

The term inflation means - decline in value and purchasing power of a currency. As per the author - The Russia-Ukraine war has disrupted supply chains causing commodity prices to rise, leading to a worldwide hardening of inflationary trends. If we consider option (c) to be true, it will reduce the decline in value of the rupee because reduction in inflationary trends and reduction in interest rates will increase the power of the currency. Hence, option (c) is correct.

If we assume the condition stated in option (b) to be true; increase in commodity prices and disruption of supply chains is a factor which will increase inflation. Hence, Option (b) is incorrect.

Option (d) signifies the solution to the inflationary condition to buy as many dollars as possible from the market. However, as per the author one way to ease the situation is that the Reserve Bank of India could sell off dollars in the market to ease the supply situation. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

108. Option (d) is correct.

Refer to the statement of the author, "The depreciation of an economy's currency is not a matter of concern in itself. The decline in the value against major currencies has to be viewed within a set of macroeconomic factors." Option (a) supports the argument proposed by the author; as the author supports the fact that global inflationary trends leave an impact on the Indian economy. Simultaneously, option (d) which states that the Indian economy and currency are highly protected and have been insulated from the effects of global inflationary trends and the increase of interest rates in developed country markets is somehow contradicting and weakens the idea proposed by the author.

Consider option (b). The fact mentioned in the option supports the idea proposed by the author; "Higher interest rates in developed country markets have caused a significant outflow of portfolio investments from India, aggravating the already climbing demand for dollars from a rising import bill. By May 2022, foreign institutional investors had pulled out Rs. 1.50 lakh crore from Indian markets.

As per the author, if the demand of US dollars increase; it will decrease the rupee price of dollar. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

109. Option (a) is correct.

If option (a) is true, then it would certainly support the argument proposed by the author because as per the author, if economies across the world experience a slow down; it will lead to a slowdown of their import capacity and eventually will impact India's export market.

The relationship derived by the author between the export market of India and economic stability

across the world is inverse. Hence, (b) will also weaken the argument.

Options (c) and (d) are incorrect statements as per the passage.

110. Option (b) is correct.

As per the author's view, the rise in the interest rate will leave an impact on the economics not on the political arena, hence option (a) is incorrect.

As per the author's view, one of the reasons behind inflation in rupee is an increment of inflationary trends across the world. Option (b) represents an extended view of the author's take on inflationary dynamics of the world and the Indian currency.

Option (c) and option (d) both of them will weaken the author's view on the dynamics of interest rate and global investment scenario. Refer to the following statement from the passage, "Higher interest rates in developed country markets have caused a significant outflow of portfolio investments from India, aggravating the already climbing demand for dollars from a rising import bill. By May 2022, foreign institutional investors had pulled out Rs. 1.50 lakh crore from Indian markets."

111. Option (a) is correct.

As per the author, regulating the inflation is a multidimensional aspect. It's dependent on various dimensions of the economy. hence, just by preventing an age of depreciation of our currency the other impact can't be controlled.

Option (a) justifies author's take on prevention the depreciation of the rupee. Simultaneously, option (b) represents depreciation as an unidimensional factor, which is incorrect as per the author in the passage.

As per the author, periodic inflationary trends lead to a chain of disruption of several other economic dimensions too. Hence, it is a matter of concern and can't be left out without being addressed by the RBI; as it leaves an impact on various industries and the entire dynamics of economy as a whole. Hence, options (c) and (d) both are less likely to be agreed upon by the author.

112. Option (b) is correct.

As per the passage, "An earlier survey, which attempted to examine the impact of the lockdown on 'reading patterns', had found that the number of readers who used to spend over an hour on newspapers every day had risen to 38%, up from 16% in the pre-lockdown period." Hence, the increase in the number of readers during Covid shows a benefit to the print media. Hence, it negates statements (a) and (d).

Considering the other side projected by the author throws light on the setbacks faced by the newspapers during the Covid era. Refer to the

sentence," Ironically, the pandemic, which saw a resurgence in collective trust in newspapers, adversely affected the print media as traditional advertisers, reeling under the economic fallouts of Covid-19, cut back on advertisements."

Hence, it can be concluded that the pandemic has had both positive and negative impact on the print media.

