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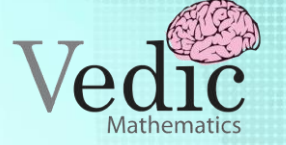
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#### DIRECTIONS:

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below. Certain words/phrases are printed in bold to help you to locate them while answering some of the questions.

#### PASSAGE

It is sad that in country after country, progress should become synonymous with an assault on nature. We who are a part of nature and dependent on her for every need, speak constantly about 'exploiting' nature. When the highest mountain in the world was climbed in 1953, Jawaharlal Nehru objected to the phrase conquest of Everest' which he thought was arrogant. Is it surprising that this lack of consideration and the constant need to prove one's superiority should be projected on to our treatment of our fellowmen? I remember Edward Thompson, a British writer and a good friend of India, once telling Mr. Gandhi that wildlife was fast disappearing. Remarked Mr. Gandhi: 'It is decreasing in the jungles but it is increasing in the towns'

On the one hand the rich look askance at our continuing poverty; on the other they warn us against their own methods. We do not wish to impoverish the environment any further and yet we cannot forget the grim poverty of large numbers of people. Are not poverty and need the great polluters? For instance, unless we are in a position to provide employment and purchasing power for the daily necessities of the tribal people and those who live in and around our jungles, we cannot prevent them from combing the forest for food and livelihood, from poaching and from despoiling the vegetation.

1) At the beginning of the passage, the writer expresses her opinion that in many countries progress is synonymous with

- a) utmost cruelty to nature.
- b) a balanced treatment of nature
- c) utmost care for nature

d) development

2) In the passage the term 'exploiting' nature suggests

- a) greed of man.
- b) destructive urge of man
- c) sarcasm
- d) regretfulness

3) Nehru objected to the phrase 'conquest of Everest' since

- a) Everest is unconquerable.
- b) it depicts Everest as a victim
- c) it sounds pompous and boastful
- d) it carries a war-like connotation

4) Gandhi's statement 'It is decreasing in the jungles but it is increasing in the towns.'

- a) Is a satirical comparison of man's callousness to the animals.
- b) Refers to man's selfishness
- c) Refers to flora and fauna
- d) Refers to wild animals' decrease in the jungle

5) The writer is of opinion that tribal people can be prevented from combing forest for food

- a) to provide employment and purchasing power for daily necessities.
- b) by deterring them from poaching and despoiling vegetation
- c) to increase purchasing power
- d) to provide employment

#### DIRECTIONS:

Read the following passages carefully and answer the questions given below them. Certain words are given in bold to help you to locate them while answering some of the questions.

#### PASSAGE

We all seek happiness but few, very-few, indeed, get it. We are unhappy partly because we desire much more than what we can hope to attain. Our countless desires





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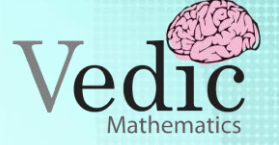
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are hard to be satisfied. And that is what makes us so sad in life.

The secret of happiness lies in the simplification of life. Simple living encourages high thinking. It leads to contentment. Contentment gives us inner wealth, the wealth of the mind and of the soul. A contented man devotes himself to virtues like truth, beauty, love, goodness, kindness and charity. By pursuing and inculcating these virtues, a man can feel true happiness.

I do not mean that for simplification of life, a man should become an ascetic. The happiness of a sadhu is of a negative kind. I want positive kind of happiness. For this I must live in the midst of life and faithfully carry out my responsibilities to my home and my country. But all this should be done in the spirit of selfless service. A man who wants to lead a happy life, should also make others happy. In making others happy he will taste real and lasting happiness. There is a kind of joy in serving others with virtuous motives, in sacrificing what one has for the good of others. An act of goodness is of itself an act of happiness.

The secret of perfect happiness lies in renunciation. Wealth may give us joy for a while and fame may provide us with fleeting excitement. But they cannot give us permanent happiness. Kings have everything to make them happy and yet they feel unhappy. It is because they do not practise renunciation.

There is a sense of joy in doing one's work honestly and efficiently. A research-worker feels joy in research and a journalist in writing. In doing one's duty sincerely, one feels peace of mind which is an important essence of happiness.

