

IBPS POs Prelims Grand Test

No. of Questions: 100

Max. Marks: 100

Time: 60 min

[Each Question carries 1 mark. For each incorrect response, 0.25 mark will be deducted]

విన్నోటి 'విద్య' తరువాయి...

15. The defending attorney weakened the prosecution's arguments so much that, at the end of the trial, the jury doubted that the victim had even existed.

- 1) doubts that the victim has even existed
- 2) was in doubt as to the existence of the victim
- 3) was doubtful concerning the victim's existence
- 4) had doubts about the victim's even existing
- 5) No correction required

Directions (Q.No.16-20): Rearrange the following six sentences (A), (B), (C), (D), (E) and (F) in a proper sequence to form a meaningful paragraph and then answer the questions given below.

- A) While there may have been some of this during the national movement, as its pre-eminent leaders came from the north, there is little to commend the region to them today.
 - B) Why would the culture of such a region be the object of desire elsewhere in the country?
 - C) We find in history many instances of the adoption of the language of societies that are the object of admiration by the natives.
 - D) Uttar Pradesh is perceived as an area of backwardness with mob lynching erupting on the watch of a complicit state.
 - E) For Hindi to be adopted by the people of southern India today they must hold a similar view of the society of their northern cousins.
 - F) Thus, French was the language of the Tsarist court in Russia because of the political, cultural and scientific advances made in France.
16. What is the **FOURTH** sentence after rearrangement?
1) A 2) B 3) C 4) D 5) E
17. What is the **THIRD** sentence after rearrangement?

1)A 2) B 3) D 4) F 5) E
18. What is the **SECOND** sentence after rearrangement?

1) A 2) B 3) C 4) E 5) F
19. What is the **FIRST** sentence after rearrangement?

1) B 2) A 3) C 4) D 5) E
20. What is the **LAST** sentence after rearrangement?

1) A 2) B 3) C 4) D 5) F

Directions (Q.No. 21-25): In the following passage there are blanks, each of which has been numbered. These numbers are printed below the passage and against each, five words/ phrases are suggested, one of which fits the blank appropriately. Find out the appropriate word/ phrase in each case and mark your answer.

The spurt in instances of job losses _____(21) automobile manufacturers to biscuit makers has led to the general acceptance of the _____(22). This is the third instance of an economic slowdown for India in the past decade after the ones that _____(23) in June 2008 and March 2011. The technical term for the same _____(24) growth recession. A recession is defined in economics as three consecutive quarters of contraction in GDP. But since India is a large developing economy, contraction is a rarity. The last instance of negative growth for India was in 1979. A growth recession is more commonplace where the economy continues to grow but at a _____s (25) pace than usual for a sustained period, what India has been facing nowadays.

21. 1) from 2) For 3) In
4) At 5) Among
22. 1) Upturn 2) Rise 3) Growth
4) Upsurge 5) Downturn
23. 1) Begin 2) Begins 3) Began
4) Beginning 5) Has began
24. 1) Was 2) Be 3) Were
4) Was 5) Is
25. 1) slow 2) Slower 3) Slows
4) Slowest 5) slowly

Directions (Q.No. 26-30) Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it. Certain words have been printed in bold to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.

Combating fake news is a growing preoccupation of the technology platforms, the political class, the news media, and an increasing tribe of citizens concerned about democracy being hijacked. There is a perception that fake news is a new phenomenon linked to the rise of social media; however, this is only half the story. Governments and political actors (anyone in the business of mobilising public opinion) have always invested in disinformation campaigns to build narratives of their choice. In fact, it is because the institutional news media is no longer seen as an arbitrator of the 'real news' - having lost credibility due to **complicit** and motivated reporting - that fake news has been able to thrive now. The advent of social media has merely decentralised the creation and propagation of fake news. It is this that has led to the ubiquity of and difficulty in controlling/eliminating fake news.

The current response to fake news primarily revolves around three prongs - rebuttal, removal of the fake news item and educating the public. While these are necessary measures, it is not apparent that they are sufficient in themselves to address the larger 'political' problem posed by fake news.

Rebuttal is a form of fact checking wherein the fake news is debunked by pointing out errors like mismatch, malicious editing and misattribution. To the extent that the fake news item appears on institutional handles, attempts are made to have it removed after rebuttal. There is much pressure on companies like Facebook and YouTube to proactively remove fake news from their platforms and rework their

algorithms to ensure that such content does not gain prominence. The newly introduced limits on forwarding messages on WhatsApp are an offshoot of this discourse, where accountability to address fake news is offloaded on to the technology platforms. The third leg of the response revolves around educating the end users to be more **discerning** consumers of news by informing them of verification tools so that they can ascertain the accuracy of a news item before sharing it. Another emerging strand in this discourse, propagated by the government, concerns tracking the 'source' of fake news, ostensibly to address the issue at its root. However, this suggestion, when combined with another proposal to de-anonymise all social media accounts, is fraught with serious issues concerning invasion of privacy and free speech, and will more often than not be used by governments to quell dissent.

