

Reading RC Mahayagya



Select the phrase/connector out of three phrases/connectors given as (a), (b) and (c) which can be used in the beginning (to start the sentence) to form a single sentence from the two or three statements given while implying the same meaning as expressed in the statement sentences.

1. I. India has implemented an action plan formulated by the Centre's Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries to deal with avian influenza.
II. India is a major agricultural nation with a large poultry industry.
a. Although India
b. As a
c. Being a

- A Only a
B Only c
C Only b
D b and c
E All of the above

2. I. Banks in India have embraced technological change.
II. The onus is on them to integrate inter-generational legacy systems across branches, ATMs and online banking networks into one seamless and secure whole.
a. On account of technological
b. Besides the onus
c. With banks in India

- A Only b
B Only c
C Only a
D b and c
E None of these

Directions: Select the phrase/connector out of three phrases/connectors given as (a), (b) and (c) which can be used in the beginning (to start the sentence) to form a single sentence from the two or three statements given while implying the same meaning as expressed in the statement sentences.

3. I. The long queues in the outpatient clinics at medical colleges and general hospitals are often the first indicator of the beginning of the epidemic season in Kerala.
II. Usually, dengue cases begin to peak with the arrival of the southwest monsoon.
a. As long as the long queues
b. Though, usually, dengue cases
c. Surpassing the beginning of

- A Only c
B Only b
C a and b
D b and c
E None of these

Directions: In the following questions two statements have been given with connectors given as options. You have to select that option which could connect both the sentences and make them grammatically and contextually correct.

4. I. Higher interest rates make equity investments unattractive as it weighs on earnings growth.
II. Higher interest rates lead to tightening of earnings yield spread over bond yields.
A Not only, besides
B Even though, for
C In addition, least
D Similarly, Otherwise
E None of the above

Directions: In the following questions two statements have been given with connectors given as options. You have to select that option which could connect both the sentences and make them grammatically and contextually correct.

5. I. Instead of confiscating all properties belonging to a fugitive economic offender, a prudent step would be to quantify the outstanding loan amount.
II. Only those properties must be confiscated that have been acquired through proceeds of crime.
A Also, too
B Presently, finally
C Accordingly, hence
D Nearby, adjacent to
E None of the above

- A. Then two astronomers—the German, Johannes Kepler, and the Italian, Galileo Galilei—started publicly to support the Copernican theory, despite the fact that the orbits it predicted did not quite match the ones observed.
B. His idea was that the sun was stationary at the centre and that the earth and the planets move in circular orbits around the sun.
C. A simple model was proposed in 1514 by a Polish priest, Nicholas Copernicus.
D. Nearly a century passed before this idea was taken seriously.

6. When put in correct order what will come FIRST Position
A. A B. B C. C D. D E. None of these

7. When put in correct order what will come SECOND Position
A. A B. B C. C D. D E. None of these

8. When put in correct order what will come THIRD Position
A. A B. B C. C D. D E. None of these

9. When put in correct order what will come FINAL Position
A. A B. B C. C D. D E. None of these

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10. Find the correct order for the following passage

- A. People can get infected by handling reptiles and then touching their mouths or an open cut.
 - B. At first they look the perfect pets: exotic, quiet and tidy.
 - C. A study estimates that in 1995, there were as many as 6,700 reptile-caused salmonella infections.
 - D. But lizards and other pets can harbour a salmonella bacterium that makes people sick.
- (a) BCAD (b) BDAC (c) ADCB (d) BDCA (e) CDBA

During the 2014 national and State elections, for the first time women's safety and empowerment were topics of debate, marking a significant shift in how gender concerns are viewed by the political class as well as by voters in India. In the two years since, policy focus and public scrutiny on persistent gender inequality has grown exponentially. In 2015, 194 member states, including India, adopted the Sustainable Development Goals. Gender equality is one of the 17 goals to "transform our world". This year, India ratified the Paris Agreement. The direct link between empowering women and alleviating poverty, increasing productivity, and combating climate change is well-recognised. However, the lack of targeted resources is often stated to be the biggest reason behind the sluggish progress in furthering the gender agenda. Therefore, it is important that India's budget priorities reflect its commitment to invest in women and girls.

