

# CAT Sample Paper 1

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## Quantitative Ability

**DIRECTIONS for questions 1 to 7:** Answer the questions independently of each other.

1. The total cost of 2 pencils, 5 erasers and 7 sharpeners is Rs.30, while 3 pencils and 5 sharpeners cost Rs.15 more than 6 erasers. By what amount (in Rs.) does the cost of 39 erasers and 1 sharpener exceed the cost of 6 pencils?

- (1) 20
- (2) 30
- (3) It does not exceed
- (4) Cannot be determined

2. If the roots of the equation  $(x + 1)(x + 9) + 8 = 0$  are  $a$  and  $b$ , then the roots of the equation  $(x + a)(x + b) - 8 = 0$  are

- (1) 1 and 9
- (2) -4 and -6
- (3) 4 and 6
- (4) Cannot be determined

3. What is the remainder when  $7^{700}$  is divided by 100?

- (1) 1
- (2) 61
- (3) 41
- (4) 21

4. Balram, the local shoe shop owner, sells four types of footwear - Slippers (S), Canvas Shoes (C), Leather Shoes (L) and Joggers (J). The following information is known regarding the cost prices and selling prices of these four types of footwear:

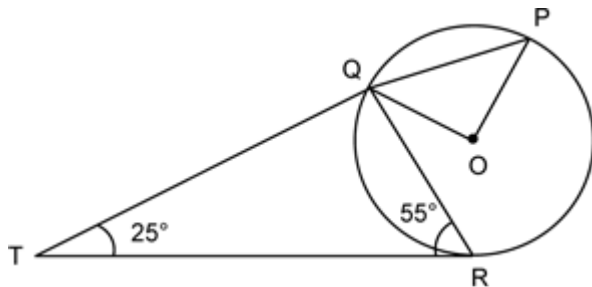
- (i) L sells for Rs.500 less than J, which costs Rs.300 more than S, which, in turn, sells for Rs.200 more than L.
- (ii) L costs Rs.300 less than C, which sells for Rs.100 more than S,

which, in turn, costs Rs.100 less than C.

If it is known that Balram never sells any item at a loss, then which of the following is true regarding the profit percentages earned by Balram on the items L, S, C and J represented by  $l$ ,  $s$ ,  $c$  and  $j$  respectively?

- (1)  $l \geq c \geq s \geq j$
- (2)  $c \geq s \geq l \geq j$
- (3)  $l \geq s \geq c \geq j$
- (4)  $s \geq l \geq j \geq c$

5. In the figure below, P, Q and R are points on a circle with centre O. The tangent to the circle at R intersects secant PQ at T. If  $\angle QRT = 55^\circ$  and  $\angle QTR = 25^\circ$ , find  $\angle POQ$ .



- (1)  $110^\circ$
- (2)  $100^\circ$
- (3)  $90^\circ$
- (4)  $50^\circ$

6. A sequence of 4 digits, when considered as a number in base 10 is four times the number it represents in base 6. What is the sum of the digits of the sequence?

- (1) 7
- (2) 6
- (3) 9
- (4) 8

7. Some friends planned to contribute equally to jointly buy a CD player. However, two of them decided to withdraw at the last minute. As a result, each of the others had to shell out one rupee more than what they had planned for. If the price (in Rs.) of the CD player is an integer between 1000 and 1100, find the number of friends who actually contributed?

- (1) 21
- (2) 23
- (3) 44
- (4) 46

**DIRECTIONS for questions 8 and 9:** Answer the questions on the basis of the information given below.

A robot is designed to move in a peculiar way and it can be set in motion by a microprocessor program. The program can be initiated by assigning a positive rational value to its variable  $n$ . The program directs the robot to move in the following way. As soon as the program is started, the robot starts from the point O, moves  $2n$  metres northward and changes its direction by  $n^\circ$  to the right. It then moves  $2n$  metres forward and again changes its direction by  $n^\circ$  to the right and continues in this manner till it reaches the starting point O, or till it covers a total distance of 1000 m, whichever happens first, and then it stops.

**8.** I assigned a value for  $n$  and started the program. If the robot finally came back to O and stopped, what is the total distance that it has covered?