113. Option (a) is correct.

As per the author, social media is a harbinger of lies. Statement (a) weakens the author's view on social media. Hence, it is correct. However, option (b) supports the author's view on social media. Option (c) implies that social media is a good way for people to stay connected with each other. As per the passage, the author has not mentioned anything with respect to social media's application to people.

As per the author, social media is a speedier source of information. Hence, option (d) strengthens the author's argument and is an incorrect option.

114. Option (d) is correct.

If the print media slows down, it will even aggravate the problem. As per the author, "Newspapers have been outpaced by speedier, but also spurious, sources of information." Hence, options (a) and (c) both are not an effective way of making print media more competitive. Simultaneously, the concern of the author here in the passage is that print media has been outpaced by speedier sources of information. Hence, option (d) can be an effective way to make print media more competitive.

As per the passage, there is no price comparison done between print media and social media accessibility; hence, we can't conclude whether using more expensive printing methods will make print media more competitive or not. Hence, option (c) is also incorrect.

115. Option (c) is correct.

As per the author, "The post-truth era is, expectedly, marked by a discerning erosion of public trust in sources of information. Mass media — both traditional and new-age avatars — has borne the brunt of this mistrust." If newspapers are vigilant in ensuring they report accurate and true news during lockdown; it will surely deepen public trust. Hence, option (a) is incorrect. Simultaneously, option (d) also mentions to alter the public which will again lead to weakening of public trust.

Consider option (b). Any option which exposes lies and misinformation spread during lockdown will definitely deepen the public's trust in it.

If newspapers like other sources of information start disseminating misinformation, it will lead to weakening of public trust in newspapers. Hence, option (c) is correct.

116. Option (a) is correct.

If the images were not dominant over text as a cultural phenomenon, then it is evident as per the author that readership of print media would not have suffered and the readers would not be looking out for other formats. Hence, option (a) is correct.

As per the author in the passage, "The dominance of the image over text as a cultural phenomenon is another formidable challenge." Inclination of readers towards image rather than text is one of the prime reasons for the shift in the preference source of media opted by people. Hence, option (b) is incorrect. As per option (c), there will be no impact on the readership; which is also incorrect because as per the author, readership of print media is hampered by the cultural phenomenon a lot.

As per option (d), if the newspapers have more images and less text, it will increase its readership. In the passage, the author has not mentioned anything related to this thing that will happen if the print media will have more images and less text. Hence, this can't be inferred from the passage.

117. Option (d) is correct.

As per the author, to become competitive, newspapers can re-explore the revenue model, put emphasis on in-depth analysis of news and print eye-catching layouts is what has been suggested by the author in the passage. The author has not described any method which can improvise the speed of print media publication; hence, option (a) is incorrect.

The prime concern of the author in the passage is to encourage print media and if they encourage a complete and immediate shift to digital media, it will not serve as a solution. Hence, option (b) is also incorrect.

Referring to the lines of the passage, "Survival strategies, especially the revenue model, must be re-explored and the emphasis shifted to in-depth analyses of news as well as eye-catching layouts now that newspapers are slower to reach news to the audience. "It doesn't refer to any way which emphasises on the reduction of the production costs. Hence, option (c) is also incorrect.

Simultaneously, option (d) conveys the idea proposed by the author appropriately in which alternative means for newspapers to become competitive.

118. Option (d) is correct.

Refer to the lines of the passage, "ordinary people in these countries are worried, not just because of climate change but because of the lack of energy to heat their homes this coming winter." Hence, option (a) is something we can't agree with as per the passage.

As per the passage, "In the US, gas prices went up in summer, so much so that people travelled less and consumption of fuel dropped. But now prices are down and it is business as usual. "People in the US are not concerned and affected by climate change; the changes in the consumption is because of the price hike. Hence, option (b) is incorrect and option (d) which registers change in energy consumption habits because of price hike is most likely to agree with.

As per the passage, "The US has passed a climate bill, which will invest in renewable energy but conditional to increased spending on oil and gas and the opening up of millions of hectares of federal land for drilling." Hence, seeking out renewable energy sources is not a result of climate change and price hike.

