We find that today the unity and integrity of the nation is threatened by the divisive forces of regionalism, linguism and communal loyalties which are gaining ascendancy in national life and seeking to tear apart and destroy national integrity. We tend to forget that India is one nation and we are all Indians first and Indians last. It is time we remind ourselves what the great visionary and builder of modern India Jawaharlal Nehru said, “Who dies if India lives, who lives if India dies?” We must realise, and this is unfortunately what many in public life tend to overlook, sometimes out of ignorance of the forces of history and sometimes deliberately with a view to promoting their self interest, that national interest must inevitably and forever prevail over any other considerations proceeding from regional, linguistic or communal attachments. The history of India over the past centuries bears witness to the fact that India was at no time a single political unit. Even during the reign of the Maurya dynasty, though a large part of the country was under the sovereignty of the Mauryan kings, there were considerable portions of the territory which were under the rule of independent kingdoms. So also during the Mughal rule which extended over large parts of the territory of India, there were independent rulers who enjoyed political sovereignty over the territories of their respective kingdoms. It is an interesting fact of history that India was forged into a nation, neither on account of a common language nor on account of the continued existence of a single political regime over its territories but on account of a common culture evolved over the centuries. It is cultural unity—something more fundamental and enduring than any other bond which may unite the people of a country together which has welded this country into a nation. But until the advent of the British rule, it was not constituted into a single political unit. There were, throughout the period of history for which we have fairly authenticated accounts, various kingdoms and principalities which were occasionally engaged in conflict with one another. During the British rule, India became a compact political unit having one single political regime over its entire territories and this led to the evolution of the concept of a nation. This concept of one nation took firm roots in the minds and hearts of the people during the struggle for independence under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi. He has rightly been called the Father of the Nation because it was he who awakened in the people of this country a sense of national consciousness and instilled in them a high sense of patriotism without which it is not possible to build a country into nationhood. By the time the Constitution of India came to be enacted, insurgent India, breaking a new path of non-violent revolution and fighting to free itself from the shackles of foreign domination, had emerged into nationhood and “the people of India” were inspired by a new enthusiasm, a high and noble spirit of sacrifice and above all, a strong sense of nationalism and in the Constitution which they framed. They set about the task of a strong nation based on certain cherished values for which they had fought.

Q1. The author has quoted Jawaharlal Nehru to emphasize the point that

(a) national interest must enjoy supreme importance

(b) India is going to survive even if the world is under the spell of destruction
(c) the world will be destroyed if India is on the threshold of destruction
(d) the survival of the world depends only upon the well-being of India
(e) None of these

Ans: a

Q2. What, according to the author, is the impact of the divisive forces on our nation?

(a) They promote a sense of regional pride.
(b) They help people to form linguistic groups.
(c) They separate groups of people and create enmity among them.
(d) They encourage among people the sense of loyalty to their community.
(e) They remind us of our national pride.

Ans: c

Q3. “Communal loyalties” have been considered by the author as

(a) a good quality to be cherished (b) of no consequence to the nation
(c) a very important aspect for nation-building
(d) a threat to the solidarity of the nation
(e) None of these

Ans: d

Q4. Which of the following was instrumental in holding the different people of India together?

(a) A common national language
(b) A common cultural heritage
(c) The endurance level of the people
(d) Fundamentalist bent of mind of the people
(e) None of these

Ans: b

Q5. The passage appears to have been written with the purpose of

(a) giving a piece of advice to politicians of free India
(b) assessing the patriotic values and sacrifices made by people for India’s freedom
(c) justifying the teaching of Mahatma Gandhi and its impact on the people
(d) giving a historical account of how India evolved as a nation
(e) None of these

Ans: e

Q6. History shows that India, which was not a political unit earlier, became so
(a) during the reign of Maurya dynasty
(b) during the Mughal rule
(c) after one-national-language policy was adopted
(d) during the regime of independent rulers
(e) during the British rule

Ans: e

Q7. The “people of India”, as highlighted by the author in the last sentence of the passage, refer to
(a) the people of one unified nation
(b) the subjects of several independent rulers
(c) the patriots who sacrificed themselves in the freedom struggle
(d) the people who were instrumental in writing the Constitution
(e) None of these

Ans: a

Q8. India’s insurgence was for
(a) breaking the path of non-violence
(b) having one common national language
(c) insisting on a unique cultural identity
(d) several independent sovereign rulers
(e) None of these

Ans: e
Q9. Which of the following statements is/ are definitely true in the context of the passage?

