

### English Test – 3&5

Read the passage below carefully to answer the following questions. Each question provides five options for its answer. Choose the correct option as your answer.

'Plastics' is an expansive umbrella term that encompasses a wide assortment of materials sharing certain baseline characteristics yet differing sharply in polymer architecture and additives. These structural distinctions ultimately determine how a plastic fragment behaves when heated, ground, or reprocessed, which is why only a subset can genuinely be recycled in practice. Thermoplastics such as PET in beverage bottles and HDPE in milk containers soften upon heating and solidify upon cooling, allowing them to be melted and reshaped with comparatively little molecular degradation. Because of this, they constitute the bulk of the recyclable fraction, with global PET bottle collection hovering around 60 million tonnes annually, even though only roughly 31% is actually recycled.

Thermosets, conversely, form irreversible chemical cross-links during their initial manufacture, causing them to crack or char rather than melt when exposed to high temperatures; consequently, normal heat-based recycling methods simply don't cut it. Even among thermoplastics, successful recycling hinges on material purity. Labels, dyes, plasticisers, flame retardants, and stubborn food residues can throw the entire process off balance by altering melt viscosity and weakening the resulting product. Multilayer packaging—often combining PET, polyethylene, and even thin aluminium films to prolong shelf life—further muddies the waters. Because these layers cling together, separating them becomes a **Herculean task**, and such packaging often ends up in landfills, contributing to the over 350 million tonnes of global plastic waste per year.

Economic realities also determine whether recycling initiatives get off the ground or fall flat. Collecting, sorting, washing, transporting, and remelting plastic waste demand substantial investment, so recycling is pursued only when there is a reliable market for recycled pellets. Bottles and jugs enjoy steady demand, but films, foams, and mixed plastics frequently fail to make the cut. Although emerging chemical recycling technologies can, in principle, break polymers down to simpler molecules, they remain energy-intensive, expensive, and far from mainstream deployment. As a result, global plastic recycling rates still languish around 9–12%, revealing a system that must either reinvent itself or risk being overwhelmed as plastic production is projected to triple by 2060.

**Q1. Why do global plastic recycling rates remain low despite progress in technological innovations?**

1. Chemical recycling technologies remain energy-heavy, costly, and insufficiently mature for extensive industrial deployment. 2. New recovery methods require infrastructural upgrades that remain unavailable across many economically challenged regions. 3. Mechanical recycling limitations persist due to inconsistent waste streams, reducing output quality for manufacturers. 4. Insufficient global coordination hinders the adoption of novel techniques capable of improving large-scale recycling efficiencies. 5. Funding shortages restrict experimentation with advanced recycling solutions needed to overcome entrenched inefficiencies.

**Q2. Which of the following correctly describes the meaning of the highlighted phrase "a Herculean task" from the passage?**

1. An exploratory process involving complex statistics. 2. A demanding task completed quickly with sharp focus. 3. A pleasant distraction enjoyed during leisure hours. 4. A routine activity requiring little thought or strength. 5. An extremely difficult job requiring immense effort.

**Q3. Why does multilayer packaging often end up in landfills despite being composed of recyclable materials?**

1. The incompatibility between polymer layers prevents uniform melting and thus disrupts downstream remanufacturing processes. 2. The presence of aluminium films within laminate structures complicates mechanical sorting and subsequent thermal treatment. 3. The difficulty of separating tightly fused layers composed of diverse materials impedes standard recycling workflows. 4. The interlocking nature of distinct material layers hinders purification steps essential for effective recycling throughput.

5. The adhesive bonding joining different substrates obstructs the disassembly steps required for commercial recycling feasibility.

**Q4. What is the overall tone of the passage?**

1. Cautiously alarmed, urgently urging systemic change to avert environmental and escalating waste crises immediately. 2. Informative and analytical, explaining technical distinctions while highlighting practical economic constraints clearly. 3. Neutral and descriptive, presenting relevant facts without emotive language or any explicit advocacy for action. 4. Skeptical and critical, emphasizing systemic failures and technological limitations in recycling processes.

5. Optimistic about future solutions, confidently predicting rapid improvements through emerging technologies soon.

**Q5. What is highlighted as the reason thermoplastics like PET and HDPE dominate the recyclable category globally?**

1. Their ability to soften with heating and resolidify with cooling without severe molecular breakdown occurring.

2. Their structural robustness during repeated melting cycles, which preserves performance stability across recycling processes.

3. Their resistance to significant degradation under fluctuating temperatures encountered within mechanical recycling operations,

4. Their favourable thermal transitions allow consistent reshaping outcomes without compromising polymer strength metrics.

5. Their remeltability enables them to withstand industrial thermal cycles while retaining essential mechanical integrity.

**Q6. Which of the following sentences can be inferred from the passage?**

**A.** Recycling rates worldwide stay low, nine to twelve percent, while plastic production is projected to triple by 2060.

**B.** Multilayer packaging of PET, polyethylene and thin aluminium films is difficult to separate and often landfilled.

**C.** Films, foams, and mixed plastics lack a steady demand for recycled pellets, making their recycling largely unprofitable.

1. Both A and B 2. Only B 3. Both B and C 4. Only C 5. All, A, B, and C

**Q7. Which of the following sentences cannot be inferred from the passage?**

**A.** Thermosets are easily melted and remolded repeatedly using standard heat-based recycling processes commonly found in most facilities.

**B.** Multilayer packaging is straightforward to separate using inexpensive household methods, leading to high recycling rates worldwide.

**C.** Global PET bottle collection is about sixty million tonnes annually, yet only around thirty-one percent is actually recycled worldwide.

1. Both A and B 2. Only B 3. Both B and C 4. Only C 5. All, A, B, and C

**Given below is a table consisting of three columns labelled I, II, and III. Each column contains phrases: A, B, and C in Column I; D, E, and F in Column II; and G, H, and I in Column III. Your task is to identify the correct sequence of phrases—one from each column—that combine to form a grammatically correct and meaningful sentence. Choose the correct sequence from the options provided and mark it as your answer. If none of the options results in a meaningful sentence, select "None of these" as your answer.**

**Q8.**

Column I	Column II	Column III
A. in an era shaped by relentless swiping and meticulously curated profiles,	D. they unwittingly enter a form of emotional self-surveillance that prioritises	G. erode the vulnerability essential to sustaining authentic human connection
B. digital platforms offer the illusion of infinite choice, yet this abundance	E. often numbs emotional depth, encouraging rapid shifts in attention that	H. allowing relationships to dissolve without confrontation and reflection
C. the ease with which someone can vanish behind a screen has transformed	F. a wider cultural and social shift in which emotional discomfort is avoided	I. young people increasingly grapple with deepening feelings of loneliness

1.A + D + H 2.C + F + I 3.B + E + G 4.A + F + G 5.None of these  
Q9.

Column I	Column II	Column III
A. those who avoid social media or sharing updates may feel invisible	D. often curate cleverly exaggerated or selectively presented versions	G. recognising that such responses damage trust and emotional harmony
B. social media, originally created to foster meaningful human connection,	E. in a digitally connected world, yet they also gain freedom to discover	H. silently suffering the consequences of another's emotional turmoil
C. as people increasingly link their self-worth to likes and comments,	F. ensuring that identity rests on internal growth and meaningful relationships	I. their authentic selves without the pressure of constant comparison

1.C + D + H 2.B + F + I 3.A + E + I 4.C + E + G 5.None of these  
Q10.