It is only by cultivating spirit of renunciation, selfsacrifice, contentment and sincere work that one can really be happy. The strings of misfortune spare none but they will not cow such a person.

6) What does a contented man do?

- a) He encounters the strings of misfortunes
- b) He gives up bad habits effortlessly
- c) He faces boldly the adversities of life
- d) He pursues and assimilated the basic virtues of life
- e) None of these

7) Which of the following is the correct chain of things, as mentioned in the passage, leading to happiness?

- a) High thinking, simple living, inner wealth, contentment
- b) Inner wealth, simple living, contentment, high thinking
- c) Simple living, high thinking, inner wealth, contentment
- d) Contentment, high thinking, simple living, inner wealth
- e) Simple living, high thinking, contentment, inner wealth

8) According to the passage, the essence of happiness lies in \_\_\_\_\_

- a) avoiding all unfortunate events
- b) adopting a simple life style
- c) matching one's abilities with the work undertaken
- d) worldly desires
- e) following the dictates of nature Dictate = an order or a rule that you must obey

9) We are unhappy partly because \_\_\_\_\_

- a) We have countless, unfulfilled desires
- b) Our lives have become extremely complicated
- c) We have lost moral and spiritual values
- d) We have no inner strength
- e) We carry several stresses and strains

10) Which of the following statements is NOT TRUE in the context of the passage?

- a) Multiplicity of desires make us unhappy.
- b) Making others happy makes one happy.
- c) Renunciation is the result of perfect happiness.







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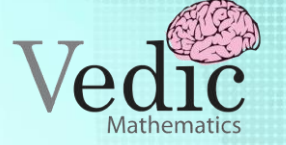
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- d) One feels peace of mind in doing one's duty sincerely  
e) An act of goodness is an act of happiness

11) Which of the following is **OPPOSITE** in meaning to the word 'fleeting' as used in the passage?

- a) fast  
b) momentary  
c) passing  
d) permanent  
e) pleasing

12) A man who wants to live a permanent happy life should \_\_\_\_\_

- a) pursue wealth and fame  
b) inculcate the virtues of life  
c) master the art of renunciation  
d) make others happy  
e) keep a tight control on his desires

13) Which of the following is **SIMILAR** in meaning as the word 'cow' as used in the passage?

- a) discard  
b) provoke  
c) conquer  
d) spare  
e) mould

14) Which of the following statements is **TRUE** in the context of the passage?

- a) Peace of mind is tangent to happiness  
b) Simple life is like a life of an ascetic  
c) Doing one's work sincerely hardly makes one happy  
d) Human beings seldom seek happiness  
e) A happy man is also not spared by the misfortunes

15) What according to the passage, is a positive kind of happiness?

- a) Leading a simple life of an ascetic  
b) Carrying out all worldly activities in the spirit of selfless service  
c) Love for life and a country  
d) Keeping ones motives and feelings under control  
e) None of these

**DIRECTIONS:**

A passage is given with 5 questions following it. Read the passage carefully and choose the best answer to each question out of the four alternatives.

#### PASSAGE

I had seen this road many years ago when my parents moved to Mundakotukurussi, our ancestral village. However, in those early years, I hadn't begun exploring the countryside. I stored the unknown road in my head under 'One Day I Will'. Ten years ago, when I recovered from a herniated disc, it was to discover that I had a useless left leg. Though I managed to lose the limp, I hated not being able to stride around as I used to. I needed a challenge to tell myself that I wasn't going to buckle to a creature called sciatica. Thus the 'One Day I Will' arrived.

"Where does the road by the medical shop lead to?" I asked my parents while visiting them next. "Chalavara," they said. "It's not an easy road to walk on," my father added. "There are too many ups and downs." Chalavara was a superior grade of a village as compared to Mundakotukurussi, with a high school, a fine library, ATMs and several shops. But it also has two approach roads. The one I had chosen was a narrow back road used by the locals and that settled it for me. I needed to know for myself I could walk a road that wasn't going to be easy. And the next day, I would get up and walk that road again.

16) What is 'sciatica'?

- a) Name of a real place  
b) A herniated disc  
c) A type of animal  
d) Name of an imaginary place

17) Where did the forefathers of the writer live?