119. Option (b) is correct.

Solution: As per the author in the passage, developed countries not the developing countries reduce emissions drastically and leave whatever little carbon budget space that is remaining to poorer countries to use. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

As per the author in the passage, "One, this renewed interest in fossil fuels must remain temporary and transient. Given the nature of economies, once the investment has been made in this new infrastructure or the supply of fossil fuel has increased from new oil and gas discoveries, it will be difficult to wean off. "Hence, option (c) is what the author will differ with.

However, as per the author, the condition of the energy crunch might improve if developed countries explore and move to alternative energy sources. Hence, option (b) is correct and option (a) contradicts the author's view.

120. Option (d) is correct.

Solution: The condition and state of developed countries that the author is discussing in the passage clearly implies that the world is facing shortage of fuel and is seeking out for alternate sources of energy. Simultaneously, the author has mentioned in the passage that there is a very little carbon budget space across world; which will substantially increase the demand of fossil fuels across the world. Hence, option (a) can't be true but option (d) must be true as per the author.

Again, in the passage the author has not discussed anything about the cost of setting up or installation of solar panels, hence, (b) is also incorrect.

121. Option (c) is correct.

According to the passage, "In the US, gas prices went up in summer, so much so that people travelled less and consumption of fuel dropped."

Option (d) is somehow supporting the idea proposed by the author by adding that due

to geopolitical tensions fuel prices went up in summer; but now they have eased off.

Option (c) is completely and strongly contradicting the factor proposed by the author in the passage and is connecting the travelling frequency of people with lockdowns. Hence, it is the correct option.

Option (a) says that irrespective of any time of the year, if fuel costs increase, the travel frequency will decrease; which is out of the horizon discussed in the passage.

Option (b) is particularly discussing airfare which is again beyond the scope of the passage. Hence, it is an incorrect option.

122. Option (a) is correct.

The word 'conundrum' means difficulty or challenge. In the passage, the author is discussing the difficulty of limited and depreciating energy sources in developed nations. The solution the author has proposed in the passage is to seek out alternate sources of energy. Option (a) if considered to be true, will provide a decent solution to the challenge of energy crunch discussed in the passage.

Option (b) is discussing new sources of fossil fuels to resolve the shortage of energy; but it will not resolve the concern raised by the author in the passage, as it is just discussing providing heat to the homes during winters and not considering the challenge related to fuel.

Option (c) sounds a bit impractical as per the passage as switching to renewable power sources is only possible when you have ample sources to cater the need for the entire nation.

The conundrum discussed in the passage is about the developed countries, hence option (d) too is an incorrect statement as per the passage.

123. Option (c) is correct.

The climate bill proposed in the passage says, "The US has passed a climate bill, which will invest in renewable energy but conditional to increased spending on oil and gas and the opening up of millions of hectares of federal land for drilling."

Out of the given four arguments, option (c) is the strongest that aims against the agenda of the US climate bill to invest in renewable energy and simultaneously increase expenditure on drilling the federal land. The bill itself contradicts its cause and the effect is reciprocating. Options (a), (b) and (d) are somehow irrelevant and don't support or even contradict the climate bill effect.

124. Option (c) is correct.

The term gendered means, "reflecting the experience, prejudices, or orientations of one sex more than the other." As per the author, "Gendered networks in the workplace, with men gaining greater access to senior leaders, becoming

cemented mid-career, pose another difficulty for working women. “

Considering option (a), it weakens the statement proposed by the author as it contradicts and states that women will find career progression easily by gendered networks. Option (b) and option (d) again contradict the author’s perspective of gendered networks. As per option (b), women find it easier to get access to senior male leaders and find opportunities easily.

Option (c) completely supports the perspective of gendered networks put forth by the author. It strengthens the concept of a gendered network and stretches it to convey that career progression is harder to come by for mid-career women as a result of gendered networks.

125. Option (b) is correct.

As per the author, the motherhood penalty is a state of mothers when the people around them start questioning their commitment towards work and career. As an outcome, they tend to give more opportunities to men of the same age. Hence, option (a) is contradicting the statement proposed by the author. On the other hand, option (b) could be the outcome of the motherhood penalty; if women hiring will decrease as a penalty of motherhood, then the option left with employers is to hire men.

Option (c) is more of an assumption which could lay the base of the author’s perspective of the motherhood penalty. Option (d) is again an assumption which can’t lay a base for the author’s idea of a motherhood penalty.

