

**Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it.**

Certain words have been printed in bold to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.

India claims to be a secular country. This declaration of the Preamble to the Constitution of India has legally made India secular. The Indian Constitution shows favouritism in regards to a sort of secular humanism. The historical development of this train of thought makes it current in today's time in the sense of India's religious pluralism. India is a secular state as stated by written Constitution of India and it is everyone's duty to abide and believe in it.

Secularism was the most dominant principle during the freedom struggle and many great leaders from Mahatma Gandhi to Maulana Abul Kalam Azad to Nehru were committed for the same. Secularism was the mantra followed by the Indian nation, which was exhausted by partition and sectarian riots. The roots point to secularism which doesn't allow any injustice to be done with any religion and any person; it was famous during independence and became a notion even after post independence. Focus of secularism is to provide priority to equity and redistribution of growth in the form of jobs, education. Secularism will allow the people of India to have more productive approach towards a particular problem and issue. This will help in resolving lots of issues related to social welfare and help poor people to grow as well in terms of money. This overall process will lead to more inclusive growth. Secularism maintains overall peace in the society which further paves the way to development. In lack of it, different communities would keep clashing and the government won't be able to devote any time to chalk out the development plans. Secularism offers equal opportunities to all the communities of the society which ensures overall development. Lack of secularism would mean that the upper class communities would keep taking advantage of lower classes, never giving them a chance to grow and lead a respectful life. India has seen a lot of technological, infrastructural and economic development in last 6-7 decades while secularism being its main policy. But Secularism takes time and it is a very slow process which has been felt post independence where the social dynamics were very complex. Lots of challenges has occurred which didn't allow India to become secular and brought development in the picture. Direct approach to the growth needs to be implemented to increase the pace. Fast paced development will bring power, roads and ports, more investment and opportunities to many people. Secularism is now getting no more public attention and people wants the overall system to speed up and have a boost so that the country can have exponential growth. Development is very necessary then secularism due to the lack of resources to run the political system, responsible staff of people who can train and guide the young generation to follow up their values.

Development will help to increase the revenue as well as the overall growth of the system that has been running on secularism under the rules of congress. Therefore Secularism and development both are equally important for a well balanced society. It would make sense for secular parties to become a bit growth oriented and development focused parties to become a bit secular for the overall development. It is not really wise to chose one over the other.

1. What can be a suitable title for the given passage?

- A) United We stand, Divided We fall
- B) India - a Secular State
- C) Secularism vs Development
- D) The Principle of Secularism
- E) Importance of Development

2. Which is more important 'Secularism' or 'Development' in the context of the passage?

- A) Only Secularism is important.
- B) Only development is important.
- C) Both are equally important.
- D) There is need of different approach
- E) None of these

3. Which of the following is true in the context of the passage?

- A) India is a secular country.
- B) Main objective of secularism is to provide priority to nepotism.
- C) Secularism makes a country active.
- D) Development does not increase revenue.
- E) Communalism is a slow process.

4. What do you mean by 'Secular State' as stated by written Constitution of India?

- A) A developed state.
- B) A true secular state should steadfastly maintain national governance without influence from religious factions
- C) A developing state
- D) It does not favour any religion
- E) None of these

5. 'Which of the following is concerned mainly with 'Priority to equity'?

- A) Exponential growth
- B) Secularism
- C) Pluralism
- D) Development
- E) None of these

**Choose the word which is MOST SIMILAR in meaning to the word printed in bold as used in the passage.**

6. Pluralism
- A) Multiculturalism
  - B) Ethics
  - C) Conference
  - D) Concede
  - E) Intrusion

7. Abide
- A) Dissent
  - B) Tight
  - C) follow
  - D) Tried
  - E) Stop

8. Preamble
- A) Rule
  - B) Preface
  - C) Empower
  - D) Intractable
  - E) Inclusiveness

**Choose the word which is MOST OPPOSITE in meaning of the word printed in bold as used in the passage.**

9. Exhausted
- A) Destroyed
  - B) Ended
  - C) Dredged
  - D) Strengthened
  - E) Optimised

10. Notion
- A) Belief
  - B) Approach
  - C) Vitalize
  - D) Augment
  - E) Concrete

**In the passage given below there are 5 blanks, each followed by a word given in bold.**

Every blank has four alternative words given in options (A),(B),(C) and (D). You have to tell which word will best suit the respective blank. Mark (E) as your answer if the work given in bold after the blank is your answer i.e “No change required”.

