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Comprehension Test Questions for IBPS CLERK (Pre) Exams.

Ex 93

Directions: In the following passage, some of the words have been left out, each of which is indicated by a letter. Find the suitable word from the options given against each letter and fill up the blanks with appropriate words to make the paragraph meaningful.

Our vaccine centre has been working on developing coronavirus vaccines for at least a _____ (A). We started in 2011, working with a SARS vaccine programme, and then we also added a MERS vaccine programme. So, we already had a pretty long experience ... Our _____ (B) is to use recombinant protein technologies. The moment we knew the sequence of the Covid-19 virus was published in January ... we were able to pull out the piece of the _____ (C) we were going to be using as our target. We didn't have to wait very long. We have only been working with this virus from, say, the _____ (D) of February and, in a very quick _____ (E), we already knew how to, in our labs, clone and engineer the candidate.

We also already had _____ (F) the production process and lucked out because SARS is very similar to this Covid-19 virus. So, we basically just used the same process we had designed before and it worked beautifully ... in 2-3 months, we were able to _____ (G) exactly the same thing that took us four years before (when we were developing a SARS vaccine).

1. A.

A. centuries

B. days

C. decade

D. months

E. None of the above

2. B.

A. fussy

B. niche

C. finicky

D. florid

E. None of the above

3. C.

A. hiatus

B. disgorge

C. relinquish

D. sequences

E. None of the above

4. D.

A. beginning

B. gossamer

C. despot

D. tyrant

E. None of the above

5. E.

A. rapport

B. raze

C. turnaround

D. affinity

E. None of the above

6 . F.

A. designed

B. commoner

C. avarice

D. cupidity

E. None of the above

7 . G.

A. parsimony

B. bauble

C. reproduce

D. meanness

E. None of the above

Correct Answers:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
C	B	D	A	C	A	C

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Explanations:

1. We need a singular noun here as per the context of the passage.

Option A “centuries” means ‘a period of one hundred years’ and can be ruled out as it makes the sentence incoherent.

Option B “days” means ‘each of the twenty-four-hour periods, reckoned from one midnight to the next, into which a week, month, or year is divided, and corresponding to a rotation of the earth on its axis’ and can be eliminated as it is not related to the context of the passage.

Option D “months” means ‘each of the twelve named periods into which a year is divided’ and its usage makes the sentence grammatically incorrect.

Option C “decade” means ‘a period of ten years’ and it aptly fits the context and makes the sentence a meaningful one.

Hence, option C is correct.

2. **Options A and C** “fussy” and “finicky” mean ‘fastidious about one's needs or requirements; hard to please’ and can be eliminated as they have no role with the sentence.

Option D can be ruled out as “florid” means ‘having a red or flushed complexion’ and is vague in the context of the sentence.

Option B “niche” means ‘a specialized segment of the market for a particular kind of product or service’ and is apt as it fits in the blank perfectly. It rightly points at the fact about their experience and protein technologies.

Hence, option B is correct.

3. **Option A** “hiatus” means ‘a pause or break in continuity in a sequence or activity’ and can be eliminated as its usage renders the sentence incoherent.

Option B “disgorge” means ‘to pour (something) out’ and can be eliminated as it makes the sentence grammatically incorrect.

Option C “relinquish” means ‘to voluntarily cease to keep or claim; give up’ and can be eliminated as it does not lend any meaning to the sentence and is contextual misfit.

Option D “sequences” means ‘a particular order in which related things follow each other’ and here it aptly shows that they were following Covid-19 from a long time.

Hence, option D is correct.

4. **Option A** “beginning” means ‘the point in time or space at which something begins’ and fits completely as ‘February’ is given in the passage and it makes it meaningful.

Option B “gossamer” means ‘a fine, filmy substance consisting of cobwebs spun by small spiders, seen especially in autumn’ and can be eliminated as it is contradictory to the meaning expressed in the passage.

Options C and D “despot” and “tyrant” mean ‘a ruler or other person who holds absolute power, typically one who exercises it in a cruel or oppressive way’ and are not usually used with “vaccines and Covid-19” given in the passage.

Hence, option A is correct.

5. The sentence tells more about the events and their progress.

Option C “turnaround” means ‘an abrupt or unexpected change, especially one that results in a more favourable situation’ and aptly fits the context and makes the sentence a meaningful one.

Options A and D “rapport” and “affinity” mean ‘a close and harmonious relationship in which the people or groups concerned understand each other's feelings or ideas and communicate well’ and can be ruled out as make the sentence logically incorrect.

Option B “raze” means ‘to completely destroy (a building, town, or other settlement)’ and can be eliminated as it is nowhere related to the context of the passage.

Hence, option C is correct.

6. **Option A** “designed” means ‘to do or plan (something) with a specific purpose in mind’ and fits completely as it talks about the production of vaccines and fits into the context completely.

Option B “commoner” means ‘one of the ordinary or common people, as opposed to the aristocracy or to royalty’ and can be eliminated as it is contradictory to the meaning expressed in the passage.

Options C and D “avarice” and “cupidity” mean ‘extreme greed for wealth or material gain’ and are not usually used with “situations like Covid-19” given in the passage.

Hence, option A is correct.

7. The sentence tells more about the vaccines for Covid-19.

Option C “reproduce” means ‘to produce a copy of’ and aptly fits the context and makes the sentence a meaningful one.

Options A and D “parsimony” and “meanness” mean ‘extreme unwillingness to spend money or use resources’ and can be ruled out as make the sentence logically incorrect.

Option B “bauble” means ‘a small, showy trinket or decoration’ and can be eliminated as it is nowhere related to the context of the passage.

Hence, option C is correct.



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