Rural India face serious shortages – power, water, health facilities, roads, etc. – these are known and recognized. However, the role of technology in solving these and other problems is barely acknowledged and the actual availability of technology in rural areas is marginal. The backbone of the rural economy is agriculture; which also provides sustenance to over half the country’s population. The “Green Revolution” of the 1970s was, in fact, powered by the scientific work in various agricultural research institutions. Which some fault the Green Revolution for excessive exploitation of water and land resources through overuse of fertilizers, it did bring about a wheat surplus and prosperity in certain pockets of the country. In rural India today, there is a dire inadequacy of both science (i.e. knowledge) and technology (which derives from science and manifests itself in physical form). The scope to apply technology to both farm and non-farm activities in rural areas is huge, as are the potential benefits. In fact, crop yields are far lower than what they are in demonstration farms, where science and technology are more fully applied. Technologies that reduce power consumption of pumps are vital; unfortunately, their use is minimal, since agricultural power is free or largely subsidized. Similarly, there is little incentive to optimize through technology or otherwise-water use, especially in irrigated areas (a third of total arable land), given employment and incomes, but at present deployment of technology is marginal. Cold storage and cold-chains for transportation to market is of great importance for many agricultural products-particularly, fruits and vegetables-but are non-existent. These are clearly technologies with an immediate return on investment, and benefits for all; the farmer, the end-consumer, the technology provider. However, regulatory and structural barriers are holding back investments. Power is a key requirement in rural areas, for agricultural as well as domestic uses. Technology can provide reliable power at comparatively low cost in a decentralized manner. However this needs to be upgraded and scaled in a big way, with emphasis on renewable and non-polluting technologies. Reliable and low cost means of transporting goods and people is an essential need for rural areas. The bullock-cart and the tractor-trailer are present vehicles of choice. Surely, technology can provide a better, cheaper and more efficient solution? Information related to commodity prices, agricultural practices, weather, etc., are crucial for the farmer. Technology can provide these through technology mobile phones, which is a proven technology; however the challenge to ensure connectivity remains. Thus there is a pressing need for technology as currently economic growth-though skewed and iniquitous-has created an economically attractive market in rural India.

Q1. According to the author, which of the following is/are the problem/s facing India’s rural population?

(A) Unavailability of healthcare facilities.

(B) The technological advancements which have been borrowed from abroad have not been suitably adapted to the Indian scenario.

(C) Lack of awareness about the importance of utilizing technology in the agricultural sector.
(a) Only (A)
(b) Only (C)
(c) Both (A) & (B)
(d) Both (A) & (C)
(e) None of these

Ans: d

Q2. Which of the following is not an impact of the Green Revolution?

(a) Over utilization of water resources
(b) Application of scientific research only in demonstration farms
(c) Wealth creation restricted to certain areas
(d) Damage caused to land by inordinate use to fertilizers
(e) Supply of wheat surpassed demand

Ans: b

Q3. Why is there no motivation to reduce power consumption?

(a) Freely available renewable sources of energy
(b) Government will have to subsidize the cost technology required to reduce power consumption.
(c) Power distribution has been decentralized.
(d) The cost of implementing power saving technology is exorbitant for the customer.
(e) None of these

Ans: a

Q4. What effect will the implementation of post-harvest technologies such as cold storages have?

(a) Regulatory procedures will have to be more stringent.
(b) Prices of commodities like fruits and vegetables will fall since there is no wastage from spoilage.
(c) Incomes of rural population will fall.
(d) Pollution of the environment.
(e) None of these

Ans: e
Q5. The author’s main objective in writing the passage is to

(a) censure scientists for not undertaking research
(b) criticize farmers for not utilizing experimental, low cost post harvesting technology
(c) exhort the government to subsidize the cost of utilizing technology
(d) promote a second green revolution
(e) advocate broadening the scope of research and use of technology in agriculture.

Ans: e

Q6. Which of the following is not true in the context of the passage?