(I) The people of India had fought for certain values.

(II) The fight of the Indian people was for one common culture.

(III) The Indian people lacked sense of nationalism until they gained freedom.

(a) Only (I)
(b) Only (II)
(c) Only (III)
(d) Both (I) and (II)
(e) Both (I) and (III)

Ans: a

Q10. Choose the word which is most opposite in meaning to the word ‘attachments’ as used in the passage.

(a) predicaments
(b) hatred
(c) harmony
(d) mistrust
(e) loyalty

Ans: b

Directions (11-15): Read the following Passage, and answer the questions based on this passage.

The stubborn persistence of child malnutrition in India is one of the tragedies of our time. Many of us have long agonised over this preventable problem, and we continue to ask: why do half of our children not get enough or the right food or adequate care? Even in sub Saharan Africa, only 30 per cent of the children are malnourished, versus 50 per cent in South Asia. And this gap exists despite our much higher levels of per capita income, education and even safer water access. One-third of the babies in India are born with low birth weight compared to one-sixth in sub-Saharan Africa. This is heart breaking given the dramatic improvements in our agriculture, advances in literacy, and great strides in economic growth. For more than 20 years India has even sustained the greatest effort in history to improve nutritional standards, according to UNICEF, through its Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Programme. So it is not for lack of effort. Nor is it due to poverty, which has been steadily declining by one per cent a year for two decades. What accounts for this puzzle? In 1996, India’s famous physician nutritionist wrote a ground-breaking article on this called “The Asian
Enigma’. After considering different factors, including access to food and income and our vegetarianism, he concluded that the lower status of women might be the reason. The link between women’s status and child nutrition seems plausible. In many Indian homes, men eat first; women have to make do with leftovers. This is perhaps why 83 per cent of women in India suffer from iron deficiency anaemia versus 40 per cent in sub-Saharan Africa. A malnourished mother will give birth to a baby with low birth weight. Moreover, domestic work often forces a mother to delegate the chore of feeding solid food to her baby to older siblings. If women had more control over family income and decisions, they would devote them to better pre and post-natal care and to their children. So far this was the theory. But now a study by the International Food Policy Research Institute and Emory University seems to confirm this hypothesis. It brought together data from 36 developing countries, spanning over one hundred thousand children under the age of three and an equal number of women. It measured a woman’s position in the home—whether she works for cash, her age at marriage, and the difference in age and education between spouses. The study concludes that the lowly position of women in the family is the single most important reason for the gap in children’s nutrition between South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, followed by sanitation (lack of latrines) and urbanisation (slum living). I wonder why the position of women in India is worse than that of women in other societies. The report seemed to suggest that South Asian women were not so far behind African women as their inferior status too limited their ability to nurture children. I also wonder whether children’s well-being is only a woman’s issue or a family concern where men play a crucial role. I suspect there are no easy answers. Women everywhere suffer from lower status, but in India it appears to have devastating consequences. The policy implications are clear: if we want to reduce child malnutrition, we must combine our child programmes with efforts to improve the situation of women. To succeed, we need healthy children who’ll become tomorrow’s innovative adults. If we ignore gender inequality, we will continue to produce stunted children, wasted lives, and untold misery.

Q11. A hypothesis related to low birth weight has now been confirmed. According to this, the major reason for this state is

(a) Vegetarianism
(b) Illiteracy
(c) Illiteracy of women
(d) Status of women
(e) Slum living

Ans: d

Q12. Which type of scheme indicates that there was no lack of efforts in India for the last two decades to improve the situation?

(a) Literacy
(b) Rural Development
(c) Child Development
(d) Family Planning
(e) Poverty Alleviation

Ans: c

Q13. In which of the following areas is South Asia’s performance better than that of sub Saharan Africa?