Last year, the World Economic Forum's annual Global Gender Gap Report ranked India 87 in terms of gender equality in economy, education, health, and political representation. Women's declining labour participation, under-representation in Parliament, skewed child sex ratio, and prevalent gender-based violence are recognised challenges. To bridge these gaps, India formally adopted Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB) in 2005. The rationale behind GRB is that policy outcomes are not as gender-neutral as commonly believed, and can reinforce or exacerbate existing hierarchies. Hence, gender budgeting initiatives aim to integrate critical gender concerns into fiscal policies and administration to address disparities.

Every annual budget since 2005 has included a statement that lists out two parts. There is Part A, which reflects 'Women Specific Schemes', namely, those which have 100 per cent allocation for women, and Part B, which reflects 'Pro Women Schemes', namely, where at least 30 per cent of the allocation is for women. Over the years, India has stood out for its implementation of gender budgeting, and with the Ministry of Finance (MoF) playing the central role, it has managed to successfully institutionalise the concept at both the national and State levels (16 States have embraced the exercise). Studies substantiate the positive link between GRB and improved indicators for women. For instance, a recent International Monetary Fund study found that States that employ GRB also show better female to male school enrolment ratios. Further, it was observed that GRB also has a positive impact on infrastructure spending.

Despite the successes, better implementation and planning are needed to ensure that these policies percolate right down to the last woman in the most remote parts of the country. In recent years, allocations have either remained stagnant or have been on the decline. For instance, Budget 2016-17 was widely considered to be a mixed bag for women. While the Ministry of Women and Child Development and National Commission for Women saw nominal increases, the scheme meant for implementing the Domestic Violence Act did not receive any allocation. Further, there was a decline in the number of ministries and departments that fall under GRB. The budget also initiated the decentralisation of funding in GRB, thus shifting the onus for budgeting and implementation from the Central Ministry to State counterparts. While this did empower the States to come up with women-specific policies as per their respective challenges, the obvious downside was the risk that States could choose to not prioritise gender in their budgeting. In this way, the intent of universalising the process, so that it equally benefits women in all States, was lost in the pragmatism of the move and for it to be truly effective, GRB must be viewed as an essential tool to tackle societal inequality that hinders progress instead of a symbolic exercise for pleasing the emerging women constituency.

11. What does the statement "Budget 2016-17 was widely considered a mixed bag for women." express?
- A The decisions taken for women in the Budget 2016-17 were both positive and not so positive in nature.
 - B The government has announced various policies targeting women of India.
 - C Though the fund allocation has been raised yet a number of ministries were taken out.
 - D A lot of policies that government has brought forward in the Budget seem to be giving mixed results.
 - E None of these
12. Which of the following statements is/are true in the context of the passage?
- A In the List B under GRB at least 30% of the fund allocation is for women working in unorganised sector.
 - B In Budget 2016-17 there was an increase in ministries and departments that fall under GRB.
 - C The planning commission has been playing the Central role as far as implementation of GRB is concerned.
 - D Implementation of GRB had a positive impact only on one area – Infrastructure spending.
 - E All are false
13. Which of the following steps with reference to the passage was not supported by the author completely?
- A Ratification of Paris Agreement by India
 - B Integration of critical gender concerns into financial policies through GRB.
 - C Institutionalisation of GRB at both the national and State levels.
 - D Decentralisation of funding in GRB
 - E None of these

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14. Which one of these words is opposite to the word 'exacerbate' highlighted in the given passage?