Column I	Column II	Column III
A. researchers warn that escalating plastic pollution, particularly microplastics	D. entering oceans annually, is pushing the planet toward an ecological tipping point	G. that threatens both marine ecosystems and long-term human health
B. scientific findings increasingly reveal that microplastics infiltrate the body	E. small terrestrial species are accumulating microplastics in various organs,	H. a natural tension that deepens as responsibilities and ambitions intensify
C. despite the existing international conventions regulating marine pollution,	F. the traditional '3Rs' approach is outdated and must be expanded with stricter restrictions	I. and other serious physiological complications across multiple organ systems

1.B + D + I 2.C + F + H 3.A + D + G 4.B + E + I 5.None of these  
Q11.

Column I	Column II	Column III
A. NASA's Artemis programme, which aims to return humans to the moon,	D. in major projects like Chandrayaan-2 and Mangalyaan, yet the absence of	G. underscoring the need for more inclusive opportunities within ISRO
B. India has made meaningful progress in involving women scientists	E. the growing recognition of women's remarkable contributions to space exploration,	H. women in the inaugural Gaganyaan crew remains a significant concern
C. the younger generation seeks rapid growth and high-earning opportunities,	F. the growing recognition of women's remarkable contributions to space exploration,	I. women have persevered, overcoming obstacles in male-dominated fields

1.A + F + I 2.C + D + G 3.B + D + H 4.A + E + H 5.None of these

Each of the three sentences below contains the same highlighted phrasal verb. Identify the sentences in which the highlighted phrasal verb is used correctly and select them as your answer.

#### Q12.RAMP UP

A. To meet growing global demand, the company decided to **ramp up** its production capacity significantly.

B. As the elections approach, political parties will **ramp up** their campaigns across major urban constituencies.

C. The university aims to **ramp up** research funding for projects focusing on sustainable energy development.

1.Only A 2.Both A and B 3.Both B and C 4.All A, B, and C 5.None of these

#### Q13.MAP OUT

A. The teacher **mapped out** a week-long schedule to help students prepare systematically for final exams.

B. The teacher aimed to **map out** unfair grading practices and ensure transparency in the evaluation process.

C. City planners must **map out** flood-prone zones to prioritize infrastructure upgrades and emergency response.

1.Only B 2.Both A and C 3.Both A and B 4.All A, B, and C 5.None of these

#### Q14.BANK ON

A. Despite multiple attempts to conclude it early, the budget meeting continued to **bank on** endlessly.

B. Before retiring, the professor decided to **bank on** his valuable research notes to future scholars.

C. You can always **bank on** her reliability when deadlines approach and pressure begins mounting.

1.Only C 2.Both B and C 3.Both A and C 4.Only A 5.None of these

#### Q15.WARD OFF

A. She wore a protective charm to **ward off** negative energy during her difficult phase at work.

B. Despite facing harsh criticism from the media, the athlete **warded off** the remarks confidently.

C. The thick walls of the fortress helped **ward off** enemy attacks during the long, harsh siege.

1.Both A and B 2.Only B 3.Both A and C 4.Only C 5.All A, B, and C

**Read the passage below carefully to answer the following questions. Each question provides five options for its answer. Choose the correct option as your answer.**

The rare earth hypothesis, proposed in 2000, argues that while microbial life may be widespread across the cosmos, complex multicellular life could be few and far between. As scientists have tried to get to the bottom of life's prerequisites, they have realised that the emergence of complexity hinges on an intricate chain of planetary, chemical, and systemic circumstances. Over the past two decades, exoplanet research has expanded dramatically, revealing more than 5,600 confirmed exoplanets. These discoveries have painted a mixed picture: some conditions once deemed **stringent** now appear more attainable, whereas others have turned out to be tougher to satisfy than previously assumed.

Early analyses of Kepler telescope data suggested that roughly 20% of Sun-like stars might host Earth-sized planets within their habitable zones, prompting scientists to shift focus from where a planet lies to what it is actually like. Yet planets around cool, active M-dwarfs have complicated matters. Intense ultraviolet radiation can break apart water molecules, allowing hydrogen to escape while oxygen accumulates, thus creating a misleadingly oxygen-rich atmosphere. Although some planets may buck the trend and

hold on to their air owing to magnetic shielding or favourable orbits, such cases appear to be in the minority.

Recent observations using the James Webb Space Telescope have ruled out dense carbon-dioxide-rich atmospheres on rocky worlds such as TRAPPIST-1b and TRAPPIST-1c, underscoring that Earth-sized does not automatically translate to Earth-like. Long-term climate stabilisation adds another layer of uncertainty. While Earth's climate is buffered through weathering, volcanism, and plate tectonics, many rocky planets may operate under stagnant-lid regimes or episodic resurfacing. A Jupiter-like giant, once thought to serve as a celestial shield, can in some systems increase impact rates instead, proving that planetary architectures seldom follow a one-size-fits-all script.

Compounding these uncertainties are efforts to estimate the frequency of Earth-like surface environments and to search for technosignatures. Multi-year radio surveys scanning thousands of stars have yet to pick up convincing artificial signals, tightening the upper limits on detectable civilisations. Atmospheric processes, tectonic regimes, and magnetic conditions on distant worlds remain poorly constrained, leaving scientists to piece together an incomplete puzzle. \_\_\_\_\_, a reasonable conclusion is that while microbial life may be relatively common, long-lived, planet-spanning ecosystems capable of sustaining complex organisms may remain few and far between.

**Q16.** Which of the following would be the most suitable **title** for the passage?

1. "Understanding Why Complex Life Remains Extraordinarily Rare"
2. "Searching for Planets Resembling Earth Across Distant Systems"
3. "Modern Telescopes Transforming Current Views on Distant Exoplanets"
4. "Debates Surrounding Extraterrestrial Signals in Modern Astronomy"
5. "Atmospheric Mysteries Shaping Exoplanetary Climate and Evolution"

**Q17.** Why is long-term climate stabilisation considered uncertain for many rocky planets?

1. Their crustal structures often fragment unpredictably, disrupting essential water cycles and atmospheric balances.
2. Their volcanic systems erupt irregularly, ejecting harmful gases that prevent climatic equilibrium from forming.
3. Their continental plates migrate excessively quickly, undermining steady temperature distribution across planetary surfaces.
4. Their hydrospheres evaporate frequently, eliminating conditions necessary for maintaining long-term climate stability.
5. They may follow stagnant-lid tectonic regimes lacking continuous resurfacing vital for climate regulation.

**Q18.** Which of the following words can replace the highlighted word "**stringent**" in the passage while keeping the meaning intact?

1. lax
2. exacting
3. blithe
4. nonchalant
5. lenient

**Q19.** What has exoplanet research over the past two decades primarily revealed?

1. Planetary prerequisites for complexity display a mixture of attainable factors and unexpectedly difficult requirements.
2. Most discovered exoplanets unquestionably satisfy essential criteria known to support complex biological evolution successfully.
3. Research findings consistently prove Earth-like planets emerge frequently around stars similar to our Sun.
4. Exoplanet atmospheric surveys confirm stable environments reliably conducive to sustaining multicellular organisms universally.
5. Observational limitations still prevent scientists from identifying whether discovered exoplanets contain any form of life.

**Q20.** Which of the following phrases should fill in the blank taken from the passage?

1. Amid an unexpected and sudden global economic downturn
2. After centuries of successful human interstellar travel
3. Because existing telescopes already offer definitive data
4. Until next-generation observatories deliver sharper insights
5. After comprehensive evidence becomes universally available

**Q21.** What do multi-year radio surveys imply about detectable extraterrestrial civilisations?

1. Numerous candidate signals appear regularly, suggesting several civilisations may inhabit nearby planetary systems.
2. Most surveyed stars emit structured patterns closely resembling deliberate communication attempts from advanced species.
3. No convincing artificial signals detected, tightening upper limits on possible technologically advanced populations.
4. Radio instrumentation often misinterprets background cosmic noise as potential evidence hinting at alien transmissions.
5. Survey timelines remain insufficiently long to conclude anything substantive about civilisation detectability currently.