- a) Bengaluru  
b) Out of India  
c) Chalavara  
d) Mundakotukurussi





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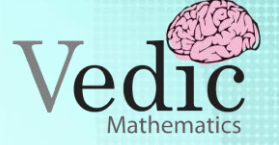
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18) What disability did the writer suffer due to the herniated disc?

- a) Depression
- b) Poor visibility
- c) A useless left leg
- d) Loss of memory

19) One Day I Will is the title of?

- a) The unknown own road
- b) A path famous with
- c) A village
- d) A tourist place

20) What makes Chalavara better than Mundakotukurussi?

- a) It is the place where the writer's ancestors were born
- b) It is the place where the writer would walk when he was young
- c) It has a high school, a fine library, ATMs and several shops
- d) It is the place where the writer went to school

#### DIRECTIONS:

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below. Certain words/phrases are printed in bold to help you to locate them while answering some of the questions.

#### PASSAGE

As I stepped out of the train I felt unusually solitary since I was the only passenger to alight. I was accustomed to arriving in the summer, when holiday-makers throng coastal resorts and this was my first visit when the season was over. My destination was a little village which was eight miles by road. It took only a few minutes for me to come to the foot of the cliff path. When I reached the top I had left all signs of habitation behind me. I was surprised to notice that the sky was already a flame with the sunset. It seemed to be getting dark amazingly quickly. I was at a loss to account for the exceptionally early end of daylight since I did not think I had walked unduly slowly. Then I recollected

that on previous visits I had walked in high summer and how it was October.

All at once it was night. The track was grassy and even in daylight showed up hardly at all. I was terrified of hurtling over the edge of the cliff to the rocks below. I felt my feet squelching and sticking in something soggy. Then I bumped into a little clump of trees that loomed up in front of me. I climbed up the nearest trunk and managed to find a tolerably comfortable fork to sit on. The waiting was spent by my attempts to identify the little stirrings and noises of animal life that I could hear. I grew colder and colder and managed to sleep only in uneasy fitful starts. At last when the moon came up I was on my way again.

21) The writer felt unusually solitary because

- a) there was no one to meet him.
- b) his destination was a little village eight miles away
- c) he was missing the company of other holiday-makers
- d) he was feeling very lonely without his family

22) "I left all signs of habitation behind me." This means that he

- a) had just passed a remote village.
- b) had come very far from places where people lived
- c) was in front of a large collection of cottages
- d) came to a place where there were very few houses

23) I became darker than the writer expected because

- a) he had walked unduly slowly.
- b) the train arrived later than usual
- c) the nights are longer in October than mid summer
- d) the nights are shorter in autumn than in summer

24) The writer found it difficult to keep to the path because of

- a) poor visibility and dew on grass.
- b) the darkness and his slow pace
- c) poor visibility and grassy track
- d) the darkness and narrowness of the path





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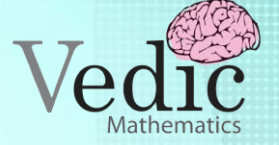
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25) When he settled himself on the fork of the tree the writer \_\_\_\_\_

- a) tried to sleep but without much success.
- b) was too afraid to sleep
- c) was disturbed by noises of animals
- d) had a sound sleep

#### DIRECTIONS:

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below. Certain words/phrases are printed in bold to help you to locate them while answering some of the questions.

#### PASSAGE

Nature is an infinite source of beauty. Sunrise and sunset, mountains and rivers, lakes and glaciers, forests and fields provide joy and bliss to the human mind and heart for hours together. Everything in nature is splendid and divine. Everyday and every season of the year has a peculiar beauty to unfold. Only one should have eyes to behold it and a heart to feel it like the English poet William Wordsworth who after seeing daffodils said: "And then my heart with pleasure fills and dances with the daffodils".

Nature is a great teacher. The early man was thrilled with beauty and wonders of nature. The Aryans worshipped nature. One can learn the lessons in the vast school of nature.

Unfortunately the strife, the stress and the tension of modern life have made people immune to beauties of nature. Their life is so full of care that they have no time to stand and stare. They cannot enjoy the beauty of flowing rivers, swinging trees, flying birds and majestic mountains and hills. There is however, a cry to go back to village from the concrete and artificial jungle of cities. Hence the town planners of today pay special attention to provide enough number of natural scenic spots in town planning. To develop a balanced personality, one needs to have a healthy attitude which

can make us appreciate and enjoy the beauty of nature.