126. Option (a) is correct.

As per the author in the passage, “In an analysis of professors’ evaluations, female professors witnessed a decline as they moved from their 30s to 40s, hitting an all-time low around the age of 47. All this while, the evaluation of male professors remained consistent.” According to the passage, this disparity will lead to promotion of male professors as compared to the females. Hence, option (a) is correct.

Options (b), (c) and (d) highlight the outcome which is unlikely to happen as per the passage. The author in the passage is depicting the instance which extends the idea of male professors getting more opportunities as compared to their female counterparts because of professors’ evaluation.

127. Option (d) is correct.

Refer to these lines from the passage, “They found that while pregnant women or the woman with the baby were thought about in glowing terms, menopausal women were associated with negative emotions, illness and aging.” Which shows that as per the author in the passage, people’s behaviour

changes towards the women when they are about to reach their menopause age. Management is biased towards male employees. Hence, option (b) is supporting the author’s idea proposed in the passage whereas option (d) is the option with which the author will be the most likely to disagree with. It is straight ahead contradicting the facts proposed by the author in the passage.

Throughout the passage, the author mentions the various ways through which middle-aged women are not getting enough opportunities because of their responsibilities, motherhood, etc. It is not at all mentioned anywhere about women quitting their jobs or taking sabbatical. Hence, option (a) and option (c) are incorrect.

128. Option (b) is correct.

In a nutshell, throughout the passage the author is discussing the differences women face, especially with their career. They are perceived negatively, especially when they are in their late 40s. Hence, options (a) and (d) is incorrect. Option (c) is beyond the scope of the passage.

Option (b) supports the main argument in the passage. It strengthens by adding that women in the workplace are perceived negatively and treated unfairly.

129. Option (c) is correct.

As per Laura Kray, “At that point, there are different stereotypes of women, and they may benefit from being seen as more grandmotherly.” Evaluation of male professors remain consistent whereas women professors are perceived to be grandmotherly when they are in their early 60s. Options (a), (b) and (c) all of them strengthen Laura’s argument and extend it further by adding that women professors are treated better by their colleagues and they receive much more respect than younger women professors.

Option (c) somehow contradicts Laura’s argument related to women professors as it states they are regarded as being slow and inefficient.

130. Option (b) is correct.

In the passage, the author derives an analogy from the primitive age stating, “Back in our hunting and gathering days, we were better off being frightened of a spider or a snake a hundred times too often than one time too few. Too much fear wouldn’t kill you; too little surely would.” Hence, as per the author, behavioural traits that helped us in the days when we were hunter gatherers are still part of mankind. Option (a) is supporting the ideas proposed by the author whereas option (b) is contradicting it. Hence, option (b) is correct.

Option (d) is summing up and supporting the author’s view about how we humans respond. Considering option (c) refers to the lines of the

passage, "The first is what psychologists call negativity bias: we're more attuned to the bad than the good." Hence, option (c) too is supporting the idea presented by the author in the passage.

131. Option (b) is correct.

As per the author, "In this digital age, the news we're being fed is only getting more extreme." Option (a) contradicts the idea proposed by the author as it implies that social media projects reality in a mundane manner. Option (b) supports the author's idea and extends it to the fact that contemporary media serves regular news in an exciting way. Hence, option (b) is most likely to agree with the author.

Options (c) and (d) both contradict by saying that contemporary media exposes us to boring news and information.

132. Option (d) is correct.

Options (a) and (b): are highlighting the human behavioural tendency projected by the author rather than the type of news that the media exposes. Hence, both are incorrect.

As per the author, "They know how to grab your attention and hold it so they can serve you the most lucrative helping of personalised ads. This modern media frenzy is nothing less than an assault on the mundane." As per the author, boring and nice news do not sell. In order to make it more lucrative, it has to be projected in a way which is different from our day-to-day life. Hence, option (d) is correct and (c) is incorrect.

133. Option (c) is correct.

As per the author in the passage, humans are more receptive and attuned to the bad than the good. Our attention is grabbed more easily toward bad news than towards a pleasant happening. To this, author has given the term: Negativity bias.

Both options (a) and (b) are contradicting the idea of negativity bias of the author; whereas option (c) is supporting the concept.

Option (d) is not going along with the concept of negativity bias proposed by the author.