- (1) 180 m
- (2) 360 m
- (3) 720 m
- (4) Cannot be determined

**9.** For how many values of  $n$  in the intervals  $[1, 60]$  does the robot cover less than 1000 m, before it stops?

- (1) 19
- (2) 60
- (3) 355
- (4) Infinite

**DIRECTIONS for questions 10 to 20:** Answer the questions independently of each other.

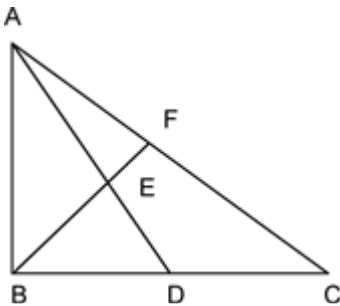
**10.** If  $N = 888\dots$  up to 100 digits, what is the remainder when  $N$  is divided by 625?

- (1) 128
- (2) 138
- (3) 338
- (4) 388

11. If  $[\log_{10}1] + [\log_{10}2] + [\log_{10}3] + [\log_{10}4] + \dots + [\log_{10}n] = n$ , where  $[x]$  denotes the greatest integer less than or equal to  $x$ , then

- (1)  $96 \leq n < 104$
- (2)  $104 \leq n < 107$
- (3)  $107 \leq n < 111$
- (4)  $111 \leq n < 116$

12. In the figure below,  $BD = 8$  cm and  $DC = 6$  cm.  $AE : ED = 3 : 4$ . If  $AF = 12$  cm, find  $AC$  (in cm).



- (1) 28
- (2) 38
- (3) 44
- (4) 40

13. A regular polygon has an even number of sides. If the product of the length of its side and the distance between two opposite sides is  $\frac{1}{4}$ th of its area, find the number of sides it has.

- (1) 6
- (2) 8
- (3) 20
- (4) 16

14. There are three cities A, B and C, not on the same straight road. Two buses P and Q start simultaneously from A and B respectively towards C. By the time Q reaches C, P is exactly halfway to C. Immediately after Q reaches C, it starts travelling towards A and it

crosses P at a point 165 km from A. The ratio of the speeds of P and Q is 3 : 5. Assume that the roads joining A to C, B to C and B to A are all straight roads. If B is twice as far as from A as it is from C

and P would take to cover the distance from A to B, how much time would Q take to cover the distance from C to A?

- (1)  $2\frac{2}{5}$  hours
- (2) 3 hours
- (3)  $3\frac{3}{5}$  hours
- (4) 4 hours

15. Two positive real numbers,  $a$  and  $b$ , are expressed as the sum of  $m$  positive real numbers and  $n$  positive real numbers respectively as follows:

$$a = s_1 + s_2 + \dots + s_m \text{ and}$$

$$b = t_1 + t_2 + \dots + t_n$$

If  $[a] = [s_1] + [s_2] + \dots + [s_m] + 4$  and  $[b] = [t_1] + [t_2] + \dots + [t_n] + 3$ , where  $[x]$  denotes the greatest integer less than or equal to  $x$ , what is the minimum possible value of  $m + n$ ?

- (1) 6
- (2) 10
- (3) 8
- (4) 9

16. Consider two figures A and D that are defined in the co-ordinate plane. Each figure represents the graph of a certain function, as defined below :

$$\text{A: } |x| - |y| = a$$

$$\text{D: } |y| = d$$

If the area enclosed by A and D is 0, which of the following is a possible value of  $(a, d)$ ?

- (1) (2, 1)
- (2) (-2, 1)
- (3) (-2, 3)
- (4) (2, 3)

17. A natural number  $n$  is such that  $120 \leq n \leq 240$ . If HCF of  $n$  and 240 is 1, how many values of  $n$  are possible?

- (1) 24
- (2) 32
- (3) 36
- (4) 40

18. If  $S = \frac{2}{10} + \frac{6}{10^2} + \frac{12}{10^3} + \frac{20}{10^4} + \frac{30}{10^5} + \frac{42}{10^6} + \dots$ , find the value of  $S$ ?

- (1) 24/90
- (2) 242/900
- (3) 245/900
- (4) 200/729

19. If the sum to infinity of the series  $2 + (2 - d)2/3 + (2 + d)4/9 + (2 + 3d)8/27 + \dots$  is  $5/2$ , what is the value of  $d$ ?

- (1) 7/12
- (2) -7/12
- (3) -5/12
- (4) 5/12

20. The first  $n$  natural numbers, 1 to  $n$ , have to be arranged in a row from left to right. The  $n$  numbers are arranged such that there are an odd number of numbers between any two even numbers as well as between any two odd numbers. If the number of ways in which this can be done is 72, then find the value of  $n$ .