(A) In recent times the benefits of science and technology have not been felt in agriculture.
(B) The current means of rural transportation are ideal i.e. low cost and non-polluting.
(C) Agriculture provides livelihood to over 50 percent of the Indian population.
(a) Both (A) & (B)
(b) Only (B)
(c) Only (C)
(d) Both (A) & (C)
(e) None of these

Ans: b

Q7. What has hampered investment in postharvest technologies?

(a) Cost of implementing such technology is higher than the returns
(b) No tangible benefits to technology suppliers
(c) Obstacles from statutory authorities
(d) Rapid economic growth has drawn investors away from agriculture to more commercially viable sectors.
(e) None of these

Ans: c

Q8. What is the role of mobile technology in the rural economy?

(A) It will not play a large role since the technology is largely untested.
(B) It provides opportunities for farmers to manipulate commodity prices.

(C) It will largely be beneficial since such technology is cheap.

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

Ans: e

Q9. Which of the following is currently not a threat to the rural economy?
(A) Inadequate rural infrastructure such as roads.
(B) Excessive utilization of technology.
(C) Fluctuating power supply.

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

Ans: d

Q10. Fault
(a) Defense
(b) Offend
(c) Imperfect
(d) Blame
(e) Sin

Ans: d

Directions (11-15): Read the following Passage, and answer the questions based on this passage.
Two principles are involved in the controversy about the presence of foreign controlled media in the country; the free flow of ideas and images across national borders and the need to safeguard the national interest and preserve cultural autonomy. Both are valid but both are at loggerheads because each has been used to promote less lofty goals. The first principle conforms to a moral imperative: freedom to expression cannot rhyme with restrictions imposed by any government. But the free flow rhetoric also clouds the fact that the powerful Western, and especially American media, can and often do present, subtly or brazenly, news in a manner that promotes Western political, ideological and strategic interests. Besides, Western entertainment programmes present lifestyles and values that run counter to the lifestyles and values cherished by traditional societies. All this explains why so many Indian newspapers, magazines and news agencies have sought protection from the courts to prevent foreign publications and news agencies from operating in the country. Their arguments are weak on two counts. As the bitter debate on a new world information and communication order demonstrated in the late seventies and early eighties, many of those who resent Western ‘invasion’ in the fields of information and culture are no great friends of democracy. Secondly, the threat of such an ‘invasion’ has been aired by those media groups in the developing countries that fear that their business interests will be harmed if Western groups, equipped with large financial and technological resources and superior management skills, are allowed to operate in the country without let.

The fear is valid but it goes against the grain of the economic reform programme. The presence of foreign newspapers and television channels will increase competition, which, in the course of time, can only lead to the upgradation of dynamic Indian newspapers and television channels, even while they drive the rest out of the market. One way to strike a balance between the two antagonistic principles would be to allow foreign media entry into the country, provided the India state treats them at par with the domestic media on all fronts. On the import of technology, for instance, foreign media cannot be allowed duty concessions denied to their Indian counterparts. Foreign media will also have to face legal consequences should they run foul of Indian laws. Why, for example, should the BBC, or Time magazine or The Economist get away by showing a map of Kashmir, which is at variance with the official Indian map? Why should they go scot-free when they allow secessionists and terrorists to air their views without giving the government the right to reply, or when they depict sexually explicit scenes, which would otherwise not be cleared by the Censor Board? Since the government can do precious little in the matter, especially about satellite broadcasts, what if it should consider attaching the properties of the offending parties? Demands of this kind are bound to be voiced unless New Delhi makes it clear to the foreign media that they will have to respect Indian susceptibilities, especially where it concerns the country’s integrity and its culture. It may be able to derive some inspiration from France’s successful attempts in the recent GATT to protect its cinematography industry.

Q1. Which of the following is one of the points weakening the argument to prevent the entry of foreign media?