The India-Japan relationship is rapidly gathering momentum, **(11)** (figuring out) faster than any of New Delhi’s current strategic partnerships. The 2017 annual summit on 13-14 September highlighted the strategic **(12)** (undertaking) of this partnership. While developments in the relationship **(13)** (lead) Prime Ministers Shinzō Abe and Narendra Modi continue to be rapid, the partnership post the 2016 summit began to take a bolder tone and approach to the changing security environment. Japan and India, today are beginning to outline a framework to shape and lead the region.

From discussing the importance of a rules-based order, New Delhi and Tokyo today are outlining their “central role in such a rules-based order”. Speaking at an India-Japan **(14)** (callous) just a few days before Abe’s visit to India, foreign secretary S. Jaishankar provided a significant insight into the future of this relationship. He noted, “Today, the two countries clearly see each other much more **(15)** (mission) (the relationship before Modi and Abe was primarily economically dominated)... realize the importance of shaping Asia’s architecture promoting its growth, development, and stability.” Underlining the importance attached to this relationship, he continued, “From just comparing notes, we have now moved on to explore the possibilities of collaborating on projects in third countries... The agenda for India-Japan relations has elements today that could not have been contemplated some years ago.”

11. \_\_\_\_\_  
A) taking shape  
B) shaping out  
C) taking colour  
D) taking sphere  
E) No Correction Required

12. \_\_\_\_\_  
A) bolsters  
B) supports  
C) underpinnings  
D) ankle  
E) No Correction Required

Explanation: underpinning= a solid foundation laid below ground level to support or strengthen a building.

13. \_\_\_\_\_  
A) guided by  
B) led by  
C) led on  
D) led off  
E) No Correction Required

14. \_\_\_\_\_  
A) forum  
B) meeting  
C) assembly  
D) colloquium  
E) No Correction Required

15. \_\_\_\_\_  
A) basically  
B) strategically  
C) purposefully  
D) intentionally  
E) No Correction Required

**In the passage given below there are 5 blanks, each followed by a word given in bold.**

Every blank has four alternative words given in options (A),(B),(C) and (D). You have to tell which word will best suit the respective blank. Mark (E) as your answer if the work given in bold after the blank is your answer i.e “No change required”.

Even at weddings or whale watches, the \_(16)\_(dozzed)of a drone is no longer a surprise. Drone photography is\_(17)\_(spurgig). Gartner, a consultancy, says some 174,000 drones \_(18)\_(sell)for commercial use around the world this year, and 2.8m to consumers. It is easy to imagine a few (19)\_\_(fell)of the sky, causing damage the pilot cannot hope to pay for: crushed wedding cakes, injured spectators and so on. Amid scores of near-misses, several incidents have already occurred. In 2014, for example, a drone filming a triathlon in Australia crashed on a competitor’s head. Clearly, drone-users need insurance.

Typically, risks are insured through the payment of an annual premium. Insure4drones, a British specialist, charges £738.86 (\$1,000) to cover a DJI Phantom, a bestselling drone, for a year. From October Flock, a London startup, will offer insurance on a flight-by-flight basis, at the push of a button in an app, to any commercial drone-operator in Britain. Cover for \_(20)\_(strong)pilots will soon follow.