- (1) 6
- (2) 7
- (3) 8
- (4) More than 8

## **Logical & Data Interpretation**

**DIRECTIONS for questions 21 to 23: Answer the questions on the basis of the information given below.**

After facing yet another World Cup debacle, the Board of Cricket Control in India (BCCI) is in search of a new coach for the team. It shortlisted five persons - Anshuman, Buchanen, John, Whatmore and Chappel. Each of them is from a different country among Australia, India, Japan, Pakistan and Canada, not necessarily in that order. At present, each of them is coaching the team of a different country among Australia, Bangladesh, China, Wales and Bermuda, not necessarily in that order. The following details were also observed about their particulars:

- (i) For any person, each of his three particulars - his name, the name of the country from which he is and the name of the country that he is coaching at present, starts with a different letter.
- (ii) Whatmore is coaching Australia and John is from neither Australia nor Pakistan.
- (iii) Buchanen is not coaching China and the person who is coaching Bermuda is from Canada.
- (iv) Anshuman is neither from Canada nor from Pakistan and also the person from Pakistan is coaching Bangladesh.

**21. Whatmore is from which country?**

- (1) India
- (2) Japan
- (3) Canada
- (4) Cannot be determined

**22. Who is the person from Australia?**

- (1) Buchanen
- (2) John
- (3) Whatmore
- (4) Cannot be determined

**23. The person from Japan is definitely not coaching**

- (1) China.

- (2) Wales.
- (3) Australia.
- (4) More than one of the above

**DIRECTIONS for questions 24 to 27: Answer the questions on the basis of the information given below.**

**Mr Suzuki, a car dealer, sold cars of only two brands, A and B, in the previous year. This year, he introduced a new brand, C. The number of cars of brand A and brand B sold in the previous year were in the ratio 3 : 2, and the ratio of the number of cars sold in the previous year to that sold in this year is 2 : 3 for brand A and 2 : 5 for brand B. Further, the number of cars of brand C sold this year forms 81% of the total number of cars sold this year.**

**24. Find the number of cars of brand C sold this year, given that a total of 24 cars of brand A were sold in the previous year.**

- (1) 324
- (2) 648
- (3) 162
- (4) 243

**25. What is the percentage increase in the total number of cars sold this year when compared to the total number of cars sold in the previous year?**

- (1) 400%
- (2) 600%
- (3) 900%
- (4) 1000%

**26. In the next year, Mr.Suzuki wants to increase the total sales by 80%, compared to the total sales this year, by keeping the sales of each of A, B and C at the same level as that in this year and introducing a new brand D. By what percent will the number of cars of brand D (to be sold next year) be more than the total number of cars sold last year?**

- (1) 400%
- (2) 600%
- (3) 900%
- (4) 700%



**27. If a total of 380 cars were sold this year, and the sales of C this year were nil, instead of 81% of total sales, then how many cars of brand A were sold in the previous year?**

- (1) 140
- (2) 120
- (3) 100
- (4) 160

**DIRECTIONS for questions 28 and 29:** The question given below is followed by two statements, I and II. Study the information given in the two statements and assess whether the statements are sufficient to answer the question and choose the appropriate option from among the choices given below:

**28. Two of the three cricketers Pavan, Rajan and Tarun are selected to the national team. Each of these three persons scored a different number of centuries and a different number of runs. Further, among these three, Tarun scored the highest number of centuries. Who among Pavan, Rajan and Tarun is not selected to the national team?**

- I. The person with the higher number of runs between Tarun and Pavan, is the person who scored the lesser number of centuries between the two persons selected.**
- II. The person with the least number of runs between Rajan and Tarun, is the person who scored the higher number of centuries between the two persons selected.**

- (1) The question can be answered by using one of the statements alone, but cannot be answered using the other statement alone.
- (2) The question can be answered by using either statement alone.
- (3) The question can be answered by using both statements together, but cannot be answered using either statement alone.
- (4) The question cannot be answered even by using both statements together.