**Q22.** According to the passage, which of the following sentences are **TRUE/FALSE**?

- A.** Radio surveys scanning many stars have not detected clear artificial technosignature signals yet.
- B.** Ultraviolet radiation on many M-dwarf planets can create misleading oxygen-rich atmospheres.
- C.** Kepler data initially suggested many Sun-like stars might host Earth-sized habitable planets.
- D.** Long-term planetary climate regulation operates identically across every rocky world without variation.
- E.** A Jupiter-like planet always protects smaller worlds, preventing every potentially damaging collision.

1. Both B and C are true
2. Only D is false
3. All B, D, and E are true
4. Both B and D are false
5. All A, B, and C are true

**Q23.** According to the passage, what allows some planets around M-dwarfs to retain atmospheres?

1. Beneficial orbital positioning combined with magnetic protection helps preserve atmospheric gases for longer periods.
2. Subsurface reservoirs continually replenish atmospheric molecules lost during recurring ultraviolet bombardment episodes.
3. Higher surface gravity compresses atmospheric layers, preventing rapid dispersion from stellar winds.
4. Chemically inert mantle gases cycle upward frequently, ensuring atmospheric thickness remains consistently maintained.
5. Dense cloud cover blocks harmful radiation, halting excessive chemical breakdown of crucial atmospheric molecules.

**Read the passage carefully. Based on the details provided about the individual's actions, decisions, and interactions, infer the person's personality traits, outlook, or characteristics. Choose the option that most accurately reflects their personality or perspective and mark it as your answer.**

**Q24.** After months of intense preparation, Dev's team narrowly lost a national innovation challenge. Instead of expressing disappointment, Dev congratulated the winners publicly and thanked his teammates for their effort. Later, he analyzed the results to identify areas for improvement and began planning for the next opportunity with renewed enthusiasm.

**Which quality is most reflected in Dev's behaviour?**

1. Detached indifference to personal and team success.
2. Habitual suppression of disappointment for appearance's sake.
3. Strategic optimism masking competitive insecurity.
4. Overcompensation through excessive post-failure activity.
5. Sportsmanship grounded in reflective perseverance.

**Q25.** When faced with an unexpected budget cut, Rahul reorganized his department's operations without showing visible anxiety. Rather than expressing frustration or assigning blame, he analyzed the constraints, redefined priorities, and encouraged his team to see the setback as a test of adaptability. His calm communication and methodical restructuring helped the group maintain focus even under pressure.

**Which quality is most reflected in Rahul's behaviour?**

1. Pragmatism anchored in emotional stability during crisis.
2. Stoicism masking underlying dissatisfaction with authority.
3. Authoritarian composure that discourages dissenting views.
4. Indifference to the emotional challenges faced by subordinates.
5. Compliance with restrictions to avoid confrontation.

**Read the passage below carefully. Some words in the passage are highlighted in bold. Determine if any of these highlighted words are incorrect and require replacement. For each highlighted word, choose the option that provides the most appropriate replacement. If you believe the highlighted word is correct as it is, mark "No replacement is required" as your answer.**

An **ample** (26) Internet shutdown bifurcated Bareilly into two distinct economies: a decelerated traditional sector that persevered, and a digital economy rendered operatively null. Vegetable vendors continued to vociferously advertise prices while neighbourhood shopkeepers dispensed change from cash boxes, and tea stalls sustained patronage through **nebulous** (27) payments. ATMs lay nearly depleted, yet enterprises predicated on physical currency endured. By contrast, app-driven services: food delivery, quick commerce, ride-hailing, ceased instantly; riders and platform operatives, identifiable by their branded attire, stood idle as smartphones, formerly instruments of labour, became **lucid** (28). In an instant, entire livelihoods evaporated with the loss of connectivity.

This disruption epitomises a **paradox** (29): state-driven digitisation meant to broaden opportunity has produced an occupational class whose subsistence is precarious and contingent on uninterrupted connectivity. Millions of gig workers, predominantly young migrants paid per task to underwrite family expenses, depend on constant data flows for livelihoods. Recurrent shutdowns cause immediate income cessation, precipitating debt, asset pledging, and the erosion of aspirations. The aggregate economic losses are substantial, and policy incoherence, encouraging digital adoption while **rescinding** (30) connectivity blackouts, magnifies vulnerability. Remedying this imbalance requires safeguards: redundancy systems, portable social protection, and regulatory reforms that prioritise worker resilience.

**Q26.** Which of the following words should replace the highlighted phrase labelled as (26)?

1. ambiguous
2. oblivious
3. abrupt
4. obsolete
5. No replacement is required.

**Q27.** Which of the following words should replace the highlighted phrase labelled as (27)?

1. tangible
2. ephemeral
3. ethereal
4. clandestine
5. No replacement is required.

**Q28.** Which of the following words should replace the highlighted phrase labelled as (28)?

1. fickle
2. inert
3. nascent
4. cordial
5. No replacement is required.

**Q29.** Which of the following words should replace the highlighted phrase labelled as (29)?

1. coherence
2. consensus
3. rectitude
4. harmony
5. No replacement is required.

**Q30.** Which of the following words should replace the highlighted phrase labelled as (30)?

1. condoning
2. evading
3. curtailing
4. invoking
5. No replacement is required.

**Read the following sentence carefully, which is divided into five parts (A, B, C, D, and E). Two parts of the sentence contain grammatical errors. Identify the parts that are erroneous and mark them as your answer.**

**Q31.** Through the policy was meticulously drafted, (A) ethically justified, and logically consisting, (B) it failed in practice because it ignored (C) the unpredictable complexities of human behavior (D) and the subtle interplay of emotion and rationality. (E)

1. A and B
2. A and D
3. B and C
4. C and E
5. D and E

**Q32.** Had I realized how swiftly opportunities evaporate (A) when procrastination becomes habitual, I would have (B) reallocated my efforts earlier, thereby secured (C) progress that otherwise might have requiring (D) years of remedial work to ultimately recover. (E)

1. A and C
2. B and E
3. C and D
4. A and E
5. B and D

**Q33.** No sooner had the committee convened (A) than voices rised to challenge the proposal, (B) not because it's intentions were ill-founded (C) but because its implementation, as drafted, risked (D) exacerbating existing inequalities across multiple regions and sectors. (E)

1. A and E
2. B and D
3. C and D
4. A and B
5. B and C

**Q34.** What concerned advisory panel most was (A) the inconsistent data reporting, an issue that (B) had persisted for months despite of repeated reminders (C) and interventions aimed at improving accuracy (D) and accountability across all participating departments. (E)

1. B and C
2. A and D
3. D and E
4. A and C
5. B and E

**Q35.** It was the unexpectedly shift in public sentiment (A) that compelled the organization to reconsider (B) its long-standing strategy, prompting leaders to (C) adopt more adaptable policies capable of (D) addressing rapid changing community expectations. (E)

1. C and D
2. A and E
3. B and D
4. A and B
5. C and E

**A word is given below in its singular form, followed by five words given as options. Choose the word that represents the correct plural form of the given word and mark it as your answer.**

**Q36. Thief** 1. Thiefs 2. Thieves 3. Thieives 4. Thievs 5. None of these

**Q37. Loaf** 1. Loaves 2. Loafs 3. Loavies 4. Loafa 5. None of these

**In the following sentence, five words given in bold are marked as A, B, C, D, and E, which may or may not be placed in the right place in the sentence. Choose the pair(s) of words that need(s) to be interchanged to make the sentence grammatically correct and meaningful. If no interchange is required, mark "No interchange required" as your answer.**

**Q38.** Amidst the **cacophony** (A) of urban life, he found **solace** (B) in contemplating art that **evoked** (C) materialism and **transcended** (D) a sense of existential **serenity** (E).