There is other balm to soothe our tired soul and listless mind than the infinite nature all around us. We should enjoy it fully to lead a balanced and harmonious life, full of peace and tranquility.

26) Which of the following words has the SAME meaning as the word 'care' as used in the passage?

- a) Pleasure
- b) Needs
- c) Want
- d) Grief

27) Choose the word which is most OPPOSITE in meaning of the word 'unfold' as used in the passage?

- a) Perpetuate
- b) Describe
- c) Conceal
- d) Declare

28) Which of the following statements is not made in the passage about Nature?

- a) The early man was scared of Nature
- b) Nature is a great teacher
- c) Everything in nature is splendid and divine
- d) Nature is an infinite source of beauty

29) What is needed to develop balanced personality?

- a) Going back to villages
- b) Healthy attitude
- c) Reading poetry
- d) Interpersonal skills

30) Why do people not enjoy the beauty of Nature ?

- a) They are afraid of nature
- b) Their life is full of worries and tensions
- c) They do not consider nature as balm to soothe their tired minds
- d) They are running after material pleasures

31) What should we do to enjoy tranquil life ?

- a) Enjoy the nature around us
- b) Lead a disciplined and dedicated life
- c) Believe that nature is infinite source of beauty







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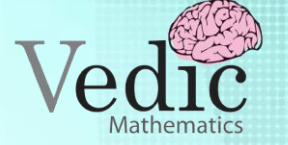
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d) Get totally immersed in our daily routine

**32) What are the town planners doing today?**

- a) Making efforts to inculcate healthy attitude among people
- b) Supporting the cry to go back to villages
- c) Establishing balance between concrete and artificial jungle of cities
- d) Providing facilities for enjoying nature

**33) According to the author of the passage, Nature:**

- a) is abundantly glorious and divine
- b) brings uniformity in all seasons
- c) is the creator of this universe
- d) is the ultimate salvation of man

#### DIRECTIONS:

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it. Certain words in the passage are printed in bold to help you to locate them easily while answering some of the questions.

#### PASSAGE

Political ploys Initially hailed as masterstrokes often end up as flops. The Rs. 60,000 crore farm loan waiver announced In the budget writes off 100% of overdoes of small and marginal farmers holding up to two hectares, and 25% of overdoes of larger farmers. While India has enjoyed 8%9% GDP growth for the past few years, the boom has bypassed many rural areas and farmer distress and suicides have made newspaper headlines. Various attempts to provide relief (employment guarantee scheme, public distribution system) have made little impact, thanks to huge leakages from the governments lousy delivery systems. So, many economists think the loan waiver is a worthwhile alternative to provide relief. However the poorest rural folk are landless laborers, who get neither farm loans nor waivers.

Half of the small and marginal farmers get no loans from banks and depend entirely on moneylenders, and will not benefit. Besides, rural India is full of the family holdings rather than Individual holdings and family holdings will typically be much larger than two hectares even for dirt poor farmers, why will, therefore, be denied the 100% waiver. It will thus fall In both economic and political objectives. IRDP loans to .the rural poor In the 1980s demonstrated that crooked bank officials demand bribes amounting to one third the Intended benefits. Very few of the intended beneficiaries who merited relief received it, After the last farm loan waiver will similarly slow down fresh loans to deserving farmers. While over dues to cooperatives may be higher, economist Surjit Bhalla says less than 1 5% of farmer loans to banks are overdue I.e. over dues exist for only 2.25 million out of 90 million farmers. If so, then the 95% who have repaid loans will not benefit. They will be angry at being penalised for honesty. The budget thus grossly overestimates the number of beneficiaries , It also underestimates the negative effects of the waiver encouraging willful , default in the future and discouraging fresh bank lending for some years. Instead of trying to reach the needy, through a plethora of leaky schemes we should transfer cash directly to the needy using new technology like biometric smart cards, which are now being used in many countries, and mobile phones bank accounts.