**29. Triangle ABC is right angled at B. What is the value of  $AB + BC$ ?**

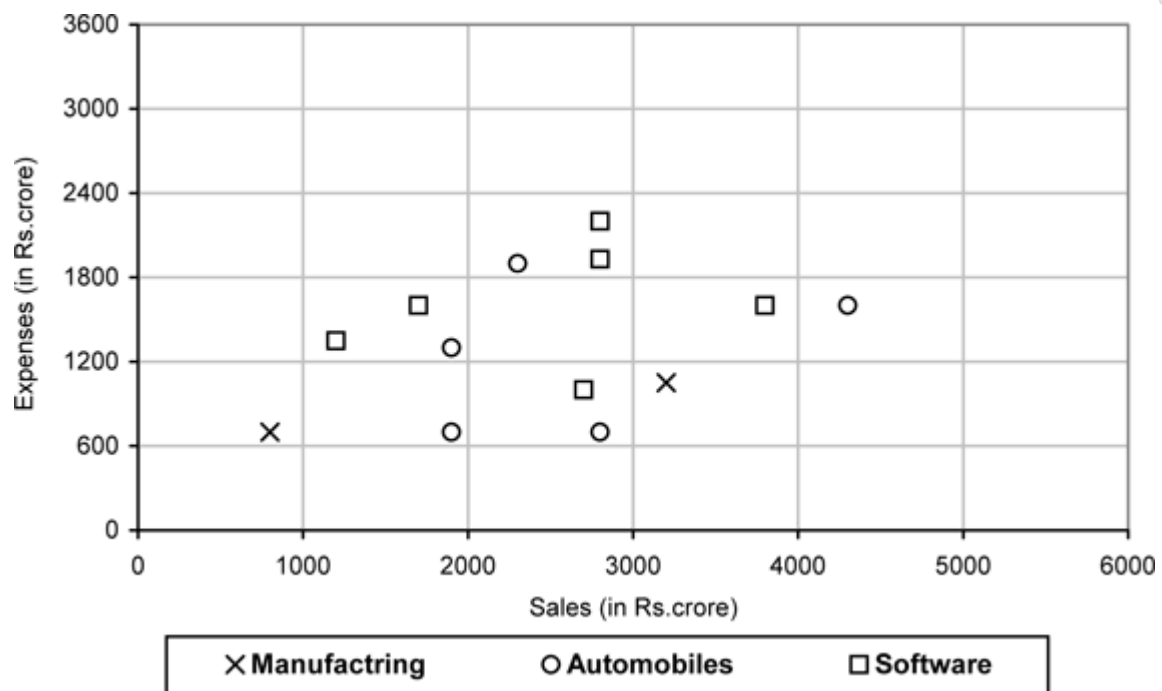
- I. Diameter of the circle inscribed in the triangle ABC is 10 cm.**
- II. Diameter of the circle circumscribing the triangle ABC is 27 cm.**

- (1) The question can be answered by using one of the statements alone, but cannot be answered using the other statement alone.
- (2) The question can be answered by using either statement alone.

- (3) The question can be answered by using both statements together, but cannot be answered using either statement alone.
- (4) The question cannot be answered even by using both statements together.

**DIRECTIONS for questions 30 and 31:** Answer the questions on the basis of the information given below.

Each point in the graph below shows the sales and expenses of a company. Each company belongs to one of the three sectors among manufacturing, automobiles and software.



**30.** For how many of the companies, is the profit more than 40% of the sales (Profit = Sales - Expenses)?

- (1) 4  
(2) 5  
(3) 6  
(4) 7

**31.** For how many software companies are the sales more than Rs.2500 crore but the expenses less than Rs.2100 crore?

- (1) 2  
(2) 3  
(3) 4  
(4) 6

**DIRECTIONS for questions 32 to 35:** Answer the questions on the basis of the information given below.

A team must be selected from ten probables - A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I and J. Of these, A, C, E and J are forwards, B, G and H are point guards and D, F and I are defenders.

Further the following conditions need to be observed:

- The team must have at least one forward, one point guard and one defender.
- If the team includes J, it must also include F.
- The team must include E or B, but not both.
- If the team includes G, it must also include F.
- The team must include exactly one among C, G and I.
- C and F cannot be members of the same team.
- D and H cannot be members of the same team.
- The team must include both A and D or neither of them.

There is no restriction on the number of members in the team.