While the measures outlined are important and must be expanded upon, there are some evident shortcomings in this approach. First, attempting to rebut fake news is akin to hitting a moving target, with a steady stream of fake news getting churned out consistently. It may be possible to rebut news on one fake instance of children getting abducted or on Indian citizens toting Pakistan's flags but the 'fake news factory' will keep churning out similar stories to advance its chosen narrative.

Second, it is impossible to completely 'remove' fake news even after rebuttal, given the decentralised nature of dissemination. Propagation and virality of a news item are contingent not on its accuracy but on how well it conforms to the dominant narrative and also on the strength of the associated distribution networks that spread the narrative. Thus, the act of 'rebuttal', instead of supplanting the original fake news item, could end up vying for space with the latter. Moreover, in India, the right-wing propagators of fake

news are often better organised, especially on messaging platforms like WhatsApp, than the liberal Opposition.

However, the biggest shortcoming of this approach - the fact that the very act of rebuttal reinforces the fake narrative being pushed - goes beyond this **cat-and-mouse problem**. Since the act of rebuttal gets confined within the original framework of the fake news item, the political impact of the rebuttal is far less than ideal.

The average consumer relies on overall frameworks/narratives to evaluate a piece of information. The increasing complexity of issues, in conjunction with the deluge of information - with the relevant jostling for space with the irrelevant - has made it impossible for any individual to develop a well-researched stand on all the topics. When an individual piece of information (fake news or otherwise) conforms to someone's held beliefs, it is readily accepted and shared.

26. The idiom 'cat and mouse problem' in this context refers to
1) Child's play
2) Police- robber game
3) A pleasant situation
4) A never ending context
5) Fake game
27. Identify the correct statement from the following.
a. The popularity of a news item is not dependent on its accuracy.
b. The main reason behind the spread of fake news is the phenomenal growth of social media
1) only a 2) Only b
3) Both a & b 4) Neither a nor b
5) Either a or b
28. Which statement is true as per the passage?
a. The flood of information, the shrinking in intricacy of issues and the mad rush for space are all the reasons which make it impossible for an individual to be well educated on all topics.
b. The three prongs are not sufficient to address the larger problem of spreading of fake news.
c. The social media giants are stressed to rework on algorithms for the virality of a news item.
1) a, b & c 2) B & c
3) A & c 4) A & b
5) None of the above
29. The synonym of complicit is
1) dormant 2) Domicile
3) Deluge 4) Dogmatic
5) Dynamic
30. The antonym of discern is
1) sense 2) familiar
3) Proverbial 4) Alien
5) memorable

KEY WITH EXPLANATION

- 15) **5**; The attorney weakened something and the jury doubted something. Option 1 uses the wrong tense. Option 2 is too wordy. Options 3 & 4 are not parallel. So, there is no correction. Choice 5 is the correct answer.
16) **1**; 17) **5**; 18) **5**; 19) **3**;
20) **2**; (Though sentence 'D' starts with a proper Noun it cannot be the first sentence, as, the subject is 'adoption of languages' which is mentioned in sentence 'C',

- followed by an example to reiterate in sentence 'F'. the next sentence to be followed should speak about the subject further, which is done in sentence 'E'. It is to be followed by sentence 'A'. The last but one sentence is 'D' and the concluding sentence is 'B'.
21) **1**;
The correct proposition to be used is 'from' as the sentence continuation confirms this from ...to
22) **5**; Except option 5 all other options are synonymous. We are

- talking about the loss on the job market, so, it cannot be growth, it should be definitely about recession.
23) **3**; While talking about a past event the verb should be in simple past tense, so 'began' is the right option.
24) **5**; It is a statement which is supposed to be stated in simple present tense. So, the correct 'be' form is 'is'.
25) **2**; It is the adjective form that is to be used, not the adverb form, so, option 5 is ruled out. In the remaining options, option 2 is

- correct, as it uses the comparative form. The presence of 'than' in the sentence is a clue which helps to identify the right word.
26) **4**;
27) **1**; Second sentence is incorrect because the writer stated that it is only half the story.
28) **5**; As per the passage only sentence b is true. In the options given we don't have this. So, it is 5 'none of the above' which is the right answer.
29) **5**;
30) **4**;