



ADITYA COLLEGE OF COMPETITIVE EXAMS

Santhinagar, KAKINADA, Ph : 0884 2340236.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

No. of Questions : 30 (1 - 30)

Marks : 30

Time : 20 minutes.

Directions (1 - 10) : Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it. Certain words are given in bold to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.

Slightly overshadowed by the news of rising fuel prices was a recent report about the Delhi Metro being the second most unaffordable in the world among metro systems that charge less than half a US dollar for a trip, with the average commuter paying 14% of their income to travel by it. A study by the Centre for Science and Environment recommended that both the state and Central governments adopt strategies to increase public transit ridership, and enable fiscal solutions to keep it affordable.

Meanwhile, opposition parties called a bandh recently to demand that the government take steps to reduce fuel prices. But is this really the best solution? In major urban centers, at least, a more sustainable solution would involve keeping petrol prices high and investing the tax revenue generated into funding public transit and keeping its fares affordable. This is now possible by law, thanks to a change brought about in the 2018 Union budget.

The price of petrol comprises substantially of taxes. only about 50% of the market price is made up by the cost of production and refining. Besides excise duty levied by both central and state governments, the former has, for the last two decades, levied a road cess on every litre of petrol (and diesel) as additional excise duty, towards the Central Road Fund. Established by an Act of Parliament in 2000, the proceeds of this fund were, until 2018, used for road construction, including programmes such as the National Highways Development Project (NHDP) and the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) for construction of rural roads. The cess, originally 1 per litre, has increased to 8 per litre in the 2018 Union budget, and been renamed as the infrastructure cess. The 2018 Finance Act also renamed the fund as the Central Road and Infrastructure Fund, expanding its **ambit** to cover other kinds of infrastructure beyond roads. Among the new categories for which the fund is to be used is urban public transport. In 2018-19, the fund is expected to receive over 1.13 trillion from the infrastructure cess. Delhi offers an interesting example of how this could be used to benefit citizens and contribute to offsetting carbon emissions from petrol (and diesel) cars.

In 2016, the Delhi Metro's fourth fare fixation committee (FFC) submitted its report. It analyzed the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation's (DMRC's) finances on the basis of the existing fare structure, and concluded that the company would face increasing losses. Therefore, it proposed a fare hike of 100%. This was implemented in two phases. in May and October 2017. as the FFC itself noted that 30% of Metro passengers earned less than Rs.20,000 a month and a single **steep** hike would adversely affect them. Nevertheless, it resulted in an immediate drop in ridership by 15%, while the DMRC is set to project an operational profit from 2018-19. One might argue that revenues increased, but surely the purpose of public transit is not to generate revenue but transport the largest number of people at the least cost. to them, society and the environment. What has instead resulted is an "operationally profitable" public transit system that serves fewer people at higher cost. With rising fuel prices, the cost of private transport (after the fare hikes, operating a two-wheeler on many routes became cheaper than using the Metro) has also increased.

The government has two ways of resolving this unsustainable situation: (1) reduce taxes on fuel, making private transport cheaper; (2) reduce fares, making public transit cheaper. The second is obviously the more environment-friendly and sustainable solution for the city and its residents, **beset** as it is with pollution, traffic congestion and high vehicle ownership. A reduction of fares even to May 2017 levels will result in a drop of 25-33% for most journeys. At these fares, the overall losses to DMRC (after accounting for operational expenses, **depreciation**, interest and loan repayments) will be in the range of under 600 crore annually, which is less than the cess revenue generated in Delhi through petrol sales alone. Delhi can thus afford to reduce its Metro fares using just the revenue from petrol sales. Further, with the increased rate of cess from 2018-19, this revenue is likely to rise. The surplus, along with the revenue from diesel, can be used to make investments in other public transport providers such as the Delhi Transport Corporation and the Delhi Integrated Multi-Modal Transit System, as well as improvements in pedestrian infrastructure. especially in the vicinity of Metro stations and bus stops to ensure seamless and improved connectivity for all citizens. The Central government should, therefore, begin treating the infrastructure cess as a carbon tax in urban areas and ensure that the revenue **accruing** to the Central Road and Infrastructure Fund from urban areas is invested in urban public transport. Whether car and two-wheeler owners will be incentivized to reduce using their vehicles because of this is difficult to say. Even with no change in private vehicle usage, the result will still be an affordable and improved public transit system for everyone.