**32. What could be the size of the team that includes G?**

- (1) 4
- (2) 5
- (3) 6
- (4) More than one of the above

**33. What would be the size of the largest possible team?**

- (1) 4
- (2) 5
- (3) 6
- (4) 7

**34. Who cannot be included in a team of size 6?**

- (1) A

- (2) H
- (3) J
- (4) E

**35. What can be the size of the team that includes C?**

- (1) 3
- (2) 4
- (3) 5
- (4) More than one of the above

**DIRECTIONS for questions 36 and 37:** The question given below is followed by two statements, I and II. Study the information given in the two statements and assess whether the statements are sufficient to answer the question and choose the appropriate option from among the choices given below:

**36. What percentage of the questions were attempted by Ramya in the exam?**

- I. 30% of the questions are attempted by both Ramya and Swathi.
- II. The number of questions attempted by Ramya but not by Swathi is  $(5/8)$ th of the total number of questions attempted by Ramya.

- (1) The question can be answered by using one of the statements alone but not by the other.
- (2) The question can be answered by using either statement alone.
- (3) The question can be answered by using both the statements together, but cannot be answered by using either statement alone.
- (4) The question cannot be answered even by using both the statements together.

**37. Each of Ankit and Bhanu belong to one of the tribes between truth tellers i.e., those who always speak the truth, and liars i.e., those who always lie. Do both of them belong to the same tribe?**

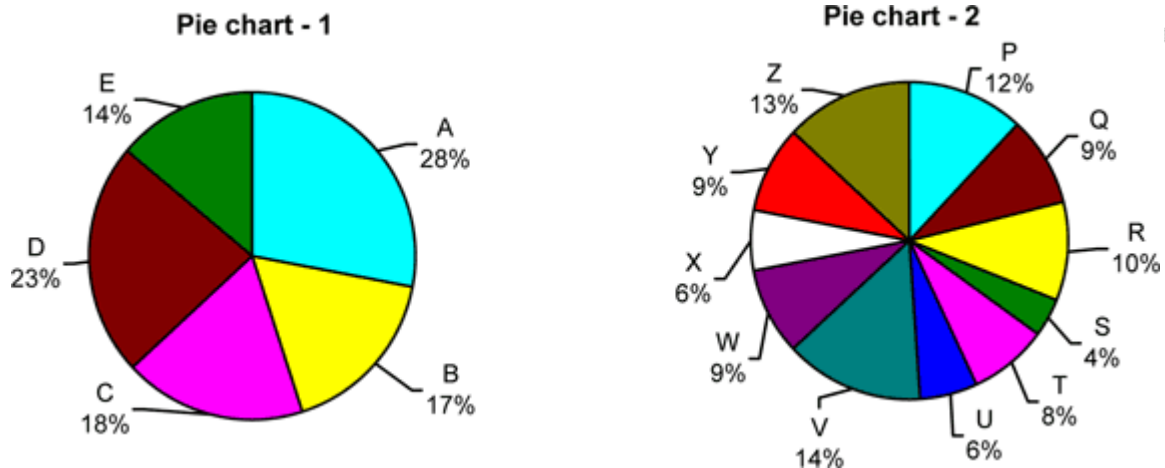
- I. Ankit : I am a liar, only if Bhanu is a truth teller.
- II. Bhanu : I am a truth teller, only if Ankit is a liar.

- (1) The question can be answered by using one of the statements alone but not by the other.
- (2) The question can be answered by using either statement alone.
- (3) The question can be answered by using both the statements together, but cannot be answered by using either statement alone.

(4) The question cannot be answered even by using both the statements together.

**DIRECTIONS for questions 38 to 40:** Answer the questions on the basis of the information given below.

Pie chart - 1 gives the percentage shares of all the five cement companies - A, B, C, D and E - in the total quantity of cement sold in country XYZ. Pie chart - 2 gives the percentage shares of all the eleven states - P through Z - in the total quantity of cement sold in the country.



The *market share* of any company in a state is the total quantity of cement sold by the company in that state as a percentage of the total quantity of cement sold in that state.

**38.** In any state, if no company had more than 50% *market share*, then in at least how many states did company A sell cement?

- (1) 4
- (2) 5
- (3) 6
- (4) 3

**39.** If in all the states in which company E was present, it had a *market share* of at least 25%, in at most how many states did company E sell cement?

- (1) 9
- (2) 8
- (3) 7
- (4) 6

**40. The number of companies which had sales in more than two states, is at least**

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

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## **Verbal Ability**

**DIRECTIONS for question 41:** The following question has a set of five sequentially ordered statements. Each statement can be classified as one of the following.

- **Facts**, which deal with pieces of information that one has heard, seen or read, and which are open to discovery or verification (the answer option indicates such a statement with an 'F').
- **Inferences**, which are conclusions drawn about the unknown, on the basis of the known (the answer option indicates such a statement with an 'I').
- **Judgements**, which are opinions that imply approval or disapproval of persons, objects, situations and occurrences in the past, the present or the future (the answer option indicates such a statement with a 'J').