1. Only C ↔ D
2. Both A ↔ C and D ↔ E
3. Only B ↔ E

4. Both C ↔ D and B ↔ E

5. No interchange required.

**Q39.** Despite **untenable** (A) challenges and **meticulous** (B) circumstances, her **resilient** (C) spirit and **ambiguous** (D) planning ensured the successful culmination of a project once deemed **formidable** (E).

1. Both A ↔ E and B ↔ D
2. Only A ↔ B
3. Only B ↔ D

4. Both A ↔ B and C ↔ E

5. No interchange required.

**Q40.** His **eloquent** (A) speech, marked by **poignant** (B) reflections and **nuanced** (C) arguments, **surpassed** (D) political barriers and **resonated** (E) deeply with an emotionally receptive audience.

1. Both A ↔ D and B ↔ C
2. Only B ↔ C
3. Both B ↔ E and C ↔ D

4. Only A ↔ E

5. No interchange required.

**1. Answer: A**

To answer this question, let's refer to the following information from the third paragraph of the passage:

"Although emerging chemical recycling technologies can, in principle, break polymers down to simpler molecules, they remain energy-intensive, expensive, and far from mainstream deployment."

This part of the passage clearly states that global plastic recycling rates remain low because these new chemical recycling methods are still too energy-heavy, too costly, and not yet mature enough for widespread industrial use.

**Therefore, the correct answer is "Chemical recycling technologies remain energy-heavy, costly, and insufficiently mature for extensive industrial deployment."**

**2. Answer: E**

To answer this question, first, let's understand the meaning of the highlighted phrase:

The phrase "a Herculean task" is an idiom used to describe a job or challenge that is extraordinarily difficult, requiring tremendous strength, effort, or endurance, much like the mythical feats performed by Hercules.

**Sentence Example:**

Reorganising the decades-old archive was a **Herculean task** that took the entire team weeks to complete.

Convincing all departments to adopt the new policy proved to be a **Herculean task** for the administration.

In the context of the passage, the phrase "a Herculean task" refers to the extreme difficulty of separating tightly fused multilayer packaging, which makes recycling such materials highly challenging and often impractical.

**Therefore, the correct answer is "An extremely difficult job requiring immense effort."**

**3. Answer: C**

To answer this question, let's refer to the following information from the second paragraph of the passage:

"Multilayer packaging—often combining PET, polyethylene, and even thin aluminum films to prolong shelf life—further muddies the waters. Because these layers cling together, separating them becomes a Herculean task, and such packaging often ends up in landfills, contributing to the over 350 million tonnes of global plastic waste per year."

This part of the passage clearly states that multilayer packaging often ends up in landfills because the layers cling together and are difficult to separate, which prevents them from being processed by standard recycling methods.

**Therefore, the correct answer is "The difficulty of separating tightly fused layers composed of diverse materials impedes standard recycling workflows."**

**4. Answer: B**

To answer this question, read the passage carefully and examine the overall tone of the passage:

The passage explains different classes of plastics, thermoplastics and thermosets, and how their polymer structures and additives affect recyclability. It gives technical details (how thermoplastics can be remelted, why thermosets char), cites statistics on PET collection and global plastic waste, and discusses practical obstacles such as contamination, multilayer packaging, and the high costs and energy demands of collection, sorting, and emerging chemical recycling methods. The emphasis is on clear explanation of mechanisms and real-world economic constraints rather than emotional appeals or confident predictions of imminent solutions.

By blending technical explanation with an assessment of market and logistical realities, the passage maintains a tone that is informative and analytical, clarifying scientific distinctions while highlighting practical limitations.

**Therefore, the correct answer is "Informative and analytical, explaining technical distinctions while highlighting practical economic constraints clearly."**

**5. Answer: A**

To answer this question, let's refer to the following information from the first paragraph of the passage:

"Thermoplastics such as PET in beverage bottles and HDPE in milk containers soften upon heating and solidify upon cooling, allowing them to be melted and reshaped with comparatively little molecular degradation. Because of this, they constitute the bulk of the recyclable fraction, with global PET bottle collection hovering around 60 million tonnes annually, even though only roughly 31% is actually recycled."

This part of the passage clearly states that thermoplastics dominate the recyclable category because they can be repeatedly melted and reshaped with comparatively little molecular breakdown during the heating-cooling cycle.

**Therefore, the correct answer is "Their ability to soften with heating and resolidify with cooling without severe molecular breakdown occurring."**

**6. Answer: E**

To answer this question, let's break down the sentences given in the question:

**Sentence A:** Recycling rates worldwide stay low, nine to twelve percent, while plastic production is projected to triple by 2060.

This sentence can be inferred from the passage. The final paragraph states that "global plastic recycling rates still languish around 9–12%," and also mentions that plastic production is "projected to triple by 2060."

**Sentence B:** Multilayer packaging of PET, polyethylene and thin aluminium films is difficult to separate and often landfilled.

This sentence can be inferred from the passage. The second paragraph explains that multilayer packaging "combining PET, polyethylene, and even thin aluminum films" is hard to separate because "these layers cling together." So, this packaging "often ends up in landfills."

**Sentence C:** Films, foams, and mixed plastics lack a steady demand for recycled pellets, making their recycling largely unprofitable.

This sentence can be inferred from the passage. The third paragraph states that "films, foams, and mixed plastics frequently fail to make the cut" because recycling is pursued only when a reliable market exists, implying that the lack of steady demand makes their recycling economically unviable.

Based on this analysis, all three sentences can be inferred from the passage.

**Therefore, the correct answer is "All, A, B, and C."**

**7. Answer: A**

To answer this question, let's break down the sentences given in the question:

**Sentence A:** Thermosets are easily melted and remolded repeatedly using standard heat-based recycling processes commonly found in most facilities.

This sentence cannot be inferred from the passage. In fact, the passage states the opposite: thermosets "crack or char rather than melt" and thus "normal heat-based recycling methods simply don't cut it."

**Sentence B:** Multilayer packaging is straightforward to separate using inexpensive household methods, leading to high recycling rates worldwide.

This sentence cannot be inferred from the passage. The passage explains that multilayer packaging "further muddies the waters" because its layers "cling together," making separation a "Herculean task," and that such packaging often ends up in landfills.

**Sentence C:** Global PET bottle collection is about sixty million tonnes annually, yet only around thirty-one percent is actually recycled worldwide.

This sentence can be inferred from the passage. The passage explicitly states that global PET bottle collection "hovers around 60 million tonnes annually," and "only roughly 31% is actually recycled."

Based on this analysis, sentences A and B cannot be inferred from the passage.

**Therefore, the correct answer is "Both A and B."**

**8. Answer: C**

**The combination that creates a coherent sentence is "B + E + G."**

**The complete sentence would be:** "Digital platforms offer the illusion of infinite choice, yet this abundance often numbs emotional depth, encouraging rapid shifts in attention that erode the vulnerability essential to sustaining authentic human connection."

**9. Answer: C**

**The combination that creates a coherent sentence is "A + E + I."**

**The complete sentence would be:** "Those who avoid social media or sharing updates may feel invisible in a digitally connected world, yet they also gain freedom to discover their authentic selves without the pressure of constant comparison."