(a) Safer drinking water
(b) Lower infant mortality rate
(c) Higher status of women
(d) Higher birth weight of children
(e) None of these

Ans: a

Q14. According to the author, the crux is

(a) women have lower status everywhere as compared to men.
(b) improvement of sanitation and slum conditions.
(c) that in India, the per capita income and education level of women is very low.
(d) low status of women has a horrifying result on child malnutrition.
(e) None of these

Ans: d

Q15. Which of the following was one of the measures of women’s position in the home?

(a) Number of children
(b) Difference in husband’s and wife’s income.
(c) Weights of child at birth
(d) Age of marriage
(e) None of these

Ans: d
Q16. Choose the meaning of the idiom:

After promising to go to Beth’s parent’s cabin for the weekend, Molly got invited to the coolest party of the year and now Molly is really in a pickle.

a. This means that no matter what happens things are going to work out for Molly.
b. This means that Molly is stuck in a difficult situation.
c. This means that Molly has become really popular.
d. This means that Molly smells like vinegar.

Ans: b

Q17. Choose the meaning of the idiom:

Even though Lucas had been bullying the new kid since the beginning of the year, Lucas shed his crocodile tears after the principal caught him and threatened him with suspension.

a. This means that Lucas genuinely feels sorry for his actions.
b. This means that Lucas display of sorrow was insincere.
c. This means that Lucas was afraid of the principal.
d. This means that Lucas was afraid of the new kid.

Ans: b

Q18. The increase in the number of reality shows on television channels bolsters the contention that channels owners are more interested in boosting their revenues by pandering to voyeuristic tendencies of viewers.

The premise behind the above argument is that

A. reality shows on television channels are a recent phenomenon.
B. everything that a channel broadcasts should be educational.
C. reality shows on television appeal to the basic instincts of viewers.
D. reality shows make more money than other types of programs.
E. the channel owners can influence what is watched by the viewers.

Ans: d

Q19. Perhaps this war will pass like the others which divided us, leaving us dead, killing us along with the killers but the shame of this time puts its burning fingers to our faces. Who will erase the ruthlessness hidden in innocent blood?
Which of the following is certainly not implied in the above verse?

A. Killers also get killed in war.
B. Humanity gets divided by war and reunites afterwards in peace.
C. This war is especially ruthless.
D. This war is shameful to the entire humanity.
E. None can obliterate the ruthlessness of this war.

Ans: b

Q.20 As the information on air warfare tasks and stressors was being gathered and scenarios were being developed, a parallel effort ensued to identify a test bed simulation for air warfare teams. To maintain experimental control, it was determined by the designers that choosing a low physical fidelity simulation was acceptable as long as cognitive fidelity in a team simulation was maintained through subjecting soldiers to pressure situations in a simulated combat setting and attempting to ensure that naturalistic decision making of soldiers would not be compromised.

Which of the following statements, if true, weakens the logic of the above passage?

i. A number of studies have shown that high levels of physical stress lead to a weakening of the decision making capabilities of human beings.
ii. It has been convincingly demonstrated by various studies that human beings by nature are not designed to adapt to high levels of mental stress.
iii. Numerous studies have shown that simulated environments can be designed to be good substitutes for real life combat situations.
iv. Studies have shown that simulated exercises for armed forces personnel have tended to induce a systematic type of “correct” and common behaviour among the trainees.
v. Officers, when short-listing soldiers for critical operations, pick up battle-hardened soldiers rather than those who have been trained through simulations.

A. i and ii
B. ii and iii
C. i and iv
D. i, ii, iv, and v
E. ii, iii, iv and v

Ans: a
Q.21  Randomness has to be dealt with successfully to ensure a better control over one’s life. Before one can deal effectively with randomness, one must acknowledge its existence.

The above statements imply the following except:

A. Randomness can be dealt with effectively.
B. If one acknowledges the existence of randomness, one will be able to deal with it effectively.
C. One can deal effectively with randomness if and only if one acknowledges its existence.
D. Everyone lives in a random world.
E. If one does not acknowledge the existence of randomness, one cannot deal with it effectively.