Then benefits can go directly to phone accounts operable only by those with biometric cards, ending the massive leakages of current schemes. The political benefits of the loan waiver have also been exaggerated since if only a small fraction of farm families benefit , and many of these have to pay bribes to get the actual benefit, will the waiver really be a massive vote winner ? Members of Joint families will feel aggrieved that, despite having less than one hectare per head , their family holding is too large ,to qualify for the 100% waiver All finance ministers, of central or state governments, give away freebies in their last budget





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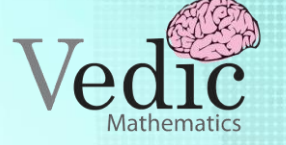
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hoping to win electoral regards . Yet, four fifth of all incumbent governments are voted out. This shows that beneficiaries of favors are not notably grateful , while those not so favored may feel aggrieved, and vote for the opposition. That seems to be Why election budgets constantly fall to win elections in India and the loan waiver will not change that pattern.

**34) What message will the loan waiver send to farmers who have repaid loans?**

- a) As opposed to money lenders banks are a safer and more reliable source of credit.
- b) It is beneficial to take loans from cooperatives since their rates of interest are lower.
- c) The Government will readily provide them with loans in the future.
- d) Honesty is the best policy.
- e) They will be angry at being penalised for honesty

**35) What is the authors suggestion to provide aid to farmers?**

- a) The government should increase the reach of the employment guarantee scheme.
- b) Government should ensure that loans waivers can be implemented over the number of years.
- c) Families should split their joint holding to take advantage of the loan waiver.
- d) Loans should be disbursed directly into bank account of the farmers using the latest technology.
- e) Rural infrastructure can be improved using schemes which were successful abroad.

**36) What was the outcome of IRDP loans to the rural poor?**

- a) The loans benefited dishonest moneylenders not landless laborers.
- b) It resulted In the Government sanctioning thrice the amount for the current loan waiver.
- c) The percentage of bank loan sanctioned to family owned farms increased.
- d) Corrupt bank officials were the unintended beneficiaries of the loans.

e) None of these

**37) What are the terms of the loan waiver?**

One-fourth of the overdue loans of landless labourers will be written off.

Rs. 60,000 crore loan waiver has been sanctioned for 25 million marginal farmers.

Any farmer with between 26 per cent to 100 per cent of their loan repayments overdue will be penalised.

- a) Only (B)
- b) All IA), (B)and (C)
- c) Only (A)
- d) Both (B) and (C)
- e) None of these

**38) What is the authors view of the loan waiver?**

- a) It is a Justified measure in view of the high suicide rate among landless laborers
- b) It will ensure that the benefits of India's high GDP are felt by the rural poor.
- c) It will have an adverse psychological impact on those who cannot avail of the waiver.
- d) It makes sound economic and political sense in the existing scenario.
- e) None of these

**39) Which of the following cannot be said about loan waiver?**

Small and marginal farmers will benefit the most.

The loan waiver penalises deserving farmers.

A large percentage i.e. ninety-five per cent of distressed farmers, will benefit

- a) Both (A) and (C)
- b) Both (B) and (C)
- c) Only (C)
- d) Only (A)
- e) None of these

**40) Which of the following will definitely be an impact of loan waivers?**

Family holdings will be split into individual holdings not exceeding one hectare.

The public distribution system will be revamped.

The opposition will definitely win the election.

- a) Only (A)
- b) Only (C)
- c) None
- d) Both (A) and (B)





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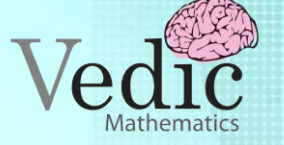
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e) All (A), (B) and (C)

**41) What impact will the loan waiver have on banks?**

- a) Loss of trust in banks by big farmers.
- b) Farmers will make it a habit to default on loans
- c) Banks have to bear the entire brunt of the write off.
- d) Corruption among bank staff will increase.
- e) None of these

**42) According to the author what is the governments motive in sanctioning the loan waiver?**

- a) To raise 90 million farmers out of Indebtedness.
- b) To ensure they will be re-elected
- c) To encourage farmers to opt for bank loans from moneylenders.
- d) To provide relief to those marginal farmers who have the means to but have not repaid their loans
- e) None of these