(a) Such entry would be against traditional culture
(b) The threat being voiced by those whose business will be harmed by such an entry
(c) The arguments being put forth are at loggerheads
(d) The foreign media may not be treated on par with the domestic media
(e) None of these
Ans: b

Q2. What will be the impact of increasing competition?
(a) The domestic media will not be able to withstand it
(b) The foreign media will not be allowed duty concessions on import of technology
(c) It will improve Indian newspapers and television
(d) The Indian newspapers and news agencies will seek protection from the court
(e) None of these
Ans: c

Q3. Which of the following has been cited as having succeeded in protecting country?
(a) GATT
(b) News Agencies
(c) Television
(d) Cultural traditions
(e) None of these
Ans: e

Q4. Which of the following has been the major recommendation regarding the entry of foreign media?
(a) It should not be allowed
(b) It should be welcomed without putting any restrictions
(c) Allow entry, treating them on par with domestic media
(d) Allow entry, provided they do not ask for duty concessions on import of technology
(e) None of these
Q5. In the controversy involving two principles regarding allowing foreign media, which of the following is against its entry?

(a) Free flow of ideas
(b) Preserve culture
(c) Government restrictions
(d) Security across national borders
(e) Western ideology

Ans: b

Q16. Choose the meaning of the idiom:

The researchers at the renowned UC Berkeley have a long history of pushing the envelope in regards to computer science.

a. This means that these researchers have long followed behind others in the field.

b. This means that these researchers have long led efforts in the field.

c. This means that these researchers have kept up with trends in the field.

d. This means that these researchers have long attempted to do away with paper record keeping.

Ans: b

Q17. Choose the meaning of the idiom:

While Kristie's cake pops are both delicious and artistic, nobody can hold a candle to her pecan pie.

a. This means that Kristie's pecan pie is not visually pleasing.

b. This means that Kristie's pecan pie is very hot when it comes out of the oven.

c. This means that Kristie's pecan pie is better than all others.

d. This means that Kristie's pecan pie is in serious need of improvements.

Ans: c

Q18. The 2001 census showed a sharp fall in the literacy rate compared to 1991, but an increase in the literacy rate by 2006 suggests that between 1991 and 2006 India progressed in terms of literacy rate.

Which of the following statements, if true, best refutes the above argument?
A. One of the causes of more literacy is the increased population growth rate.

B. Although there was no census in 2006 the information about the literacy rate is reliable.

C. Many of those who were illiterate in 2001 became literate by 2006.

D. The rate of fall in literacy rate between 1991 and 2001 was more than the rate of rise in literacy rate between 2001 and 2006.

E. The rise in literacy rate between 2001 and 2006 was due to persistent campaign on television and FM radio.

Ans: d

Q19. Alfredo, Diego and Lionel are discussing Argentinean football. Alfredo: Argentina was a football powerhouse. Diego: Argentina is a football powerhouse. Lionel: Argentina will be a football powerhouse.

Which of the following cannot be inferred from the above conversation?

A. Lionel is optimistic about the future.

B. Alfredo, Diego and Lionel may disagree on certain things.

C. Diego views the present positively.

D. Alfredo completely disagrees with Diego.

E. Alfredo has positive feelings about the past.

Ans: d

Q.20 Ethnologists, people who study animal behaviour, have traditionally divided an organism’s actions into two categories: learned behaviour (based on experience) and instinctive behaviour (based on genotype). Some current scholars reject this distinction, claiming that all behaviour is a predictable interaction of experience and genotype.

Which of the following, if true, most strengthens the arguments made in the sentence above?

A. All organisms with identical genotypes and identical experience sometimes respond differently in different situations.

B. All organisms with different genotypes and identical experience always respond identically in identical situations.

C. All organisms with similar genotypes and similar experience always respond differently in identical situations.

D. All organisms with identical genotypes and identical experience always respond identically in identical situations.
E. All organisms with identical genotypes and different experience always respond identically in identical situations

 Ans: d

Q.21 The benefits of psychotherapy result not only from the advice the therapist gives but also from the supportive relationship offered to the patient. Even though this relationship may cost large amounts of money over many years, most patients interpret the therapist's concern for them as genuine and identify this caring relationship as the primary factor in improving their mental health. However, recent studies have found that only eight percent of therapist/patient relationships continue after the patient terminates formal paid visits.

