an engineer
5. Directions (5a & 5b): Give answer
- (a) If only I follows (b) If only II follows
 (c) If either I or II follows (d) If neither I nor II follows
 (e) If both I and II follow.
- a) Statement: Every year large number of devotees dies due to severe cold on their way to the shrine located at the top of the mountain range.
 Courses of Action
 i. The devotees should be discouraged to visit the shrine without having proper warm clothes and other amenities.
 ii. The government should provide warm clothes and shelter to all the devotees visiting the shrine.
- b) Statement: The Finance Minister submits his resignation a month before the new budget is to be presented in the Parliament.
 Courses of Action
 i. The resignation should be accepted and another person should be appointed as the Finance Minister.
 ii. The resignation should not be accepted.

Part-B (5 × 5 = 25 Marks)

(Each question has subsections. Answer all the subsections of selected question)

6. a) Amit is son of Rahul. Sarika, Rahul's sister has a son Sonu and a daughter Rita. Raja is the maternal uncle of Sonu. How many nephews does Raja have?
 (a) 1 (b) 2 (c) 3 (d) Cannot be determined
- b) Shallo drives 10 km towards south from her house and turns left and drives another 25 km. She again turns left and drive 40 km straight, then turns right and drives another 5 km to reach her bank, where she works. How far is her bank from her house (approximately)?
 (a) 42 km (b) 39 km (c) 30 km (d) 40 km
- c) Complete the series: HV GT FR EP DN _____
 (a) KL (b) LM (c) MN (d) CL
- d) If 'XYMNOPQ' is a certain code which is deciphered as 'N B O U I G T'. Based on this scheme of coding, select a code for the word 'OUTGOING'?
 (a) MNOQPNPQ (b) MNQPMOXP (c) PWDCTNPQ (d) MNQOPYPQ
- e) Choose the odd man out:
 (a) Teacher (b) Cheater (c) Greater (d) Chat (e) Reach

Directions (7a - 7c): The following questions are based on the information given below:
A cube is cut in two equal parts along a plane parallel to one of its faces. One piece is then coloured red on the two larger faces and green on the remaining, while the other is coloured green on two smaller adjacent faces and red on the remaining. Each is then cut into 32 cubes of same size and mixed up.

- a) How many cubes have only one coloured face each?
(a) 0 (b) 16 (c) 8 (d) 32
- b) What is the number of cubes with at least one green face each?
(a) 36 (b) 32 (c) 38 (d) 48
- c) How many cubes have two red and one green face on each?
(a) 0 (b) 8 (c) 16 (d) 4
- d) **Statements:** Some moles are holes. All holes are coals. No coal is roll.

Conclusions

- i. No mole is roll.
- ii. Some coals are holes
- iii. Some moles are coals.
- iv. Some rolls are holes

- (a) only ii follows (b) only iii follows (c) either iii or ii follows (d) only ii & iii follows

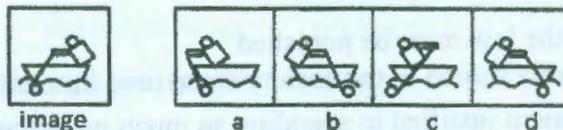
- e) **Statements:** All trucks are trunks. No trunk is heavy

Conclusions

- i. No truck is heavy
- ii. All trunks are trucks
- iii. Some trunks are trucks
- iv. Some trucks are heavy

- (a) only i follows (b) only iii follows (c) either i or ii follows (d) only i & iii follows

- 8. a) Choose the correct mirror image of the given image



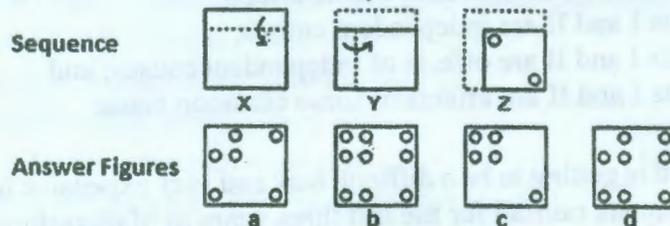
- b) Choose the alternative which is closely resembles the water-image

NhRqSy

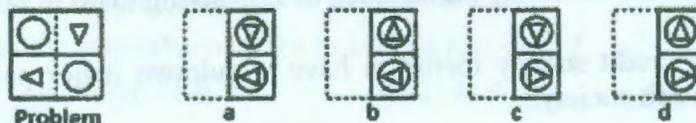
- (1) NpRdSλ (2) NpRdSλ
- (3) NpRdSλ (4) NpRdSλ

- (a) 1 (b) 2 (c) 3 (d) 4

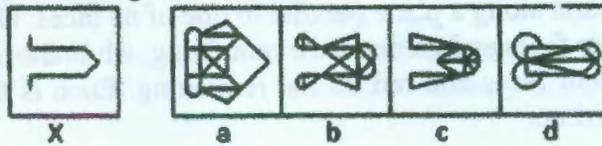
- c) Choose a figure which would most closely resemble the unfolded form of Figure (Z).



- d) Find out from amongst the four alternatives as to how the pattern would appear when the transparent sheet is folded at the dotted line.



e) Find out the alternative figure which contains figure (X) as its part.



9. **Directions (9a - 9e):** Give answer as

- (a) If only argument I is strong (b) If only argument II is strong
 (c) If either I or II is strong (d) If neither I nor II is strong and
 (e) If both I and II are strong.

a) **Statements:** Should the persons below the age of 18 years be allowed to join armed forces?