16. \_\_\_\_\_  
A) call  
B) bellow  
C) buzz  
D) achieve  
E) No Correction Required

17. \_\_\_\_\_  
A) palmy  
B) abort  
C) thin

D) booming  
E) No Correction Required

18. \_\_\_\_\_

A) will be sold  
B) will sell  
C) will sold  
D) would be sold  
E) No Correction Required

19. \_\_\_\_\_

A) may fell  
B) fall out  
C) fell out  
D) might fall out  
E) No Correction Required

20. \_\_\_\_\_

A) qualified  
B) amateur  
C) attempt  
D) deft  
E) No Correction Required

**In each of the questions below, four sentences are given which are denoted by – A,B,C,D . By using all the four sentences, make a meaningful paragraph. The correct order of sentences is your answer. Choose from the five alternatives the one having the correct order of sentences and mark it as your answer.**

21. \_\_\_\_\_

(a) Ideology remains the main source of violent extremism.  
(b) When intertwined with religious extremism, it becomes an even more potent mixture.  
(c) Behavioural patterns contribute to escalation, from grievance redress to mobilisation, and on to violent extremism.  
(d) What is apparent as one surveys the global scene today is that the number and variety of terror groups is larger and more widespread than at any time previously.

A) BDCA  
B) DABC  
C) CDBA  
D) ABDC  
E) BACD

22. \_\_\_\_\_

(a) Vajpayee had been pragmatic in respect of his Pakistan policy.  
(b) Atal Bihari Vajpayee's Pakistan policy was an open book.  
(c) He wanted the people of the two countries to live in amity and friendship as good neighbours.  
(d) He wanted improved relations with Pakistan without sacrificing India's interest.

A) ACBD  
B) DCBA  
C) CABD  
D) BDCA  
E) DBAC

23. \_\_\_\_\_

(a) Unless economic growth improves social and human development, it cannot be sustained.  
(b) Equally, economic growth itself is impeded by low levels of productivity in an undernourished and malnourished population.  
(c) Nutrition is complex, and therefore its delivery must be simplified through greater awareness and actions.  
(d) The delivery models must be collaborative across domains, with clear decision rights and hard-wired processes, enabled by technology and a significant investment in strengthening people competencies.

A) BACD  
B) CBAD  
C) ACDB

D) DBCA

E) CDAB

24. \_\_\_\_\_

(a) Intelligence is often referred to as the 'missing dimension' when there is a failure to anticipate critical developments of a political and strategic nature.

(b) History is replete with many such instances.

(c) In recent times, renowned historians like Christopher Andrew have also talked of a lack of 'theologians' compounding this situation.

(d) Combined, these are seen as reasons for failing to anticipate many of the serious developments that took place during the late 20th and early 21st centuries.

A) ABCD

B) BDAC

C) CDAB

D) DACB

E) ADCB

25. \_\_\_\_\_

(a) One of the most glaring examples of this is the Bombay Prevention of Begging Act.

(b) Independence brought with it many changes, but also much continuity. Despite the birth of a Constitution that promised liberty, equality, fraternity, and dignity to all, independent India's rulers continued to replicate colonial logic in framing laws for the new republic.

(c) They continued to treat individuals as subjects to be controlled and administered, rather than rights-bearing citizens.

(d) The Begging Act was passed in 1959 by the State of Bombay, and has continued to exist in as many as 20 States and two Union Territories.

A) CDAB

B) ACDB

C) CBAD

D) DCBA

E) BCAD

26. \_\_\_\_\_

(a) In order to do this, Rousseau demonstrates that human evolution and the development of inequality between men are closely related.

(b) It attempts to trace the psychological and political effects of modern society on human nature, and to show how these effects were produced.

(c) The result is both a sweeping explanation of how modern man was created, and a sharp criticism of unequal modern political institutions.

(d) Rousseau's Discourse on Inequality is one of the most powerful critiques of modernity ever written.

A) BACD

B) ADCB

C) DBAC

D) CABD

E) ACBD

27. \_\_\_\_\_

(a) The United Nations was created after World War II and has become the single most important international organization.

(b) Although Roosevelt is often criticized for having no clear path while in office, the changes that the American government underwent during his twelve years tenure were unmistakably flavored by his temperament.