Which of the following is in accordance with the ideas contained in the passage? Choose the best option.

A. therapists are equally concerned with moneymaking and their patients' wellbeing.

B. reading published articles of reputed psychotherapists will hardly be beneficial.

C. therapists can always treat mental illness without the use of prescription drugs.

D. therapists who terminate relationships are likely to improve mental health of their patients.

E. eight percent of patients will continue to improve after termination of therapy.

Ans: a

Q.22 Most of the Asian countries have trade-deficit with China. Bangladesh's trade deficit with China this year has increased by 35%. Despite large increases in exports to China, Indonesia's trade deficit with China continues to increase. So does that of South Korea, home of Samsung Electronics, one of the world's largest manufacturers of electronic gadgets.

Which of the following, if true, would be most inconsistent with the above passage?

A. China is the largest manufacturer of parts of electronic gadgets and Samsung Electronics imports parts for their gadgets from China.

B. Exports to Bangladesh are insignificant in proportion of China's total exports.

C. Exports to Indonesia from China decreased.

D. Indonesia's chief exports are natural resources.

E. China has trade deficit with Iran.

Ans: c

Q.23 Fill the blank with a suitable article:

What does he do?
He sells ________ cars.

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

Ans: d

Q.24 Fill the blank with a suitable article:

Did you see ________ man that I told you about?

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

Ans: c

Q.25 Fill the blank with a suitable preposition:

Maximo always entertains us ________ stories of his experiences.

a. By  
b. With  
c. For  
d. About

Ans: b

Q.26 Fill the blank with a suitable preposition:

Phoenix is located in the state ________ Arizona.

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

Ans: d

Q.27 Change the voice of the following sentence:

I will finish the job tomorrow.

a. The job will be finishing by me tomorrow.  
b. The job will be finished by me tomorrow.  
c. The job will have been finished by me tomorrow.
Q.28 Change the voice of the following sentence:
He is eating ice cream.

a. Ice cream is been eaten by him.
b. Ice cream has been eaten by him.
c. Ice cream was being eaten by him.
d. Ice cream is being eaten by him.

Ans: d

Q. 29 Change the speech of the following sentence:
My mom asked us if we wanted ice cream.

My mom asked us, ______________________________

a. “Do you want ice cream?”
b. “Do you wanted ice cream?”
c. “Did you wanting ice cream?”
d. “Did you wanted ice cream?”

Ans: a

Q.30 Change the speech of the following sentence:
My teacher asked me what my name was.

My teacher asked, ______________________________

a. “What are your name?”
b. “What is your name?”
c. “What your name is?”
d. “What is my name?”

Ans: b

Q.31 Fill the blank with a suitable option:
The story’s bitter antagonist felt such great _____ for all of the other characters that as a result, his life was very lonely and he died alone.
Q.32 Fill the blank with a suitable option:

It is difficult to believe that charging 20% on an outstanding credit card balance isn’t _____!

a. bankruptcy
b. usury
c. novice
d. kleptomania
e. flagrancy

Ans: b

Q.33 Fill the blank with a suitable option:

The _____ weather patterns of the tropical island meant tourists had to carry both umbrellas and sunglasses.

a. impertinent
b. supplicant
c. preeminent
d. illustrative
e. kaleidoscopic

Ans: e

Q.34 Fill the blank with a suitable option:

Wedding ceremonies often include the exchange of _____ rings to symbolize the couple’s promises to each other.

a. hirsute
b. acrimonious  
c. plaintive  
d. deciduous  
e. votive

Ans: e

Q.35 Fill the blank with a suitable option:
Kym was ______ in choosing her friends, so her parties were attended by vastly different and sometimes bizarre personalities.

a. indispensable  
b. indiscriminate  
c. commensurate  
d. propulsive  
e. indisputable

Ans: b

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.