Select the answer option that best describes the set of statements.

41. (A) The renewed corporate interest in power is welcome, given the huge investment backlog in the vexed sector and the routine revenue leakages.
- (B) Reportedly, industrial houses like Reliance Industries and the Aditya Birla Group are keen to foray into power equipment manufacture.
- (C) In tandem, we need proactive policy to wipe out continuing losses of state power utilities, and regular disclosure of SEB finances.
- (D) Of late, the tendency has been to clamp up on the huge annual losses of power utilities - the latest Economic Survey like the previous one is mum on losses, subsidies and plain theft of power; instead we have some pious intentions to gather 'baseline data' and use information technology application for accounting and auditing power distribution.
- (E) We do need to step up IT for meter reading, billing and collections, of course, but in parallel, what is essential indeed vital, is improved governance in power delivery and follow through.

- (1) JFIFJ
- (2) IJFJJ
- (3) FJJIF
- (4) JFJIJ

**DIRECTIONS for questions 42 and 43:** In each question, four different ways of presenting an idea are given. Choose the one that conforms most closely to standard English usage.

42. (A) The inflexibility of the laws, which prevent them from being adapted for emergencies, may in certain cases render them pernicious and thereby cause the ruin of the state in a time of crisis.  
(B) The inflexibility of the laws, which prevents them from being adapted for emergencies may in certain cases render them pernicious, thereby causes the ruin of the state in a time of crisis.  
(C) The inflexibility of the laws, which prevents them from being adapted to emergencies, may in certain cases render them pernicious, and thereby cause the ruin of the state in a time of crisis.  
(D) The inflexibility of the laws, which prevents them from being adapted for emergencies may in certain cases render them pernicious, and thereby causing the ruin of the state in a time of crisis.

- (1) A  
(2) B  
(3) C  
(4) D

43. (A) Human talents vary considerably, within a fixed framework that is characteristic of the species, and that permits ample scope for creative work, including the creative work of appreciating the achievements of others.  
(B) Human talents vary considerably within a fixed framework that is characteristic to the species, and which permits ample scope for creative work, including the creative work of appreciating the achievements of others.  
(C) Human talents vary considerably, within a fixed framework that is characteristic for the species, and that permits ample scope for creative work, including the creative work of appreciating achievements of others.  
(D) Human talents vary considerably, within a fixed framework that is characteristic of the species, and which permits ample scope for creative work, including the creative work of appreciating achievements of others.

- (1) A  
(2) B  
(3) C  
(4) D

**DIRECTIONS for question 44:** In the following question, there are five sentences/paragraphs. The sentence/ paragraph labelled A is in its correct place. The four that follow are labelled B, C, D and E, and



need to be arranged in the logical order to form a coherent paragraph/ passage. From the given options, choose the most appropriate option.

44. (A) The driving force of the 'nuclear renaissance' is a claim that nuclear power, once up and running, is a carbon-free energy source. The assertion is that a functioning nuclear reactor creates no greenhouse gases and thus contributes nothing to global warming or chaotic weather.
- (B) The frequently repeated notion that nuclear power is a carbon-free energy source is simply untrue.
- (C) At every stage of the cycle greenhouse gases are released into the atmosphere from burning diesel, manufacturing steel and cement and, in the circumpolar regions of the planet, by disturbance of the tundra which releases large amounts of methane, a particularly potent greenhouse gas.
- (D) That part is almost true, but the claim ignores the total environmental impact of nuclear energy, which includes a long and complicated chain of events known in the industry as the 'nuclear cycle' which begins with finding, mining, milling and enriching uranium, then spans through plant construction and power generation to the reprocessing and eventual storage of nuclear waste, all of which creates tons of CO<sub>2</sub>.
- (E) Even the claim that a functioning nuclear power facility is co<sub>2</sub>-free is challenged by the fact that operating plant requires an external power source to run, and that electricity is almost certain to come from a fossil-fuelled plant.

- (1) DCEB  
(2) EBCD  
(3) DEBC  
(4) EDCB

**DIRECTIONS for questions 45 and 46:** Each of the following questions has a paragraph from which the last sentence has been deleted. From the given options, choose the one that completes the paragraph in the most appropriate way.