- A Illustrate
- B Aggravate
- C Justify
- D Topple
- E Ameliorate

15. Which one of these words is similar to the word 'onus' highlighted in the given passage?

- A sufferings
- B position
- C responsibilities
- D directions
- E roles

16. According to the author, India's marking a significant shift in the outlook of the political class and that of the voters towards gender concerns is best illustrated by the fact that:

- A India's political class and the mass have become aware that a comprehensive growth can't be achieved without bringing gender equality to the system.
- B The issues regarding women's safety and empowerment have been discussed during the 2014 national and State elections for the first time.
- C The government has recently taken a lot of sincere steps to curb corruption that exists in the women empowerment policy making body.
- D Indian government has recently built and strengthened its targeted resources in furthering the gender agenda.
- E None of these

17. Which of the following statements can be inferred from the passage?

- A Gender is a key dimension for analysis of the impact of climate change.
- B Requirement of funds in the Ministry of Women and Child Development has always been met.
- C No concrete action has been taken towards women empowerment before 2005.
- D India's current rank in the World Economic Forum's annual Global Gender Gap report is satisfactory to some extent.
- E None of these

Direction: Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Start-ups are heaving a sigh of relief as the Finance Minister institutionalise measures to do away with the long pending **contentious** issue of Angel Tax, which many of them had to cough up for raising Angel funding under Section 56 of the Income Tax Act.

Also, special administrative arrangements will be made by the Central Board of Direct Taxes for pending assessments of start-ups and redressal of their grievances. Start-ups have been assured that no inquiry or verification in such cases can be carried out by the Assessing Officer without obtaining approval of his supervisory officer. This provision

will do away with much of the angst among start-ups who were subjected to aggressive questioning by the Income Tax department.

A TV channel exclusively for start-ups under the Doordarshan boutique will be designed and executed by start-ups themselves and will also serve as a platform for promoting them, discussing issues affecting their growth, match making with VCs and for funding and tax planning, came as a pleasant surprise to many. Although it remains to be seen how it will be executed on the ground.

The Budget **sounded the bugle** for fostering rural entrepreneurship for those depending on agriculture and traditional industries by announcing the setting up of 80 Livelihood Business Incubators and 20 Technology Business Incubators this fiscal with the aim to develop 75,000 skilled entrepreneurs in agro-rural industry sectors. "The Government has tried to broad base and foster entrepreneurship beyond metros to Tier 2 and 3 cities which is a good sign. And doing away with Angel Tax is welcome" said Bhaskar Majumdar, Managing Partner, Unicorn India Ventures.

18. Which among the following can be said regarding the sectoral thrust given by the government on startups of the country?

- A The government has made sure that the primary sector of the country gets the fair share of attention from the start-up industry.
- B The government is of the opinion that the startup industry should be profitable in the country first so that it expands to other areas also.
- C The government has decided to ensure that there is no friction between the sectors in the economy.
- D The government has made sure that all the sectors in the economy get the required attention for growth and development.
- E None of the above

19. Which among the following is correct regarding the attitude of the government towards the startup economy of the country?

- A The economy of the country has been given a lifeline but there are a lot of questions to ponder over that.
- B The economy of the country is mainly concerned about the startups of the nation though the government has not done anything for them.
- C The country is still reliant on big industrial houses so that they can pay taxes as much as possible.
- D The government has understood the importance of the startups in the economy and is positive about the development of this economy.
- E None of the above

20. Which among the following is /are correct regarding the TV channel that has been announced by the government in the Budget?

- I. This new channel will be run by the government with the experts from the government organizations.

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II. This new channel will be financed by the public sector banks with a fresh round of capital from the government only.