Arguments

- i. No. Persons below the age of 18 do not attain both physical and mental maturity to shoulder such burden.
 ii. Yes. This will help the country develop its armed forces which will serve the country for a longer time.

b) **Statements:** Should agriculture in rural India be mechanized?

Arguments

- i. Yes. It would lead to higher production.
 ii. No. Many villagers would be left unemployed.

c) **Statements:** Should higher education be restricted to only those who can bear the expenditure?

Arguments

- i. Yes. Higher education is very costly; hence it should not be given free.
 ii. No. There are a large number of brilliant students who cannot afford to pay and they should be given higher education.

d) **Statements:** Should those who receive dowry, despite the law prohibiting it, be punished?

Arguments

- i. Yes. Those who violate the law must be punished.
 ii. No. Dowry system is firmly rooted in the society since time immemorial.

e) **Statements:** Is the Government justified in spending so much on defence?

Arguments

- i. Yes. Safety of the country is of prime importance.
 ii. No. During peace, this money could be used for the development of the country.

10. **Directions (10a & 10b):** Give answer as

- (a) If statement I is the cause and statement II is its effect;
 (b) If statement II is the cause and statement I is its effect;
 (c) If both the statements I and II are independent causes;
 (d) If both the statements I and II are effects of independent causes; and
 (e) If both the statements I and II are effects of some common cause

a) **Statements**

- i. Procuring animal feed is getting to be a difficult task and very expensive in Maharashtra.
 ii. There has been inadequate rainfall for the last three years in Maharashtra.

b) **Statements**

- i. The local co-operative credit society has decided to stop giving loans to farmers with immediate effect.
 ii. A large number of credit society members have withdrawn major part of their deposits from the credit society.

Directions (10c – 10d): Read the data given and choose appropriate answer for each question. Give answer as:

- (a) if the inference is 'definitely true'
- (b) if the inference is 'probably true'
- (c) if 'data are inadequate'
- (d) if the inference is 'probably false'
- (e) if the inference is 'definitely false'.

In the initial years trade policy in our country was primarily aimed at regulating imports having regard to the nascent stage of country's development and the need to encourage domestic production through import substitution measures. However, with the onset of liberalisation the importance of globalisation through trade and making exports the engine of growth of economy has been recognised. Export promotion is now a continuous and sustained effort and specific steps in this direction have been taken and achievements have been made in recent years.

- c) It is not appropriate to give the credit of economic growth to export.
 - d) Before the implementation of the idea of liberalisation, our trade policy was not much in favour of free import-export.
 - e) Import used to affect domestic production in earlier years.
11. a) A, B, C, D, E, F & G are the members of a family consisting 4 adults and 3 children, two of whom, F & G are girls. A & D are brothers, and A is a doctor. E is an engineer married to one of the brothers and has two children. B is married to D and their child is G. Who is C?
- (a) G's Father (b) F's Father (c) E's Daughter (d) A's Son

- b) Kavita walks 3 km northward and then she turns left and moves 2 km. She again turns left and goes 3 km and turns to her right and starts walking straight. In which direction is she walking now?
- (a) East (b) North-West (c) South (d) None of these

- c) **Statements:** Some maps are taps. No tap is gap

Conclusions

- i. No map is gap
- ii. No tap is map
- iii. Some maps are gaps
- iv. Some taps are maps

- (a) only i follows (b) only iii follows (c) only iv follows (d) None of these

Directions (11d & 11e): A goldsmith has five gold rings, each having a different weight.

- i. Ring D weighs twice ring E.
 - ii. Ring E weighs four and a half times of ring F.
 - iii. Ring F weighs half as much as ring G.
 - iv. Ring G weighs half as much as ring H.
 - v. Ring H weighs less than ring D but more than ring F.
- d) If these rings are sold according to their weights as it is, which one will fetch highest value?
- (a) Ring D (b) Ring F (c) Ring E (d) Ring G
- e) Ring H is heavier than which of the following two rings?
- (a) G & E (b) G & F (c) D & F (d) D & E

12. **Directions (12a-12c):** Give answer as

- (a) If only I follows
- (b) If only II follows
- (c) If either I or II follows
- (d) If neither I nor II follows
- (e) If both I and II follow.

a) **Statements:** Bureaucrats marry only intelligent girls. Tanya is very intelligent.

Conclusions

- i. Tanya will marry a bureaucrat.
- ii. Tanya will not marry a bureaucrat.

b) **Statements:** All young scientists are open-minded. No open-minded men are superstitious.

Conclusions

- i. No scientist is superstitious.
- ii. No young people are superstitious.

c) **Statement:** Youngsters are often found staring at obscene posters.

Courses of Action

- i. Children should be punished and penalized if they are found doing so.
- ii. Any display of such material should be banned.

d) **Statement:** With a sense of sincerity, quality teachers can improve the society.

Assumptions

- i. Quality teachers are sincere
- ii. Sincerity in teaching pays.

Which assumption is/are implicit?

- (a) only i
- (b) only ii
- (c) Both i & ii
- (d) none

e) **Give answer as**

- (a) If statement I is the cause and statement II is its effect;
- (b) If statement II is the cause and statement I is its effect;
- (c) If both the statements I and II are independent causes;
- (d) If both the statements I and II are effects of independent causes; and
- (e) If both the statements I and II are effects of some common cause

Statements

- i. The employees of the biggest bank in the country have given an indefinite strike call starting from third of the next month.
- ii. The employees of the Central Government have withdrawn their week long demonstrations.