**10. Answer: C**

**The combination that creates a coherent sentence is "A + D + G."**

**The complete sentence would be:** "Researchers warn that escalating plastic pollution, particularly microplastics entering oceans annually, is pushing the planet toward an ecological tipping point that threatens both marine ecosystems and long-term human health."

**11. Answer: C**

**The combination that creates a coherent sentence is "B + D + H."**

**The complete sentence would be:** "India has made meaningful progress in involving women scientists in major projects like Chandrayaan-2 and Mangalyaan, yet the absence of women in the inaugural Gaganyaan crew remains a significant concern."

**12. Answer: D**

**To answer this question, let's first understand the meaning of the highlighted phrasal verb given in the question:**

**Ramp up:** to increase or intensify something, especially in quantity, speed, or activity.

**Now, let's examine the given sentences:**

**Sentence A:** To meet growing global demand, the company decided to **ramp up** its production capacity significantly.

This sentence uses the phrasal verb "ramp up" correctly. It means to increase production, which fits perfectly with the context of meeting rising demand.

**Sentence B:** As the elections approach, political parties will **ramp up** their campaigns across major urban constituencies.

This sentence also uses the phrasal verb "ramp up" correctly. Here, it means to intensify efforts or activities, which makes sense in the context of election campaigns.

**Sentence C:** The university aims to **ramp up** research funding for projects focusing on sustainable energy development.

This sentence also uses the phrasal verb "ramp up" correctly. It indicates an increase in the amount of funding, which aligns with the meaning.

So, all three sentences (A, B, and C) use the phrasal verb "ramp up" correctly.

**Therefore, the correct answer is "All A, B, and C."**

**13. Answer: B**

**To answer this question, let's first understand the meaning of the highlighted phrasal verb given in the question:**

**Map out:** to plan or arrange something in detail; to design or outline a course of action or strategy carefully.

**Now, let's examine the given sentences:**

**Sentence A:** The teacher **mapped out** a week-long schedule to help students prepare systematically for final exams.

This sentence uses the phrasal verb "map out" correctly. It means to plan or organize something carefully, in this case, a schedule to prepare for exams, which perfectly aligns with the meaning.

**Sentence B:** The teacher aimed to **map out** unfair grading practices and ensure transparency in the evaluation process.

This sentence uses the phrasal verb "map out" incorrectly. The intended meaning here is to eliminate or remove unfair practices, for which the correct phrasal verb would be "root out" (meaning to find and remove something undesirable).

**Sentence C:** City planners must **map out** flood-prone zones to prioritize infrastructure upgrades and emergency response.

This sentence uses the phrasal verb "map out" correctly. It means to carefully plan or designate areas based on risk assessment, which is consistent with the meaning.

So, out of the three given sentences, both sentences A and C use the highlighted phrasal verb "map out" correctly, while sentence B uses it incorrectly.

**Therefore, the correct answer is "Both A and C."**

**14. Answer: A**

**To answer this question, let's first understand the meaning of the highlighted phrasal verb given in the question:**

**Bank on:** to rely on or depend on someone or something with confidence or trust.

**Now, let's examine the given sentences:**

**Sentence A:** Despite multiple attempts to conclude it early, the budget meeting continued to **bank on** endlessly.

This sentence uses the phrasal verb "bank on" incorrectly. The context (continued endlessly / drag on) refers to something prolonging in time; the correct phrasal verb for that meaning is "drag on," not "bank on."

**Sentence B:** Before retiring, the professor decided to **bank on** his valuable research notes to future scholars.

This sentence uses the phrasal verb "bank on" incorrectly. The intended meaning (pass on his notes to future scholars) requires a verb like "pass on" or "leave to;" "bank on" means to depend on, so it doesn't fit.

**Sentence C:** You can always **bank on** her reliability when deadlines approach and pressure begins mounting.

This sentence uses the phrasal verb "bank on" correctly. It means you can rely on or depend on her reliability, which matches the definition.

So, out of the three given sentences, only sentence C uses the highlighted phrasal verb "bank on" correctly.

**Therefore, the correct answer is "Only C."**

**15. Answer: C**

**To answer this question, let's first understand the meaning of the highlighted phrasal verb given in the question:**

**Ward off:** to prevent something unpleasant or dangerous from affecting or harming you.

**Now, let's examine the given sentences:**

**Sentence A:** She wore a protective charm to **ward off** negative energy during her difficult phase at work.

This sentence uses the phrasal verb "ward off" correctly. It means to keep away or prevent something harmful (negative energy) from affecting her, which matches the intended meaning.

**Sentence B:** Despite facing harsh criticism from the media, the athlete **warded off** the remarks confidently.

This sentence uses the phrasal verb "ward off" incorrectly. The context implies that the athlete dismissed or ignored the remarks rather than prevented them. The correct phrasal verb here would be "brushed off," which means to dismiss something casually.

**Sentence C:** The thick walls of the fortress helped **ward off** enemy attacks during the long, harsh siege.

This sentence uses the phrasal verb "ward off" correctly. It means to prevent or repel enemy attacks, which perfectly aligns with the meaning.

So, out of the three given sentences, both sentences A and C use the highlighted phrasal verb "ward off" correctly, while sentence B uses it incorrectly.

**Therefore, the correct answer is "Both A and C."**

**16. Answer: A**

**To answer this question, read the passage carefully to understand its overall theme.**

The passage explores the rare earth hypothesis and explains why complex, multicellular life may be exceedingly uncommon in the universe. It discusses how exoplanet research has revealed both promising and limiting conditions, such as the challenges posed by M-dwarf radiation, the absence of Earth-like atmospheres on nearby rocky planets, and the uncertainty surrounding long-term climate stabilisation. It further highlights how planetary architectures, tectonic activity, and magnetic conditions add layers of complexity to determining habitability. The passage ultimately argues that despite many planets existing in habitable zones, the chain of conditions required for complex life is so intricate that such life likely remains rare.

**Now, let's review the options:**

**Option a: "Understanding Why Complex Life Remains Extraordinarily Rare"**

This title directly captures the central message of the passage: although microbial life may be common, the emergence of complex life requires an exceptionally precise combination of factors, making it rare. It reflects the rare earth hypothesis and the detailed scientific challenges discussed. Thus, it is the most accurate and comprehensive title.

**Option b: "Searching for Planets Resembling Earth Across Distant Systems"**

This title focuses primarily on the search for Earth-like planets. While the passage does mention exoplanet discoveries, the main argument goes far beyond mere searching; it centres on explaining why complex life is unlikely to be common. Thus, this title is too narrow and not the best answer.

**Option c: "Modern Telescopes Transforming Current Views on Distant Exoplanets"**

Although the passage references Kepler and JWST findings, telescope technology is not its main theme. The passage uses these observations to support a broader argument about the rarity of complex life, so this title misses the main point. Thus, it is not the correct answer.

**Option d: "Debates Surrounding Extraterrestrial Signals in Modern Astronomy"**

This title focuses on technosignatures and radio surveys, which are mentioned only briefly in the final paragraph. They are not the central subject of the passage. Thus, this title is far too narrow and cannot be the correct answer.

**Option e: "Atmospheric Mysteries Shaping Exoplanetary Climate and Evolution"**

While atmospheric processes are discussed, the passage's scope is much broader, including tectonics, orbital environments, stellar radiation, and planetary architecture. This title captures only one aspect and therefore does not represent the passage as a whole.

After careful consideration, the most suitable title for the passage, which encapsulates its main argument and vision, is option a: "Understanding Why Complex Life Remains Extraordinarily Rare."