III. This new channel will attempt at saving the taxes of the startup founders by the experts.

- A Both II and III
- B Both I and III
- C Both I and II
- D Only III
- E None of I, II and III

- C. Important
- D. Improvement
- E. Relaxed

21. What is the opinion of the author regarding the TV channel that has been proposed to be set up by the government?

- A The author is excited about the new TV channel since it will bring a lot of interest in the sector.
- B The author has nothing to say regarding the new TV channel that has been proposed in the Union Budget.
- C The author is cautious in his reaction because he wants to see if the government is able to make it work actually.
- D The author is disappointed with this decision for the fact that the government should have done something more worthwhile for the startups in India.
- E None of the above

22. Which among the following is/are correct regarding the Angel Tax levied by the government on the startups in India?

- I. Angel Tax is levied on companies that raise capital from the angel investors only and not from others sources.
 - II. Angel Tax is not defined in the Income Tax legislation and the government had to implement it separately.
 - III. Angel Tax is not going to be levied on the companies that go out of business from this year onwards.
- A Both I and II
 - B Only I
 - C Both II and III
 - D Both I and III
 - E All I, II and III

23. Which of the following word is similar in meaning as institutionalise?

- A. Establish a company
- B. Establish an activity
- C. Establish a game
- D. Establish a problem
- E. None of these

24. What is the reason author mentions “Sounded the bugle”?

- A. Start schemes
- B. Stopped corruption
- C. Help Entrepreneurs
- D. Turn a blind eye
- E. Stay put

25. Which of the following word is Antonym of Contentious?

- A. Dormant
- B. Disagreement

1. Correct Option: D

In the given statements, statement I states India's strength as a major agricultural nation with a large poultry industry and statement II discusses what India has done to deal with avian influenza. Applying the elimination technique, let's check the relevance of each of the options one by one.

Possibility 1. Although India has implemented an action plan formulated by the Centre's Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries to deal with avian influenza, it is a major agricultural nation with a large poultry industry.

Or Although India is a major agricultural nation with a large poultry industry, it has implemented an action plan formulated by the Centre's Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries to deal with avian influenza. We can observe that neither of the above two formations expresses a meaningful context. This eliminates option A.

Possibility 2. As a major agricultural nation with a large poultry industry, India has implemented an action plan formulated by the Centre's Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries to deal with avian influenza. Clearly, the above synthesis is both grammatically and contextually correct and keeps the flow of the sentence intact.

Possibility 3. Being a major agricultural nation with a large poultry industry, India has implemented an action plan formulated by the Centre's Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries to deal with avian influenza. Evidently, the above synthesis is also both grammatically and contextually correct and coherent. Option D is hence the correct answer.

2. Correct Option: B

The given statements seem to be effects of a common cause. Applying the elimination technique, let's check the relevance of each of the options one by one.

Possibility 1. On account of technological change that banks in India have embraced, the onus is on them to integrate inter-generational legacy systems across branches, ATMs and online banking networks into one seamless and secure whole. We can observe here that though the formation above is grammatically correct, it doesn't express a meaningful context. This hence eliminates option C.

Possibility 2. Besides the onus on banks to integrate inter-generational legacy systems across branches, ATMs and online banking networks into one seamless and secure whole, they in India have embraced technological change. Once again we have here a construction that is grammatically correct but logically flawed. This hence eliminates option A and D as well.

Possibility 3. With banks in India having embraced technological change, the onus is on them to integrate inter-generational legacy systems across branches, ATMs and online banking networks into one seamless and secure whole. Clearly, the synthesis made above is both grammatically and contextually correct and keeps the flow of the sentence intact.

3. Correct Option: E

In the above statements, while statement II affirms an occurrence of an event, statement I re-affirms it in a bit elaborative manner. Applying the elimination technique, let's check the relevance of each of the options one by one.

Possibility 1: As long as the long queues in the outpatient clinics at medical colleges and general hospitals are often the first indicator of the beginning of the epidemic season in Kerala, usually, dengue cases begin to peak with the arrival of the southwest monsoon. Clearly, the above synthesis is contextually flawed and obstructs the flow of the sentence. The synthesis is hence invalid and thus eliminates option C.