Ans: b

Q.22  "It was AC Milan's success in Europe in the sixties that introduced the 'libero' as the Italian default and, a quarter of a century later, it was AC Milan's success in Europe that killed it off."

Which of the following was not implied in the above sentence?

A. AC Milan was successful in Europe in the sixties with the help of a 'libero'
B. AC Milan was successful in Europe in the late eighties without a 'libero'
C. The ‘libero’ was an Italian default for almost a quarter of a century.
D. AC Milan was not successful in Europe for almost a quarter of a century.
E. The Italians seldom used a 'libero' since late eighties.

Ans: d

Q.23  Fill the blank with a suitable article:

Did you go to the Thai restaurant?

P2: No, I went to __________ place where you and I normally go.

a. A
b. An
c. The
d. No article

Ans: c

Q.24  Fill the blank with a suitable article:

This is __________ best Mexican restaurant in the country.
a. A
b. An
c. The
d. No article

Ans: c

Q.25 Fill the blank with a suitable preposition:

They arrived Bombay__________8:00p.m.

a. At
b. For
c. Since
d. Till

Ans: a

Q.26 Fill the blank with a suitable preposition:

That musician is blind _________ one eye.

a. In
b. With
c. Off
d. To

Ans: a

Q.27 Change the voice of the following sentence:

They were giving a performance.

a. A performance had been given by them.
b. A performance has been given by them.
c. A performance was being given by them.
d. A performance is being given by them.

Ans: c

Q.28 Change the voice of the following sentence:

Government should ban smoking.

a. Smoking may be banned by the government.
b. Smoking will be banned by the government.
c. Smoking shall be banned by the government.
d. Smoking should be banned by the government.
Q. 29 Change the speech of the following sentence:

She asked me if I would go to the store with her.

She asked me, ______________________________

a. “Will you go to the store with me?”
b. “Can you go to the store with me?”
c. “Are you going to the store with me?”
d. “Would you go to the store with me?”

Ans: a

Q. 30 Change the speech of the following sentence:

He asked us what movie we were watching.

He asked us, ______________________________

a. “What movie is you watching?”
b. “What movie are you watching?”
c. “What movie will you be watching?”
d. “What movie have you watched?”

Ans: b

Q. 31 Fill the blank with a suitable option:

With her ______ eyesight, Krystyna spotted a trio of deer on the hillside and she reduced the speed of her car.

a. inferior
b. keen
c. impressionable
d. ductile
e. conspiratorial

Ans: b

Q. 32 Fill the blank with a suitable option:
With a(n) ______ grin, the boy quickly slipped the candy into his pocket without his mother’s knowledge.

a. jaundiced
b. nefarious
c. stereotypical
d. sentimental
e. impartial

Ans: b

Q.33 Fill the blank with a suitable option:

Her ______ display of tears at work did not impress her new boss, who felt she should try to control her emotions.

a. maudlin
b. meritorious
c. precarious
d. plausible
e. schematic

Ans: a

Q.34 Fill the blank with a suitable option:

Johan argued, “If you know about a crime but don’t report it, you are ______ in that crime because you allowed it to happen.”

a. acquitted
b. steadfast
c. tenuous
d. complicit
e. nullified

Ans: d

Q.35 Fill the blank with a suitable option:
The authorities, fearing a _____ of their power, called for a military state in the hopes of restoring order.

a. subversion  
b. premonition  
c. predilection  
d. infusion  
e. inversion  

Ans: a

Q.36 Choose the correct option from the given choices. You have to find out the pair that has the same relationship at the original pair given in the question.

Read: Legible
a) Hear: Audible  
b) Qualify: Eligible  
c) See: illegible  
d) Require: Admissible  
e) None of these  

Ans: a

Q.37 Choose the correct option from the given choices. You have to find out the pair that has the same relationship at the original pair given in the question.