Horse: Mare

a) Duck: Geese  
b) Dog: Puppy  
c) Donkey: Pony  
d) Fox: Vixen  
e) None of these

Ans: d

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.

Blister: Skin

a) Sore: Toe  
b) Sty: Eye
c) Ball: Pitcher

d) Wound: Arm

e) None of these

Ans: b

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.

Mongoose: Snake

a) Milk: Goat
b) Fish: Crane
c) Whale: Crow
d) Water: Sky
e) None of these

Ans: b

Q.39 Choose the synonym of the following word:

Canny

a. Obstinate
b. Handsome
c. Clever
d. Stout

Ans: c

Q.40 Choose the antonym of the following word:

Relinquish

a. Abdicate
b. Renounce
c. Possess
d. Deny

Ans: c

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.
1. In the long run, national recognition of same-sex marriage is inevitable.

A. It is only a matter of time before all state laws reflect that view.

B. Prudence counsels that marriage equality should be allowed to continue gaining support in the states, and that a federal resolution should be left for another day.

C. Same-sex marriage rights, at first imposed by courts, have now been recognized by state legislatures and prevailed in all four states where they were on the ballot in last year’s election.

D. Young people overwhelmingly support it, and public opinion has shifted on this issue faster than on almost any other social issue in history.

6. What is more, the court’s doctrine dictates just this deferral.

a. CDAB
b. ACBD
c. BACD
d. DCBA

Ans: a

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. A charge on private vehicles in selected areas and at particular times of day would be a reasonable response to externalities they create.

A. Choosing to drive one’s own car or other vehicle into a city centre puts pressure on limited road space, contributes to pollution and global warming, and results in reduced mobility for all.

B. The cumulative time spent in traffic is a major economic loss.

C. Congestion charging schemes therefore levy a premium for the privilege of using a personal car, and the funds thus collected should be ploughed back exclusively into public transport options.

D. This makes them robust, affordable and sustainable.

6. A number of technologies are available to implement a congestion charging system. The challenge is to pick one that reduces transaction costs, and is sealed against revenue leakage.

a. ACBD
b. CABD
c. BCAD
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. Water is a renewable natural resource and public good.
   A. However, most rivers, ponds, lakes and aquifers are common property.
   B. Hence, excluding others from using water is not possible and the results are competition, over-extraction and conflict.
   C. But the ownership right on land bestows a private character on water.
   D. Therefore, water rights are not clearly defined and the right to using the resources is not protected.

6. However, cooperation has a greater role in achieving social harmony in water allocation and increasing human welfare.
   a. DACB
   b. CADB
   c. ACDB
   d. BCAD

Ans: b

Q.44 Spot the error in the following sentence:

Measles is (a)/ a contagious (b)/ childhood disease. (c)/ no error (d)

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

Ans: d

Q.45 Spot the error in the following sentence:

The presence of certain bacteria (a)/ in our bodies are one of the factors (b)/ that determines our overall health. (c)/ no error (d)

a. A
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b. B

c. C

d. D

Ans: b

Q.46 Spot the error in the following sentence:
Neither the explorer (a)/ nor his companions (b)/ was ever seen again. (c)/ no error (d)

a. A

b. B

c. C

d. D

Ans: c

Q.47 Identify the correct sentence from the given options:
a. The four men quietly in the corner were eating lunch.
b. The four men talked quietly in the corner eating lunch.
c. The four men eating lunch talked quietly in the corner.
d. None of these.

Ans: c

Q.48 Fill the blank with the correct option:
Although they __________defeated, they did not lose heart.

a. are

b. were

c. has been

d. had been

Ans: b

Q.49 Spot the error in the following sentence:
Raw eggs should not be eaten (a)/ by people who are very young, pregnant, (b)/ elderly, or have immune system impairments. (c)/ no error (d)

a. A

b. B

c. C

d. D
Q.50 Fill the blank with the correct option:

Which fruit has a __________ smell, bananas or mangoes?

a. strong
b. more stronger
c. stronger
d. strongest

Ans: c