**Therefore, the correct answer is "Understanding Why Complex Life Remains Extraordinarily Rare."**

**17. Answer: E**

**To answer this question, let's refer to the following information from the third paragraph of the passage:**

"Long-term climate stabilisation adds another layer of uncertainty. While Earth's climate is buffered through weathering, volcanism, and plate tectonics, many rocky planets may operate under stagnant-lid regimes or episodic resurfacing."

This part of the passage clearly shows that, unlike Earth, which maintains climate stability through active plate tectonics and continuous resurfacing, many rocky planets lack such dynamic geological processes. Operating under stagnant-lid regimes means these planets do not undergo the ongoing crustal renewal necessary for regulating atmospheric gases and maintaining long-term climatic balance.

**Therefore, the correct answer is "They may follow stagnant-lid tectonic regimes lacking continuous resurfacing vital for climate regulation."**

**18. Answer: B**

**To answer the question, first, we need to understand the meaning of the word "stringent" in the context of the passage.**

**The sentence states:**

"These discoveries have painted a mixed picture: some conditions once deemed **stringent** now appear more attainable, whereas others have turned out to be tougher to satisfy than previously assumed."

Here, "stringent" is used to describe conditions that are extremely strict, demanding, or difficult to meet. It conveys the idea of something rigorous or exacting in nature.

**Now, let's evaluate the options:**

**Lax:** not strict or severe; too relaxed.

**Exacting:** making great demands; rigorous, strict, or requiring precision.

**Blithe:** carefree or indifferent.

**Nonchalant:** calm and casual, not showing concern.

**Lenient:** tolerant or not strict.

Given this analysis, the word that best substitutes "stringent" without altering the meaning is "exacting."

**Therefore, the correct answer is "exacting."**

**19. Answer: A**

**To answer this question, let's refer to the following information from the first paragraph of the passage:**

"Over the past two decades, exoplanet research has expanded dramatically, revealing more than 5,600 confirmed exoplanets. These discoveries have painted a mixed picture: some conditions once deemed **stringent** now appear more attainable, whereas others have turned out to be tougher to satisfy than previously assumed."

This part of the passage clearly shows that exoplanet research has highlighted a combination of factors—some requirements for planetary complexity are easier to meet than once believed, while others are more challenging than expected. In other words, the findings present a blend of attainable and unexpectedly difficult conditions tied to the emergence of complex life.

**Therefore, the correct answer is "Planetary prerequisites for complexity display a mixture of attainable factors and unexpectedly difficult requirements."**

**20. Answer: D**

**To answer this question, let's first understand the context of the sentence containing the blank:**

\_\_\_\_\_, a reasonable conclusion is that while microbial life may be relatively common, long-lived, planet-spanning ecosystems capable of sustaining complex organisms may remain few and far between.

This sentence summarises the arguments presented in the passage: despite growing research, several planetary, atmospheric, and observational uncertainties still limit our understanding of how common complex life might be.

So, the blank must introduce a condition or limitation that aligns with the idea that our current scientific tools and knowledge are still insufficient to make definitive claims.

**Now, let's review the options:**

**Option a: Amid an unexpected and sudden global economic downturn**

This phrase is irrelevant to astronomy or astrobiology. It has no connection to exoplanet research, habitability, or life detection. Thus, this option is incorrect.

**Option b: After centuries of successful human interstellar travel**

This contradicts the passage. Humanity has not achieved interstellar travel, let alone for centuries. It does not fit the scientific uncertainties described. Thus, this option is incorrect.

**Option c: Because existing telescopes already offer definitive data**

This contradicts the passage, which highlights insufficient data, unknown planetary conditions, and the need for sharper insights. Thus, this option is incorrect.

**Option d: Until next-generation observatories deliver sharper insights**

This phrase fits perfectly. The passage repeatedly emphasises current observational limits (e.g., unknown tectonic regimes, incomplete atmospheric data, lack of technosignature detections). It makes sense to say that until we have better instruments, the most reasonable conclusion remains cautious. Thus, this is the correct answer.

**Option e: After comprehensive evidence becomes universally available**

This implies full certainty and complete evidence, which the passage explicitly states we do not have. It does not logically connect to the tentative conclusion being drawn. Thus, this option is incorrect.

So, option d: "Until next-generation observatories deliver sharper insights" is the correct answer as it accurately reflects the scientific limitations and cautious reasoning discussed in the passage.

**Therefore, the correct answer is "Until next-generation observatories deliver sharper insights."**

**21. Answer: C**

**To answer this question, let's refer to the following information from the fourth paragraph of the passage:**

"Multi-year radio surveys scanning thousands of stars have yet to pick up convincing artificial signals, tightening the upper limits on detectable civilisations."

This part of the passage clearly shows that despite extensive, long-duration surveys, no credible artificial radio signals have been detected. As a result, scientists have been able to place stricter limits on how many technologically advanced civilisations might be detectable in our region of the galaxy.

**Therefore, the correct answer is "No convincing artificial signals detected, tightening upper limits on possible technologically advanced populations."**

**22. Answer: E**

**To answer this question, let's examine each sentence given in the question:**

**Sentence A:** Radio surveys scanning many stars have not detected clear artificial technosignature signals yet.

This sentence is true. The passage states, "Multi-year radio surveys scanning thousands of stars have yet to pick up convincing artificial signals," which directly supports this statement.

**Sentence B:** Ultraviolet radiation on many M-dwarf planets can create misleading oxygen-rich atmospheres.

This sentence is true. "This sentence is true. The passage states that intense ultraviolet radiation on planets orbiting M-dwarfs can break apart water molecules, allowing hydrogen to escape and oxygen to accumulate, thereby creating misleadingly oxygen-rich atmospheres."

**Sentence C:** Kepler data initially suggested many Sun-like stars might host Earth-sized habitable planets.

This sentence is true. The passage notes that early Kepler analyses suggested "roughly 20% of Sun-like stars might host Earth-sized planets within their habitable zones."

**Sentence D:** Long-term planetary climate regulation operates identically across every rocky world without variation.

This sentence is false. The passage explicitly contrasts Earth's buffered climate with other rocky planets that may have stagnant-lid regimes or episodic resurfacing, showing that climate regulation does not operate identically across worlds.

**Sentence E:** A Jupiter-like planet always protects smaller worlds, preventing every potentially damaging collision.

This sentence is false. The passage states that a Jupiter-like giant can "increase impact rates instead," meaning it does not always act as a protective shield.

So, out of the given sentences, A, B, and C are true, while D and E are false.

**Therefore, the correct answer is "All A, B, and C are true."**

**23. Answer: A**

**To answer this question, let's refer to the following information from the second paragraph of the passage:**

"Intense ultraviolet radiation can break apart water molecules, allowing hydrogen to escape while oxygen accumulates, thus creating a misleadingly oxygen-rich atmosphere. Although some planets may buck the trend and hold on to their air owing to magnetic shielding or favourable orbits, such cases appear to be in the minority."

This part of the passage clearly shows that certain planets orbiting M-dwarfs manage to retain their atmospheres because they possess magnetic protection or occupy beneficial orbital positions that prevent excessive atmospheric loss. These factors allow them to resist the harsh stellar radiation that typically strips atmospheres from such worlds.

**Therefore, the correct answer is "Beneficial orbital positioning combined with magnetic protection helps preserve atmospheric gases for longer periods."**

**24. Answer: E**

The passage portrays Dev as someone who handles setbacks with composure and maturity. Instead of reacting with frustration or discouragement after a loss, he appreciates his team's efforts, acknowledges others' successes, and reflects constructively on areas for growth. His response demonstrates resilience, humility, and a commitment to continuous improvement.