45. Jawaharlal Nehru seemed an unlikely candidate to lead India towards its vision. Under the cotton Khadi he wore in deference to the dictates of Congress, he remained the quintessential English gentleman. In a land of mysteries, he was a cool rationalist. The mind that had exulted in the discovery of science at Cambridge never ceased to be appalled by his fellow Indians who refused to stir from their homes on days proclaimed inauspicious by their favourite

**astrologers. He was a publicly declared agnostic in the most intensely spiritual area in the world, and he never ceased to proclaim the horror the word 'religion' inspired in him. Nehru despised India's priests, her sadhus, her chanting monks and pious 'skerkhs'.**

- (1) And yet, the India of those sadhus and the superstition-haunted masses had accepted Nehru.
- (2) They had only served, he felt, to impede her progress.
- (3) The Mahatma had made it clear that it was on his shoulders that he wished his mantle to fall.
- (4) Nehru's heart told him to follow the Mahatma and his heart, he would later admit, had been right.

**46. Birth rates have fallen dramatically - and voluntarily. Coercive birth control, including paying people not to have babies, was discredited and abandoned decades ago. Nearly two-thirds of the couples in poor countries now use birth control, and not because some patriarchal westerner told them to. In the 1970s, the government of Bangladesh offered people in the Matlals region low-cost contraceptive supplies and advice. Birth rates promptly fell well below those of neighbouring regions. So Bangladesh extended the service nationally and its birth rate plummeted from six children per woman to three.**

- (1) The 'population bomb' has already gone off.
- (2) Given the choice, people want fewer children.
- (3) Governments want fewer children since their own life expectancy falls with rising numbers.
- (4) Even when birth rates fall, there is a lag which means population keeps growing far decades until birth and death rates even out.

**DIRECTIONS for questions 47 and 48: In each question, there are five sentences. Each sentence has pairs of words/phrases that are italicised and highlighted. From the italicised and highlighted word(s)/phrase(s), select the most appropriate word(s)/phrase(s) to form correct sentences. Then, from the options given, choose the best one.**

- 47. (i) The municipal *councillor* (A) / *counsellor* (B) promised to improve civic amenities in the suburbs.**  
**(ii) Jean's *adopted* (A) / *adoptive* (B) parents dote on her and cater to her every whim.**  
**(iii) The *venal* (A) / *venial* (B) official was caught red - handed accepting bribe.**

- (iv) We have now shifted our residence *farther* (A) / *further* (B) away from the main city.  
(v) She claims to be of aristocratic *dissent* (A) / *descent* (B).

- (1) AAABB  
(2) BBABB  
(3) ABBAB  
(4) ABAAB

48. (i) While evacuating people from the flood ravaged areas *precedence* (A) / *precedent* (B) was given to women and children.  
(ii) The best way to reach the summit is by trekking up the hill, *alternately* (A) / *alternatively* (B) you can go on horse back  
(iii) His impeccable manners perfectly *complimented* (A) / *complemented* (B) his polished looks and fashionable attire.  
(iv) There has been a *noticeable* (A) / *notable* (B) improvement in Tarun's academic performance lately.  
(v) You must be *discreet* (A) / *discrete* (B) about your plans

- (1) AABAB  
(2) ABBBB  
(3) BABAA  
(4) ABBA

**DIRECTIONS for questions 49 and 50:** In each of the following questions, the word at the top is used in four different ways, numbered 1 to 4. Choose the option in which the usage of the word is INCORRECT or INAPPROPRIATE.

**49. PULL**

- (1) Pull aside the curtains and let in some fresh air.  
(2) I decided to pull away from the venture due to differences of opinion with my partners.  
(3) Being a charismatic leader that he is, he can certainly pull the crowds.  
(4) The municipal corporation has decided to pull down all illegal constructions in the city.

**50. SHADE**

- (1) Nina's bedroom was painted in a soft shade of pink.  
(2) Abdul is a dubious character who is suspected of being involved in

several shady deals.

(3) The weary traveller rested for a while in the shade of a tree.

(4) The people in the strife torn region have been living in the shade of fear for several years.

**DIRECTIONS for questions 51 to 54:** Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow it.

Organic food is a two-billion pound industry grown fat on the back of celebrity endorsement and a well-heeled middle class seduced by claims that it is good for health. Prince Charles is one of its most enthusiastic and pro-active promoters. Not content with simply consuming it, he has his own lucrative line in overpriced organic products including biscuits which taste more like chalk.