Sale: Purchase
a) Give: Receive  
b) Shop: Market  
c) Cash: Credit  
d) Profit: Loss  
e) None of these  

Ans: a

Q.38 Choose the correct option from the given choices. You have to find out the pair that has the same relationship at the original pair given in the question.
Water: Thirst
a) Ripe: Harvest
b) Book: Ignorance
c) Needle: Stitch
d) Rain: Throat
e) None of these

Ans: d

Q.39 Choose the synonym of the following word:
August

a. Common
b. Ridiculous
c. Dignified
d. Petty

Ans: c

Q.40 Choose the antonym of the following word:
Exodus

a. Influx
b. Home-coming
c. Return
d. Restoration

Ans: a

Q.41 Sentences given in each question, when properly sequenced form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labelled with a letter. Choose the most logical order of sentences from amongst the four choices given to construct a paragraph.

A. Some of the worst cancers aren’t detected by screening.

B. The only way to be sure is to look at the results of randomized trials comparing cancer deaths in screened and unscreened people.

C. So how can we be confident that getting a screening test regularly is a good idea?

D. Even when screening “works” in such trials, the size of the benefit observed is surprisingly low: Generally, regular screening reduces fatalities from various cancers between 15 percent and 25 percent.
Q.42 Sentences given in each question, when properly sequenced form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labelled with a letter. Choose the most logical order of sentences from amongst the four choices given to construct a paragraph.

1. The ears are fragile instruments.
   A. These impulses travel via the auditory nerve to the brain, where they are interpreted as, say, words, music or an approaching vehicle.
   B. When sound waves enter the ear, they cause the eardrum to vibrate.
   C. These in turn stimulate auditory nerve fibers, each attuned to a different frequency.
   D. The vibrations are transmitted to the cochlea, in the inner ear, where fluid carries them to neatly organized rows of hair cells.
   6. Damage to this delicate apparatus results from both volume and length of exposure to sound.

   a. BCAD
   b. DABC
   c. BDCA
   d. BDAC

   Ans: c

Q.43 Sentences given in each question, when properly sequenced form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labelled with a letter. Choose the most logical order of sentences from amongst the four choices given to construct a paragraph.

1. Scientists used to think vagal tone was largely stable, like your height in adulthood.
   A. To appreciate why this matters, here’s a quick anatomy lesson.
B. Subtle variations in your heart rate reveal the strength of this brain-heart connection, and as such, heart-rate variability provides an index of your vagal tone.

C. Your brain is tied to your heart by your vagus nerve.

D. Our data show that this part of you is plastic, too, and altered by your social habits.

6. By and large, the higher your vagal tone the better.

a. CDAB
b. BCAD
c. ACBD
d. DACB

Ans: d

Q.44 Spot the error in the following sentence:

One of the main reasons for elephant poaching (a)/ are the profits received from (b)/ selling the ivory tusks. (c)/ no error (d)

a. A
b. B
c. C
d. D

Ans: b

Q.45 Spot the error in the following sentence:

Batik cloth from Bali, blue and white ceramics from Cambodia, (a)/ and a bocce ball from Turin has made (b)/ Hannah’s room the talk of the dorm. (c)/ no error (d)

a. A
b. B
c. C
d. D

Ans: b

Q.46 Spot the error in the following sentence:

The board of directors, ignoring (a)/ the wishes of the neighbourhood, (b)/ have voted to allow further development. (c)/ no error (d)

a. A
b. B
Q.47 Identify the correct sentence from the given options:

a. Looking out, we saw several birds out our window.

b. Looking out our window, we saw several birds.

c. We saw several birds looking out our window.

d. None of these.

a. a

b. b

c. c

d. d

Ans: b

Q.48 Fill the blank with the correct option:

She ____________ to say that she disagreed.

a. heard

b. was heard

c. had heard

d. had been hearing

Ans: b

Q.49 Spot the error in the following sentence:

Some people would rather (a)/ not eat eggs at all than (b)/ if they can only have egg whites. (c)/ no error (d)

a. A

b. B

c. C

d. D

Ans: c

Q.50 Fill the blank with the correct option:

Which country has a __________ pollution, China or India ?
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a. large  
b. more larger  
c. larger  
d. largest

Ans: c