Possibility 2: Though, usually, dengue cases begin to peak with the arrival of the southwest monsoon, the long queues in the outpatient clinics at medical colleges and general hospitals are often the first indicator of the beginning of the epidemic season in Kerala. Usage of though in a clause is generally followed by a contradiction whereas the synthesis above doesn't indicate a contradiction at all. Clearly, the phrase/connector 'b' also stays invalid. Options B and D also get eliminated.

Possibility 3: Surpassing the beginning of the epidemic season in Kerala, the long queues in the outpatient clinics at medical colleges and general hospitals are often the first indicator, usually, dengue cases begin to peak with the arrival of the southwest monsoon. As we can observe that the synthesis above doesn't make a meaningful sentence either, we can conclude that none of the constructions stays logical here. Option E is hence the correct answer.

4. Correct Option: A

Both the statements talk about the effects of the same thing i.e. higher interest rates. We need connectors that can portray this relationship.

Option B: Even though is incorrect.

Option C: Least does not fit in.

Option D: Otherwise does not fit in.

Only option A fits in well:

I. Not only do higher interest rates make equity investments unattractive as it weighs on earnings growth, they lead to tightening of earnings yield spread over bond yields.

II. Higher interest rates make equity investments unattractive as it weighs on earnings growth besides tightening of earnings yield spread over bond yields.

Thus, option A is correct.

5. Correct Option: C

Statement A talks about a situation while statement B talks about dealing with it in an appropriate manner.

Option A: Too does not fit in.

Option B: Neither fits in.

Option D: Neither fits in.

Only Option C fits in:

I. Instead of confiscating all properties belonging to a fugitive economic offender, a prudent step would be to quantify the outstanding loan amount and accordingly,

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only those properties must be confiscated that have been acquired through proceeds of crime.

II. Instead of confiscating all properties belonging to a fugitive economic offender, a prudent step would be to quantify the outstanding loan amount and hence, only those properties must be confiscated that have been acquired through proceeds of crime.

Hence, option C is correct.

Solution In the above example you will observe that the flow of logic is in the form of a time sequence which flows from the oldest time period to a more contemporary time period. Therefore, Sentence C will be the first sentence. Sentence B expands upon the —simple model|| proposed, hence, it will be the sentence following

C. The next sentence in the order of chronology is C— nearly a century passed, while the last sentence will be A which completes the sequence from older time to contemporary time thus giving us the answer as CBDA.

Correct order is CBDA.

6. Answer is C

7. Answer is B

8. Answer is D

9. Answer is A

10. Read sentences C and D carefully. Sentence D contains the noun phrase —a salmonella bacterium|| and Sentence C contains the noun phrase —salmonella infections||. What is the relationship between the two? Since the phrase —a salmonella bacterium|| introduces the bacterium, it should logically precede the phrase —salmonella infections||. Therefore, the sentence that contains the phrase —a salmonella bacterium|| should come before the sentence that contains the phrase —salmonella infections||. So, Sentence D should precede Sentence C! Once you have a link between two sentences, look at the answer choices to see if you are on the right track. If you are, then you have the right answer [(Option (d) BDCA)] and it is time to move on to the next exercise.

11. Correct Option: A. 'Mixed bag of' is an idiomatic expression that refers to something that has both positive and negative qualities or aspects. Ex. The session after lunch was a mixed bag of some good and bad performances. Out of the choices, the statement given in option A confirms the usage of the expression 'Mixed bag of' rightfully in the context. Option A is hence the correct answer.

12. Correct Option: E. According to the passage all statements are incorrect.

13. Correct Option: D. References. Last paragraph, 5th and 6th sentences. The budget also initiated the decentralisation of funding in GRB, thus shifting the onus for budgeting and implementation from the Central Ministry to State counterparts. While this did empower the

States to come up with women-specific policies as per their respective challenges, the obvious downside was the risk that States could choose to not prioritise gender in their budgeting. The author does not evidently support the idea of decentralisation of funding in GRB by presenting a disadvantageous aspect of the move.