(c) Roosevelt negotiated the peace with the Soviet Union, which would ultimately create the basis for the Cold War and the Iron Curtain.

(d) The government during the New Deal showed unprecedented responsibility for the basic welfare of its citizens, a fundamental change that endures till today.

A) DCBA

B) CABD

C) BDAC

D) ADDB

E) CDAB

28. \_\_\_\_\_

- (a) The U.S. has raised duties on several products such as steel and aluminium, and on certain products imported from China. In turn, China has retaliated.
  - (b) Besides these, there are country-specific sanctions such as those against Iran, which have a direct impact on crude oil output and prices. India benefited from the fall in crude prices earlier but this position has reversed. There has been some lull in crude prices.
  - (c) India has also been caught in this exchange. It is difficult to forecast how much worse this will become.
  - (d) The external environment is far from reassuring. Trade wars have already started and can get worse.
- A) CDAB
  - B) DACB
  - C) ABDC
  - D) BDAC
  - E) DCBA

29. \_\_\_\_\_

- (a) The recent hearings in the Supreme Court relating to the Sabarimala case have turned the spotlight on the status of religious faith in a system governed by the rule of law and the Constitution.
  - (b) The clash between religious faith and the law is not of recent origin and it would be unfair to lay the blame at the doorstep of the Constitution. On the other contrary, it is an inevitable consequence of human evolution.
  - (c) It leaves him with the uncomfortable thought that from the time of the advent of the Constitution, no religious practice has been safe in a system of Constitution-controlled governance. Nothing could be farther from the truth.
  - (d) Any attention bestowed on such discussions by a person of faith and belief appears to leave the observer with an uneasy feeling that the Constitution is the prime suspect in these proceedings.
- A) BDCA
  - B) CDAB
  - C) BCAD
  - D) ADCB
  - E) DACB

30. \_\_\_\_\_

- (a) The newspaper reports came out boldly and literally. A few days later, true to a spirit of correctness, the Dalai Lama withdrew his statement, saying that he had hurt feelings.
  - (b) By welcoming him to India, we added to the sense of India. Yet, newspapers reported that in the anniversary speech, he said India had missed a moral opportunity — that Mahatma Gandhi, to avoid Partition, offered Muhammad Ali Jinnah the Prime Ministership, and Nehru objected because he wanted to lead India.
  - (c) No one has spoken with greater gratitude to India than the Dalai Lama.
  - (d) His rituals of thanks to India as a civilisation and to the Indian regime have been many.
- A) CBDA
  - B) ACDB
  - C) DABC
  - D) ADCB
  - E) BDCA

**In the question given below some of the part has been highlighted. You have to find the part which is not highlighted and is both grammatically and contextually correct. Ensure that the meaning of the statement remains unchanged.**

31. The soft foundational soil beneath the Leaning Tower of Pisa in Italy has helped it stand through numerous strong earthquakes since 1280, say scientists who unveiled the mystery behind how the structure remained undamaged, despite leaning at a precarious five-degree angle.

- A) soil beneath the Leaning Tower of Pisa in Italy has helped it
- B) earthquakes since 1280, say scientists who unveiled the mystery
- C) remained undamaged, despite leaning
- D) at a precarious five-degree angle
- E) no error

32. The symbolic gestures (Mudras) through iconography of Buddha image to evoke particular ideas during Buddhist meditation or rituals. In Indian sculptural art, images are the symbolic representations of divinity whose origin and end has expressed through the religious and spiritual beliefs.