134. Option (d) is correct.

As per the author, "The fact that we're bombarded daily with horrific stories about aircraft disasters, child snatchers and beheadings — which tend to lodge in the memory — completely skews our view of the world. "To overcome these effects of availability bias. One can ensure that one's sources of information are dispersed and not restricted to a particular source and mode of information. Hence, option (a) is incorrect, as it supports the idea of availability bias. On the other hand, option (d) will counter effect the restriction of availability bias by the author. Hence, option (d) as more the exposure of the readers to different news sources the less will be the reliability of a single source of information.

Options (c) and option (b): both the options will further deepen the idea of availability bias proposed by the author.

135. Option (a) is correct.

The statement proposed in this question is the extension of availability biases, an idea proposed by the author. The closing sentence which says; this completely skews our view of the world- depicts that the information we are reading and watching leaves a deep impact on us. If we assume our ideas about the world are shaped by the information we are exposed to, we can extend this assumption to the statement proposed by the author in the passage.

Assumption (d) is irrelevant to the statement in the question as it is related to the evolution of humans. Assumption (c) is setting an assumption ground related to the speed at which we get the news and efficiency of modern journalism.

Option (b) leads a ground with respect to finances; which again is irrelevant to the statement.

QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

136. Option (b) is correct.

Statement 1: Women's average earning in Urban areas in casual work = ₹5700

Where, men's average earning in Urban areas in casual work = ₹9000

So, Women's average earning in Urban areas in casual work is less than men's average earning =

$$\frac{9000 - 5700}{9000} \times 100$$

$$= 36.66\%$$

So, statement 1 is wrong.

Statement 2: Men's average earning in Urban areas in self-employment = ₹16000

Women's average earning in Urban areas in self-employment = ₹6600

So, here men's income is nearly 2.5 times that of the earning of women's income. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

Statement 3: This statement is also wrong as exact data of earning of womens in rural area is not available.

Statement 4: The difference in earnings of men and women in regular/salaried employment in

urban areas = 19800 – 15600 = ₹ 4200 so, statement 4 is also wrong.

137. Option (c) is correct.

The regular employed in urban areas; the earnings of a non-SC/ST worker = ₹ 20300

The regular employed in urban areas; the earnings of a SC/ST worker = ₹ 15300

$$\text{Required percentage} = \frac{20300 - 15300}{15300} \times 100 = 32.67\%$$

138. Option (b) is correct.

Men's average earning in Urban areas in casual work = ₹ 9000

$$\text{We have, SI} = \frac{P \times R \times T}{100}$$

So, SI for 20 years at a rate of 16%

$$= \frac{9000 \times 16 \times 20}{100} = ₹ 28800$$

Now, SC/ST workers earning in casual employment = ₹ 8000

So, the time required by an SC/ST employee to earn ₹ 28800

$$\text{SI at a rate of 16\%} = \frac{28800 \times 100}{8000 \times 16} = 22.5 \text{ years}$$

139. Option (b) is correct.

The number of women in India in 2020–2021 = 670 million

$$\text{Number of women in LFPR in 2020–2021} = 670 \times \frac{25.1}{100} = 168.17 \text{ million}$$

So, the number of women in India in 2004–2005

$$= 670 \times \frac{100}{124}$$

Number of women in LFPR in 2004–2005

$$= 670 \times \frac{100}{124} \times \frac{42.7}{100} = 230.72 \text{ million}$$

So, required difference = 230.72 – 168.17

$$= 62.55 \text{ million}$$

140. Option (a) is correct.

Let the female population = x

Then, male population = $1.05x$

So, number of males aged 15 years or more

$$= \frac{76}{100} \times 1.05x = 0.798x$$

And number of females aged 15 years or more

$$= \frac{72}{100} \times x = 0.72x$$

Number of females aged 15 years or more have

$$\text{jobs} = \frac{19}{100} \times 0.72x = 0.1368x$$

Number of males aged 15 years or more have jobs

$$= \frac{60}{100} \times 0.798x = 0.4788x$$

$$\text{Required ratio} = 0.1368 : 0.4788 = 2 : 7$$

141. Option (c) is correct.

Given that the world fruit production went up 54 percent between 2000 and 2019 to 883 million tonnes.