**Therefore, the correct answer is "Sportsmanship grounded in reflective perseverance."**

**25. Answer: A**

The passage portrays Rahul as someone who remains composed and analytical in the face of challenges. Instead of reacting emotionally to the budget cut, he reorganizes operations thoughtfully, reassesses priorities, and motivates his team to view the situation as an opportunity for adaptability. His calm communication and structured approach demonstrate a balance between practicality and emotional control, enabling stability during uncertainty.

**Therefore, the correct answer is "Pragmatism anchored in emotional stability during crisis."**

**26. Answer: C**

**To answer this question, let's first understand the context of the sentence containing the highlighted word labelled as (146):**

An **ample (146)** Internet shutdown bifurcated Bareilly into two distinct economies: a decelerated traditional sector that persevered, and a digital economy rendered operatively null.

This sentence describes how the city was divided into two different economies due to an Internet shutdown: one that continued slowly and another that became non-functional.

**Highlighted word:**

**Ample:** plentiful, large in quantity, or more than enough.

"Ample" is incorrect here because the sentence is not referring to the size or abundance of the shutdown but rather to its suddenness or unexpected occurrence.

**Now, let's consider the meanings of the words given as options:**

**Ambiguous:** unclear or open to more than one interpretation.

**Oblivious:** unaware or unconscious of what is happening.

**Abrupt:** sudden or unexpected.

**Obsolete:** outdated or no longer in use.

After understanding the context and meanings, we can conclude that the correct word to replace "ample" is "abrupt" because it accurately conveys the sudden onset of the Internet shutdown that caused immediate disruption.

**The correct sentence after the replacement would be:** "An **abrupt** Internet shutdown bifurcated Bareilly into two distinct economies: a decelerated traditional sector that persevered, and a digital economy rendered operatively null."

**Therefore, the correct answer is "abrupt."**

**27. Answer: A**

**To answer this question, let's first understand the context of the sentence containing the highlighted word labelled as (147):**

Vegetable vendors continued to vociferously advertise prices while neighbourhood shopkeepers dispensed change from cash boxes, and tea stalls sustained patronage through **nebulous (147)** payments.

This sentence describes how, during an internet shutdown, small businesses and vendors continued operating using physical cash transactions.

**Highlighted word:**

**Nebulous:** vague, indistinct, or lacking definite form.

"Nebulous" is incorrect here because the payments being discussed are physical and visible, not unclear or intangible.

**Now, let's consider the meanings of the words given as options:**

**Tangible:** perceptible by touch; real and concrete.

**Ephemeral:** lasting for a very short time.

**Ethereal:** extremely delicate or light, not of this world.

**Clandestine:** kept secret or done secretly.

After understanding the context and meanings, we can conclude that the correct word to replace "nebulous" is "tangible," because it aligns with the idea of cash-based, physically perceptible payments.

**The correct sentence after the replacement would be:** "Vegetable vendors continued to vociferously advertise prices while neighbourhood shopkeepers dispensed change from cash boxes, and tea stalls sustained patronage through **tangible** payments."

**Therefore, the correct answer is "tangible."**

**28. Answer: B**

**To answer this question, let's first understand the context of the sentence containing the highlighted word labelled as (148):**

By contrast, app-driven services: food delivery, quick commerce, ride-hailing, ceased instantly; riders and platform operatives, identifiable by their branded attire, stood idle as smartphones, formerly instruments of labour, became **lucid** (148).

This sentence describes how gig workers lost their source of income during the internet shutdown, leaving their smartphones, once vital for their work, completely useless.

**Highlighted word:**

**Lucid:** clear, easily understood, or able to think clearly.

"Lucid" is incorrect here because the sentence conveys that the smartphones became non-functional or inactive, not clear or rational.

**Now, let's consider the meanings of the words given as options:**

**Fickle:** changing frequently, especially in one's loyalties or interests.

**Inert:** lacking the ability or strength to move; inactive.

**Nascent:** just coming into existence and beginning to develop.

**Cordial:** warm and friendly.

After understanding the context and meanings, we can conclude that the correct word to replace "lucid" is "inert" because it accurately expresses that the smartphones became inactive and useless once the internet connection was lost.

**The correct sentence after the replacement would be:** "By contrast, app-driven services: food delivery, quick commerce, ride-hailing, ceased instantly; riders and platform operatives, identifiable by their branded attire, stood idle as smartphones, formerly instruments of labour, became **inert**."

**Therefore, the correct answer is "inert."**

**29. Answer: E**

**To answer this question, let's first understand the context of the sentence containing the highlighted word labelled as (4):**

This disruption epitomises a **paradox** (4): state-driven digitisation meant to broaden opportunity has produced an occupational class whose subsistence is precarious and contingent on uninterrupted connectivity.

This sentence highlights a contradiction: a government effort designed to expand opportunities has, paradoxically, created a vulnerable class dependent on constant internet access.

**Highlighted word:**

**Paradox:** a situation, person, or thing that combines contradictory features or qualities.

The word "paradox" is correct here because the sentence describes a contradictory outcome: an initiative intended to empower people has simultaneously made them more dependent and insecure.

**Therefore, the correct answer is "No replacement is required."**

**Let's also review the words given as options:**

**Coherence:** logical and consistent connection or unity.

**Consensus:** general agreement.

**Rectitude:** morally correct behavior or thinking.

**Harmony:** agreement or concord.

**30. Answer: D**

**To answer this question, let's first understand the context of the sentence containing the highlighted word labelled as (150):**

The aggregate economic losses are substantial, and policy incoherence, encouraging digital adoption while **rescinding** (150) connectivity blackouts, magnifies vulnerability.

This sentence explains how the government's contradictory approach, promoting digital adoption but also enforcing Internet shutdowns, increases economic vulnerability.

**Highlighted word:**

**Rescinding:** revoking, cancelling, or repealing a law, order, or agreement.

"Rescinding" is incorrect here because the sentence conveys that the government is imposing or enforcing connectivity blackouts, not cancelling them.

**Now, let's consider the meanings of the words given as options:**

**Condoning:** accepting or allowing behavior that is morally wrong.

**Evading:** avoiding or escaping from something.

**Curtailing:** reducing or restricting something.

**Invoking:** putting into effect or enforcing a law, rule, or policy.

After understanding the context and meanings, we can conclude that the correct word to replace "rescinding" is "invoking" because it aligns with the idea of authorities putting connectivity blackouts into effect.

**The correct sentence after the replacement would be:** "The aggregate economic losses are substantial, and policy incoherence, encouraging digital adoption while **invoking** connectivity blackouts, magnifies vulnerability."

**Therefore, the correct answer is "invoking."**

**31. Answer: A**

**Both parts A and B of the sentence contain errors.**

**Part A:** "Through the policy was meticulously drafted"

Part A is erroneous because the subordinating conjunction "Through" is incorrect in this context; the intended concessive conjunction is "Though," which introduces a concessive clause. The correct phrase should be "Though the policy was meticulously drafted."

**Part B:** "ethically justified, and logically consisting"

Part B is erroneous because "consisting" is the wrong form and does not function as an adjective here; the correct adjective is "consistent." The corrected phrase should be "ethically justified and logically consistent."

**Hence, the correct answer is "A and B."**

**The correct sentence would be:** Though the policy was meticulously drafted, ethically justified, and logically consistent, it failed in practice because it ignored the unpredictable complexities of human behavior and the subtle interplay of emotion and rationality.