1. According to the passage, what is described as the best solution to increase public transit ridership instead of reducing the fuel prices?
 1. Using chemically stored electricity like batteries and fuel cells, non-fossil methane and other biomass sources.
 2. To expand other kinds of infrastructure beyond roads from the revenue generated by increasing the hike in private transport.
 3. Investing tax revenue, generated by keeping the petrol prices high, into funding public transit.
 4. Bringing a great hike in the prices of private transport.
 5. None of these.
2. What other categories in reference to infra development were covered by the Central Road and Infrastructure Fund under the Finance Act 2018?
 1. Development of urban public transport system
 2. Build Infrastructure such as roads.
 3. The fund is used in improving connectivity of ports and airports.
 4. Acquisition of land thereby preventing deforestation.
 5. To cater the increasing needs of growing economy.
3. Why making public transit cheaper is a preferred method over reducing taxes on fuel?
 1. As high revenue generated from petrol or diesel can be used to improve DTC and other services.
 2. It is an environment friendly solution with trouble free high vehicle ownership issues.
 3. As this would help in reducing traffic congestion.
 4. Both (1) and (3)
 5. All (1), (2) and (3)
4. According to the passage, out of the following which option bolsters the fact that "Delhi can afford to reduce its Metro fares using just the revenue from petrol sales?"
 1. Replacement of various assets such as Rolling Stock which have a life of 30 years.
 2. The overall losses to DMRC will be in the range of under 600 crore annually, which is less than the cess revenue generated in Delhi through petrol sales alone.
 3. Depreciation, interest and loan repayments of DMRC will be in the range of under 600 crore annually, which is more than the cess revenue generated in Delhi through petrol sales alone.
 4. Both (2) and (3).
 5. Both (1) and (2).
5. Which of the statements among the given options is definitely false according to the given passage?
 1. Both the State and Centre must adopt strategies to increase public transit ridership.
 2. In 2016, FCC analyzed DMRC's finances and concluded that the company would face increasing losses.
 3. With rising fuel prices, the cost of private transport at least in some cities has also decreased.
 4. Central Road and Infrastructure Fund expand its ambit to cover other kinds of infrastructure beyond roads.
 5. In 2018-19, the Central and Infrastructure Road fund is expected to receive over Rs.1.13 trillion from the infrastructure cess.

Directions (6 - 8) : Choose the word which is most nearly the **SAME** in meaning as the word printed in **bold** as used in the passage.

6. **AMBIT**

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|-------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| 1. Restrict | 2. Constancy | 3. Periphery | 4. Affinity | 5. Dissipated |
|-------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|

7. **STEEP**

- | | | | | |
|-----------|--------------|---------------|-------------|------------|
| 1. Frugal | 2. Excessive | 3. Affordable | 4. Moderate | 5. Prudent |
|-----------|--------------|---------------|-------------|------------|

8. **BESET**

- | | | | | |
|------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|
| 1. Torment | 2. Defend | 3. Provide | 4. Shelter | 5. Justify |
|------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|

Directions (9 - 10) : Choose the word which is the **OPPOSITE** in meaning as the word printed in **bold** as used in the passage.

9. **DEPRECIATION**

1. Devaluation 2. Slump 3. Plunge 4. Tumble 5. Surge

10. **ACCRUING**

1. Augmenting 2. Accumulating 3. Amassing 4. Dispersing 5. Reckoning

Directions (11 - 15) : In each of the questions given below a sentence is given with one blank. Below each sentence FOUR words are given out of which two can fit the sentence. Five options are given with various combinations of these words. You must choose the combination with the correct set of words which can fit in the given sentence.

11. Psychometric methods were used to collect and _____ the information.

- (A) analyse (B) bringing (C) array (D) mighty

1. A - C 2. B - D 3. B - C 4. A - B 5. A - D

12. The _____ of his argument was that education should continue throughout life.

- (A) remedy (B) essence (C) gist (D) great

1. A - D 2. B - C 3. C - D 4. A - C 5. B - D

13. They expressed _____ optimism about a solution to the crisis.

- (A) prudent (B) cautious (C) slow (D) desire

1. A - B 2. A - C 3. B - D 4. C - D 5. B - C

14. In my own research, some _____ use was made of a micro-recorder and tapes were later transcribed.

- (A) later (B) covert (C) secretive (D) utilizing

1. A - D 2. C - D 3. B - C 4. B - D 5. A - C

15. For hours he did everything to _____ him, but the old man remained impassive.

- (A) Close (B) blaming (C) provoke (D) instigate

1. A - D 2. C - D 3. B - C 4. B - D 5. A - C

Directions (16 - 20) : Which of the following phrases given below each sentence should replace the phrase printed in bold letters to make the sentence grammatically correct? Choose the best option among the five given alternatives that reflect the correct use of phrase in the context of the grammatically correct sentence. If the sentence is correct as it is, mark (5) i.e. "No correction required" as the answer.