So, the world fruit production in 2000

$$= 883 \times \frac{100}{154} = 573.33 \text{ million tonnes}$$

142. Option (b) is correct.

Let the percentage share of bananas and plantains in 2019 = $x\%$

Then, the percentage share of bananas and plantains in 2000 = $(x - 1)\%$

So, percentage of watermelons in 2019 = $(x - 7)\%$

Percentage of oranges and grapes in 2019

$$= \frac{x}{2}\% \text{ each}$$

Percentage of apples in 2019 = 10%

According to the question,

$$x + x - 7 + \frac{x}{2} + \frac{x}{2} + 10 = 57$$

$$\Rightarrow 3x = 54$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 18$$

So, the percentage share of Bananas in 2019 = 18%

143. Option (a) is correct.

Given, total percentage of five fruits in 2000 = 63%
From solution (142),

The percentage share of bananas in 2000 = 17%

The percentage share of apples in 2000 = 9%

The percentage share of watermelons in 2019

$$= 11\%$$

so, the percentage of oranges in 2000 = 11%

percentage of grapes in 2000 = 11%

Now, percentage share of watermelons in 2000

$$= 63\% - (17\% + 9\% + 11\% + 11\%) = 15\%$$

According to the question,

$$\text{Perished watermelon} = \frac{1}{8} \text{ part}$$

$$\text{Watermelon sold for juice} = \frac{7}{8} \times \frac{1}{5} \text{ part}$$

$$\text{Quantity of exported watermelon} = \frac{7}{8} \times \frac{4}{5} \times \frac{30}{100} \text{ part}$$

So, quantity of watermelons retained for home use

$$= \left(\frac{7}{8} \times \frac{4}{5} \times \frac{7}{10} \right) \text{ of } 15\% \text{ of } 573 = 42.11 \text{ million tonnes}$$

144. Option (a) is correct.

Let there are 4 customers P, Q, R and S.

Let quantity of apple sold to customer P and Q each = $x\%$

As given in question (142),

Total percentage quantity of apple in 2000 = 10%

So, percentage quantity of apple sold to customer

$$P = 5\%$$

And percentage quantity of apple sold to customer

$$Q = 5\%$$

Given, total quantity of apple = total quantity of grapes

So, total percentage quantity of grapes = 10%

Now, total quantity of grapes

$$= \frac{10}{100} \times 573 = 57.3 \text{ million tonnes}$$

Average quantity of grapes sold to each customer

$$= \frac{57.3}{3} = 19.1 \text{ million tonnes}$$

145. Option (d) is correct.

Let the selling price of oranges for both Frutopia and Fruitfix = ₹ x

Discount percentage offered by Frutopia = 15%

Discount percentage offered by Fruitfix = 20%

Marked price of oranges on Frutopia = ₹75/kg

$$\text{So, selling price for Frutopia } x = 75 \times \frac{85}{100} = ₹63.75$$

According to the question,

Marked price of oranges for Fruitfix

$$= 63.75 \times \frac{100}{80} = ₹79.69 = ₹80$$

146. Option (b) is correct.

Given,

The average weight of the players after selecting one player from each group is 68 kg.

After leaving S, the average weight of team

$$= 66.5 \text{ kg}$$

$$\text{So, weight of S} = 68 + 1.5 \times 10 = 83 \text{ kg}$$

So, he is from the group 9 (80 kg – 84 kg).

147. Option (a) is correct.

After leaving S, two new members joined the group and the average weight again increases to 68 kg.

So, total weight of these two new members

$$= 2 \times 68 + 9 \times 1.5 = 149.5 \text{ kg}$$

From the given options, both persons can not be from group 1 and 3. Because maximum weights from group 1 and 3 are 52 kg and 60 kg, respectively. Their sum is less than 149.5 kg.

148. Option (d) is correct.

As individual weights and number of players are not known. So, their average weight can't be determined.

149. Option (d) is correct.

We can't determine that which group will contribute most in overall average as we don't know the weights of selected members from each group.

150. Option (c) is correct.

If one of the new two players is from group 4, then maximum possible weight of that person = 64 kg

$$\text{So, 2}^{\text{nd}} \text{ person weight} = 149.5 - 64 = 85.5 \text{ kg}$$

So, the 2nd member will be only from group 10.

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