14. Correct Option: E. Exacerbate (Verb): To make (a problem, bad situation, or negative feeling) worse.

15. Correct Option: C. Onus (Noun): Onus, as a formal word is used for responsibility or obligation.

16. Correct Option: B. Reference 1st paragraph, 1st sentence During the 2014 national and State elections, for the first time women's safety and empowerment were topics of debate, marking a significant shift in how gender concerns are viewed by the political class as well as by voters in India.

17. Correct Option: A. Reference. 1st paragraph, 3rd sentence. The direct link between empowering women and alleviating poverty, increasing productivity, and combating climate change is well-recognised.

18. Correct Option: A. Refer to, "The Budget sounded the bugle for fostering rural entrepreneurship for those depending on agriculture and traditional industries by announcing the setting up of 80 Livelihood Business Incubators and 20 Technology Business Incubators this fiscal with the aim to develop 75,000 skilled entrepreneurs in agro-rural industry sector." It is clear that the government now wants the startup founders to go beyond the metro cities in order to make sure that the agriculture sector also gets the desired focus from such people. It will make it a point that the rural economy will also develop in the country. Among the given options, Option A explains this fact and that is why it is our pick here whereas the rest can be eliminated for the fact that they do not follow from the information given in the passage. This makes Option A the correct choice among the given options.

19. Correct Option: D. It has been described in the passage that the government has announced a number of steps in order to boost the startup economy of the country. The government has announced tax exemptions and also more networking in order to help the startups develop more and more. Among the given options, we can easily pick up Option D whereas Option A is correct in the first part but for the second part, we can say that no question has been put forward by the government for the startup sector of the country. Other options can be eliminated since they do not at all follow from the passage. This makes Option D the correct choice among the given options.

20. Correct Option: D. Statement I is not correct for the fact that the new channel has been proposed to be set up and run by the startup companies themselves so that they can utilize the platform properly. Refer to, "A TV channel exclusively for start-ups under the Doordarshan boutique will be designed and executed by start-ups themselves and will also serve as a platform for promoting them, discussing issues affecting their growth, match making with VCs and for funding and tax planning, came as a pleasant surprise to many." Statement II is also not correct because it is said that the new channel will be

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financed by the public sector banks whereas there is no such reference in the passage to that effect. It can be eliminated. Statement III is correct because from the above quoted lines it can be understood that the new channel will try to match the startup founders with the VCs so that they can raise capital and also plan the taxes so that there is tax saving by these small companies. This makes Option D the correct choice among the given options.

21. Correct Option: C. We can see from the passage that the author is not overjoyed with the fact that the government has announced a new channel that will be dedicated to the startup sector of the country. He wants to see if the government is actually able to execute this idea at the end as it will be difficult to bring everything in one place to get this going. Among the given options, Option C explains this reaction of the author whereas the rest can be eliminated because they do not follow from the passage. This makes Option C the correct choice among the given options.

22. Correct Option: B. Statement I is correct for the fact that Angel Tax is a kind of tax that is levied on the startups that raise capital from the angel investors. So, it is correct that the companies that raise capital from this source only will be subjected to this particular tax. Statement II is not correct because it is said that Section 56 of the Income Tax Act is regarding the Angel Tax that is levied on companies raising capital from angel investors. So, it cannot be said that there is no such provision in the Income Tax Act of the country. Statement III is not correct for the fact that the Angel Tax is not going to be levied on any startup from now onwards as has been announced in the recent Budget of the government. So, it is applicable for each and every company and not for them who have decided to shut down the business. This makes Option B the correct choice among the given options.

23. Answer B. verb: institutionalise. establish (something, typically a practice or activity) as a convention or norm in an organization or culture.

24. Answer A. A bugle is a simple brass musical instrument that looks like a small trumpet. Bugles are often used in the army to announce when activities such as meals are about to begin.

25. Answer E. Definition of contentious: likely to cause disagreement or argument