- A) through iconography of Buddha image to
- B) meditation or rituals. In Indian sculptural art,

- C) are the symbolic representations of divinity  
D) end has expressed through the religious and spiritual beliefs  
E) no error
33. The focus of public and judicial concern over the situation prevailing in India's prisons has in recent times been related to overcrowding and long spells of incarceration faced by indigent inmates too poor to obtain bail.  
A) The focus of public and  
B) prevailing in India's prisons has in recent times  
C) overcrowding and long spells of incarceration  
D) inmates too poor to obtain bail.  
E) no error
34. In a welcome move this week, India has ratified two key global convention meant to keep children away from work, decades since they were originally adopted by the International Labour Organisation. Nonetheless, the skepticism aroused by the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2016 over the government's commitment towards complete abolition of child labour will persist.  
A) India has ratified two key global convention meant to keep children away  
B) were originally adopted by the International Labour Organisation.  
C) Nonetheless, the skepticism aroused by the Child Labour  
D) over the government's commitment towards complete abolition of  
E) no error
35. To say it is a domino effect of the loan write-offs for small and marginal farmers by the Uttar Pradesh government might be simplistic, but farmers in different parts of the country have begun agitating for waiver  
A) To say it is a domino effect  
B) might be simplistic, but farmers  
C) in different parts of the country  
D) have begun agitating for waiver.  
E) no error

**In the following questions, a paragraph is given with three blanks, followed by six words. You have to choose the most suitable combination of words among the five alternative options, that will fill the blank coherently, forming a grammatically correct and contextually meaningful paragraph. If none of the given combination is appropriate to fill the blank, mark option (e) i.e. "none of these" as your answer choice.**

36. Given the political dynamics in the U.S. today, a systemic solution to this problem is not \_\_\_\_\_. However, it has to be on the India-U.S. dialogue agenda. The India-U.S. strategic partnership is based on a strong \_\_\_\_\_ of interests, but it was not intended to have the exclusivity of an alliance. India should not have to choose between one strategic partnership and another. The India-Russia dialogue should not get \_\_\_\_\_ entangled in the India-U.S.

- I. lucid  
II. evident  
III. fondle  
IV. tangle  
V. mutuality  
VI. inextricably  
A) II , III , V  
B) V , II , I  
C) II , V , VI  
D) I , III , IIV  
E) none of these

37. Westphalia has its critics who point to the risks of territoriality \_\_\_\_\_ from geopolitical autonomy, but it has, nonetheless, become a \_\_\_\_\_, a by-word for smaller entities coming together to resist the might of the physically and militarily large, the technologically and financially \_\_\_\_\_ and the politically dominant.

- I. stemming  
II. preponderant  
III. pretense  
IV. metaphor  
V. clique  
VI. habitual  
A) II , IV , V  
B) I , IV , II

- C) II , IV , V
- D) V , VI ,I
- E) none of these

38. Where curriculum designers fear to tread, film directors take relaxed, bold \_\_\_\_\_. Few will consider ghosts and witchcraft as suitable topics for a textbook. Killing of women on the \_\_\_\_\_ that they are practising witchcraft occasionally figures in the news. Such episodes may be on the decline, but witches and ghosts continue to shape the deeper layers of the collective \_\_\_\_\_ mind.

- I. abrade
- II. suspicion
- III. strides
- IV. impute
- V. convoke
- VI. social

- A) III , II , VI
- B) I , II , IV
- C) VI , V , III
- D) II , V , I
- E) none of these

39. Memory is a great charger. It is also a great \_\_\_\_\_. The Congress's memory of its past \_\_\_\_\_ energises it but restricts its scope for a practical \_\_\_\_\_ of current realities.

- I. accommodation
- II. leavening
- III. supremacy
- IV. fallacy
- V. inhibitor
- VI. lampoon

- A) III , VI , IV
- B) I , II , IV
- C) II , VI , V
- D) V , III , I
- E) none of these

40. The State must follow a more \_\_\_\_\_ policy of creating incentives for firms leading to greater employment, instead of merely dictating higher recruitment of locals. Gujarat is no \_\_\_\_\_. Nativist arguments against migrants have been too easily used by political forces in various States, from more developed ones such as Maharashtra to smaller States such as Meghalaya, to address \_\_\_\_\_ over the paucity of jobs.

- I. ferment
- II. holistic
- III. exception
- IV. resentment
- V. burlesque
- VI. crusade

- A) I , II , V
- B) III , VI , V
- C) II , III , IV
- D) IV , II ,I
- E) none of these