But now questions are being raised about some of the basic assumptions that have contributed to the popularity of organic food and the phenomenal growth of this sector in the past decade. People are asking: is organic food really worth the price which is often three times more than that of normal food?

This follows new research by a group of British scientists who found that organic food offered no extra benefit over the ordinary cheaper foodstuff. In a controversial report, experts from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine say there is no evidence that organic food is more nutritional or healthier than food produced using fertilizers. For example, the expensive free-range chicken (sold as a "premium" product) has the same nutritional value as the factory-farmed chicken; and similarly, there is no difference between organic and non-organic vegetables or dairy produce.

The research, based on data published over the past 50 years and said to be the most comprehensive review ever of the relative benefits of organic food, strikes at the very heart of what has been portrayed by campaigners as its USP - that it is healthier than conventional food and therefore worth paying a "bit "extra.

Dr. Alan Dangour, who led the study, was unambiguous in rejecting claims made for organic food. "Looking at all of the studies published in the last 50 years, we have concluded that there's no good evidence that consumption of organic food is beneficial to health based on the nutrient content," he said.

The report, commissioned by the government's Food Standards Agency and published in the *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, concluded that "organically and conventionally produced crops and

**livestock products are broadly comparable in their nutrient content." A "small number of differences" were noted but these were "unlikely to be of any public health relevance."**

**In a pointed reference to the hype over the supposed benefits of organic food, the FSA said the research was aimed at helping people make "informed choices" about what they ate. In other words, it was concerned that the high-profile campaign for organic food, dressed up as an ethical issue, was preventing people from making "informed choices" and they were being sold things on false premises.**

**"Ensuring people have accurate information is absolutely essential in allowing us all to more informed choices about the food we eat. This study does not mean that people should not eat organic food. What it shows is that there is little, if any, nutritional difference between organic and conventionally produced food and that there is no evidence of additional health benefits from eating organic food," said Gill Fine, FSA's Director of Consumer Choice and Dietary Health.**

**In the organic food circles, the report has caused fury with campaigners alleging that it is all part of a "cancerous conspiracy" to defame the organic food movement. Newspapers have been full of angry letters denouncing the report as "selective," "misleading" and "limited."**

**The Soil Association, which campaigns for "planet-friendly organic food and farming," is furious that the research crucially ignored the presence of higher pesticide residues in conventional food. Some have defended organic food arguing that it is not about health alone but also involves wider environmental and social issues.**

**However, even those who agree that the report may be "flawed" in some respects believe that it is an important contribution to the debate on organic food.**

**"Yet the report - for all its alleged flaws - is an important one. For a start, it is certainly not the work of dogmatic and intractably hostile opponents of the cause... In fact, it raises key global issues... After all, if organic food is no more beneficial in terms of nutrition than other, standard foodstuffs, why should we pay excessive price to eat the stuff? Why devote more land to its production," asked Robin McKie, Science Editor of *The Observer*.**

**There is also a view that the fad for organic food is a bit of a class thing - something to do with the idea that if something is expensive it is also good. So, a Marks & Spencer cheese sandwich is supposed to taste better than a similar sandwich at Subway next**

**door; *everything* at Harrods is out of this world; and similarly you don't know what you are missing if organic food is not your preferred choice. There is said to be a whiff of snobbery about buying into an expensive lifestyle choice. Will science bring them down to earth?**

**51. All of the following are the author's views on organic food EXCEPT**

- (1) It is insipid
- (2) It is very costly
- (3) It is not more nutritious than conventional food
- (4) It is patronized by the rich.

**52. Which of the following factors/aspects, related to organic food, has the result of the FSA study primarily called into question?**

- (1) The nutritional value
- (2) The health benefits
- (3) The celebrity endorsement
- (4) The presence of pesticides

**53. According to the passage, defenders of organic food are of the opinion that the FSA study**

- (1) is not representative and scientific.
- (2) has been promoted by those who have vested interest in conventional food.
- (3) is flawed and has been projected as an ethical issue.
- (4) is not balanced and has not taken a comprehensive view of the issue.

**54. In this passage, the author essentially**

- (1) analyses the pros and cons of promoting organic food.
- (2) debunks the findings of a study on organic food.
- (3) reports the findings of a research on organic food and checks the veracity of its claim.
- (4) discusses the debate which has followed the findings of a study on organic food.

**DIRECTIONS for questions 55 to 57: Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow it.**