16. **Despite of having** required ability, he could not succeed.

1. Despite of being 2. Despite having 3. Despite having of

4. In spite of being 5. No correction required

17. The leader repeatedly mentioned that his mission was not **by merely to achieve** freedom.

1. To more achieving 2. For merely to achieve 3. Merely to achieve

4. In order for achieving 5. No correction required

18. The advocate declared in the court that his client **has prepared to** surrender.

1. Was prepared to 2. Has been preparing for 3. Was prepared at

4. Has prepared for 5. No correction required

19. Late in the afternoon, **feeling exhausted and humiliated**, the impetuous warrior withdrew.

1. felting exhaust and humilate 2. feeling exhausting and humiliate 3. feel exhaust and humiliated

4. feel exhausted with humiliate 5. No correction required

20. There is full justification to close down the units **which are neither profitable or serving** any social cause.

1. Which are not profitable or serve. 2. Which are neither profitable nor serve

3. Which have neither profitable nor serve 4. Which are not profiting nor serving 5. No correction required.

Directions (21 - 25) : In the following passage, some of the words have been left out, each of which is indicated by a number. Find the suitable word from the options given against each number and fill up the blanks with appropriate words to make the paragraph meaningfully complete.

Over the last twenty-five years, a different ___(21)___ to economics has been slowly birthing, and slowly growing. complexity economics. Complexity economics holds that the economy is not necessarily in equilibrium, that computation as well as mathematics is useful in economics, that increasing as well as ___(22)___ returns may be present in an economic situation, and that the economy is not something given and existing but forms from a ___(23)___ developing set of institutions, arrangements, and technological ___(24)___. The economy is a vast and complicated set of arrangements and actions wherein agents. consumers firms, banks, investors government agencies. buy and sell, speculate, trade, oversee, bring products into being, offer services, invest in companies, strategize, explore, forecast, compete, learn, innovate and ___(25)___.

- | | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 21. | 1. Act | 2. Restrain | 3. Agreement | 4. Approach | 5. Judgment |
| 22. | 1. Adding | 2. Nurturing | 3. Diminishing | 4. Glorifying | 5. Approving |
| 23. | 1. Defectively | 2. Constantly | 3. Worthlessly | 4. Disloyally | 5. Arranged |
| 24. | 1. Innovations | 2. Reductions | 3. Drawings | 4. Affirmation | 5. Distractions |
| 25. | 1. Anger | 2. Clash | 3. Argue | 4. Annoy | 5. Adapt |

Directions (26 - 30) : In the question given below, some parts are given which have to be arranged in a proper sequence. Select the option which best defines the proper sequence and arranges the parts to form a meaningful sentence.

26. process with Pakistan (A)/conducting a peace (B) / has emerged as (C) / acute strategic headaches (D)/one of India's (E)/
- | | | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 1. CBDEA | 2. BCADE | 3. BACED | 4. DABCE | 5. EABCD |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
27. of adulthood, they are nevertheless (A)/ the traditional milestones (B)/ entering their peak spending years(C)/while a surprisingly large (D) /number of millennials have delayed (E)/
- | | | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 1. ABDCE | 2. CDBEA | 3. BDEAC | 4. EABDC | 5. DEBAC |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
28. and you'd hardly expect (A)/ to be surprised with (B)/ an introduction to a classic (C)/ a negative take in (D)/ prose is an eclectic collection (E)/
- | | | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 1. ABCED | 2. DEBAC | 3. CDEAB | 4. BAECD | 5. EABDC |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
29. societies that bar (A)/ protecting themselves (B) /their critics aren't (C)/, for they are (D)/ advertising their weakness (E)
- | | | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 1. ABCDE | 2. BEDAC | 3. ABCED | 4. ACBDE | 5. EDCBA |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
30. principle of limited liability (A)/ to stand guarantee for(B) / of promoters who have been made (C)/going after personal assets (D)/the company's loans -violates the (E)/
- | | | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 1. BDCEA | 2. DBCAE | 3. DCBEA | 4. CEADB | 5. ABDCE |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|