**32. Answer: C**

**Both parts C and D of the sentence contain errors.**

**Part C:** "reallocated my efforts earlier, thereby secured"

Part C is erroneous because "thereby secured" incorrectly uses the past tense after "thereby." The participial form "securing" is required to maintain grammatical consistency with the preceding clause. The correct phrase should be "thereby securing."

**Part D:** "progress that otherwise might have requiring"

Part D is erroneous because "requiring" is incorrectly used after the perfect modal "might have." The structure requires a past participle, not a present participle. The correct form should be "required."

**Hence, the correct answer is "C and D."**

**The correct sentence would be:** Had I realized how swiftly opportunities evaporate when procrastination becomes habitual, I would have reallocated my efforts earlier, thereby securing progress that otherwise might have required years of remedial work to ultimately recover.

**33. Answer: E**

**Both parts B and C of the sentence contain errors.**

**Part B:** "than voices rised to challenge the proposal"

Part B is erroneous because "rised" is an incorrect past tense form. The correct past tense of "rise" is "rose." So, the correct phrase should be "than voices rose to challenge the proposal."

**Part C:** "not because it's intentions were ill-founded"

Part C is erroneous because "it's" is a contraction meaning "it is," which is incorrect here. The possessive determiner "its" should be used. So, the correct phrase should be "not because its intentions were ill-founded."

**Hence, the correct answer is "B and C."**

**The correct sentence would be:** No sooner had the committee convened than voices rose to challenge the proposal, not because its intentions were ill-founded but because its implementation, as drafted, risked exacerbating existing inequalities across multiple regions and sectors.

**34. Answer: D**

**Both parts A and C of the sentence contain errors.**

**Part A:** "What concerned advisory panel most was"

Part A is erroneous because the noun phrase is missing the definite article "the" before "advisory panel." It should read "the advisory panel." The correct phrase should be "What concerned the advisory panel most was."

**Part C:** "had persisted for months despite of repeated reminders"

Part C is erroneous because the phrase "despite of" is grammatically incorrect. "Despite" is a preposition that should not be followed by "of." The correct phrase should be "despite repeated reminders."

**Hence, the correct answer is "A and C."**

**The correct sentence would be:** What concerned the advisory panel most was the inconsistent data reporting, an issue that had persisted for months despite repeated reminders and interventions aimed at improving accuracy and accountability across all participating departments.

**35. Answer: B**

**Both parts A and E of the sentence contain errors.**

**Part A:** "It was the unexpectedly shift in public sentiment"

Part A is erroneous because "unexpectedly" is an adverb and cannot directly modify the noun "shift." The correct adjectival form is "unexpected," so the correct phrase should be "It was the unexpected shift in public sentiment."

**Part E:** "addressing rapid changing community expectations"

Part E is erroneous because "rapid" (an adjective) is incorrectly used to modify the present participle "changing"; the adverb "rapidly" is required. The correct phrase should be "addressing rapidly changing community expectations."

**Hence, the correct answer is "A and E."**

**The correct sentence would be:** It was the unexpected shift in public sentiment that compelled the organization to reconsider its long-standing strategy, prompting leaders to adopt more adaptable policies capable of addressing rapidly changing community expectations.

**36. Answer: B**

A "thief" is a person who steals another person's property, typically in secret or without using force.

The plural form of "thief" is "thieves", formed by changing the 'f' to 'ves', which is a common rule for certain English nouns ending in 'f' or 'fe' (e.g., leaf → leaves, knife → knives).

**Sentence Example:**

The police arrested two **thieves** who had been targeting parked cars in the city.

**Therefore, the correct answer is "Thieves."**

**37. Answer: A**

A "loaf" refers to a shaped mass of bread baked as a single unit.

When forming the plural, nouns ending in "-f" or "-fe" usually change the ending to "-ves."

Thus, the plural of "loaf" becomes "loaves."

**Sentence Example:**

She bought two **loaves** of freshly baked bread from the bakery.

**Therefore, the correct answer is "Loaves."**

**38. Answer: A**

**To answer this question, let's look at the given sentence this way:**

Amidst the \_\_\_\_\_ of urban life, he found \_\_\_\_\_ in contemplating art that \_\_\_\_\_ materialism and \_\_\_\_\_ a sense of existential \_\_\_\_\_.

**Now, let's understand the meanings of the marked words:**

**(A) Cacophony:** a harsh, discordant mixture of sounds; noise or chaos.

**(B) Solace:** comfort or consolation in a time of distress or sadness.

**(C) Evoked:** brought or recalled to the conscious mind; summoned or aroused.

**(D) Transcended:** went beyond the limits of something; surpassed or rose above.

**(E) Serenity:** the state of being calm, peaceful, and untroubled.

Swapping C (evoked) with D (transcended) ensures both grammatical correctness and logical coherence.

"Art that transcended materialism" is the appropriate and meaningful expression, as the idea suggests that art rises above materialistic concerns.

"Evoked a sense of existential serenity" is also correct and natural, as emotions or sensations can be evoked (aroused or inspired).

**Hence, the correct answer is "Only C ↔ D."**

**The correct sentences after the interchange would be:** "Amidst the **cacophony** of urban life, he found **solace** in contemplating art that **transcended** materialism and **evoked** a sense of existential **serenity**."

**39. Answer: A**

**To answer this question, let's look at the given sentence this way:**

Despite \_\_\_\_\_ challenges and \_\_\_\_\_ circumstances, her \_\_\_\_\_ spirit and \_\_\_\_\_ planning ensured the successful culmination of a project once deemed \_\_\_\_\_.

**Now, let's understand the meanings of the marked words:**

**(A) Untenable:** not able to be maintained or defended; weak or unsustainable.

**(B) Meticulous:** showing great attention to detail; very careful and precise.

**(C) Resilient:** able to withstand or recover quickly from difficulties.

**(D) Ambiguous:** unclear or having more than one possible meaning.

**(E) Formidable:** inspiring fear or respect through being impressively large, powerful, or capable.

Swapping A (untenable) with E (formidable), and B (meticulous) with D (ambiguous) ensures both grammatical correctness and logical coherence.

"Formidable challenges" fits naturally because challenges can be daunting or difficult to overcome.

"Ambiguous circumstances" correctly conveys the idea of unclear or uncertain situations.

"Resilient spirit" remains appropriately placed, as it reflects strength and perseverance.

"Meticulous planning" fits perfectly, as it describes careful and precise preparation.

Finally, "a project once deemed untenable" logically means it was once thought impossible to carry out successfully.

**Hence, the correct answer is "Both A ↔ E and B ↔ D."**

**The correct sentences after the interchange would be:** "Despite **formidable** challenges and **ambiguous** circumstances, her **resilient** spirit and **meticulous** planning ensured the successful culmination of a project once deemed **untenable**."

**40. Answer: E**

**To answer this question, let's look at the given sentence this way:**

His \_\_\_\_\_ speech, marked by \_\_\_\_\_ reflections and \_\_\_\_\_ arguments, \_\_\_\_\_ political barriers and \_\_\_\_\_ deeply with an emotionally receptive audience.

**Now, let's understand the meanings of the marked words:**

**(A) Eloquent:** fluent, persuasive, and effective in speaking or writing.

**(B) Poignant:** deeply affecting, touching, or emotionally moving.

**(C) Nuanced:** characterized by subtle distinctions or shades of meaning.

**(D) Surpassed:** went beyond in excellence or achievement; exceeded.

**(E) Resonated:** evoked or produced a strong emotional response; struck a chord.

After understanding the context of the sentence and the meanings of the marked words, we can conclude that all words fit their respective places perfectly, with no need for any interchange.

**Therefore, the correct answer is "No interchange required."**