

Held on 20.08.2006  
(Based on Memory)

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**TEST II (English Language)**

**Directions (1-15):** Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below. Certain words in the passage have been printed in **bold** to help you locate them when answering some of the questions.

Can the last fifteen years be called the most successful decade and a half in Indian history and will the next fifteen be equally successful? Consider a culture where independent thinking is not encouraged. Or take the example of traditional family run business with **vast** resistance to change or a whole nation who believe that breakthrough ideas can be generated abroad but never at home. Partly responsible is socialization from early years we are taught not to question our elders but at workplaces this creates a hurdle for new thinking. Being unable to change **radically** gives rise to a culture where even the smallest change is **heralded** as a breakthrough.

Indian corporate leaders have done well standing up to global giants as their companies have grown in size and market share. To be successful in international markets they need to be **distinct** – distinct products, processes, technologies, business models and organizations. The bottom line will be Innovation. Creativity workshops are organized to channel people to think differently. There are fantastic ideas being generated all the time but no industry breakthrough. Simply because of gravity-a **regressive** force exerted by a mindset.

Thinking has therefore to happen at three levels: idea, frame and paradigm. From a narrow focus on either product or process innovation organizations need to look at innovating the whole ecosystem of the organization. Many a time waiting for a hundred percent solution before going to the market the organization forgets that it could end up waiting forever. Moreover sometimes organizations are too focused on today to see tomorrow. Since management mandates are short-term, sowing the seed for a revenue stream today and leaving its benefits to be reaped by a successor doesn't appeal to today's business leader. This is a serious hurdle to innovation. Establishing a function called innovation management or training employees through creativity workshops will have few benefits unless each frontline employee is empowered to share his innovative ideas with the management. What happens to this system when the person driving the change leaves the organization? The approach to innovation hence needs to be system driven rather than people driven. In thirty years India can be the largest world economy save China and the US. However as companies grow there exists a resemblance in their products, services, promotions, processes and pricing and so on. There remains only one escape from this trap.

1. The main idea of the passage is:
  - (a) India has tremendous potential
  - (b) Indian companies need to expand to international markets
  - (c) the more things change the more they remain the same.
  - (d) creative thinking is the key to India's success
  - (e) None of these
2. Which of the following is true in the context of the passage?
  - (a) Following tried and tested methods will enable a company to continue being successful globally
  - (b) A crisis is the optimal time for a company to make changes
  - (c) Generating new opportunities for the future should be the focus of innovation
  - (d) Empowering employees to voice their opinions causes disharmony in the company
  - (e) Innovation management is the key to growth for Indian companies
3. Which of the following is a cause for 'gravity'?
  - (1) Mindset
  - (2) Socialization
  - (3) Limited focus

- (a) Only (1)                      (b) Only (2)                      (c) Only (3)  
(d) All of these                      (e) Both (a) and (b)
4. Which of the following is **NOT TRUE** in the context of the passage?  
(a) A change in mindset can help promote innovation.  
(b) The author believes India has tremendous potential.  
(c) India suffers because of the belief the breakthrough ideas can only be generated abroad.  
(d) Innovation automatically happens if a company subscribes to the latest management strategies.  
(e) All are true.
5. An appropriate title for the passage would be-  
(a) Industry Problems                      (b) Creativity : Boon or Curse  
(c) What Ails Innovation                      (d) India : Next Superpower?  
(e) None of these
6. Which of the following discourages innovation in India?  
(a) Adopting an 80 percent solution to a problem  
(b) Trying to focus both on product and process innovation  
(c) Focusing on the future benefits of an idea rather than present ones  
(d) Making innovation system driven  
(e) None of these
7. According to the author how can Indian companies compete and excel internationally?  
(1) Adequate preparation                      (2) Cornering greater market share  
(3) Implementing gradual change  
(a) Only (1)                      (b) Only (2)                      (c) Only (3)  
(d) All of these                      (e) None of these
8. How does socialization hinder innovation?  
(1) It facilitates independent thinking.  
(2) It leads us not to challenge established practices.  
(3) Creates a strong belief in family values.  
(a) Only (1)                      (b) Only (2)                      (c) Only (3)  
(d) Both (1) and (3)                      (e) None of these
9. How does a company ensure innovation continues when a person responsible for change quits?  
(a) Organizing frequent creativity workshops for employees.  
(b) Ensuring innovation is embedded into the system.  
(c) Adopting new management strategies.  
(d) Making incremental not radical changes.  
(e) Motivating employees and rewarding individual contributions.

**Directions (10-12):** Pick out the word which is **closest** in meaning to the word printed in bold as used in the passage.

10. paradigm  
(a) category                      (b) difficulty                      (c) hypothesis  
(d) foundation                      (e) None of these
11. distinct  
(a) infrequent                      (b) abundant                      (c) complex  
(d) cautious                      (e) None of these

12. heralded  
(a) chastised (b) appealed (c) challenged  
(d) proclaimed (e) None of these

**Directions (13-15):** Pick out the word which is most **opposite** in meaning to the word printed in **bold** as used in the passage.

13. regressive  
(a) customary (b) aggravating (c) uniform  
(d) natural (e) advanced
14. vast  
(a) diverse (b) deliberate (c) minute  
(d) valid (e) extensive
15. radically  
(a) fundamentally (b) completely (c) moderately  
(d) occasionally (e) None of these

**Directions (16-25):** In the following passage there are blanks each of which has been numbered. These numbers are printed below the passage and against each five words are suggested, one of which fills the blanks appropriately. Find out the appropriate word in each case.

Sport may be a (16) pursuit for many yet it does define life in all its (17). The (18) of sport lies in enjoying the (19) of the sportsman who weaves (20) patterns on the field to leave the watcher spellbound. Great (21) does not always make a great sportsman. What makes a great sportsman is when that talent (22) itself in times of (23). He has to prove time and again that when (24) of the team is at (25) he is the one to be relied upon.

16. (a) expensive (b) regular (c) unusual  
(d) significant (e) meaningless
17. (a) hues (b) possibility (c) joy  
(d) contrast (e) quest
18. (a) demand (b) improvement (c) approval  
(d) beauty (e) accomplishment
19. (a) skills (b) nature (c) capacity  
(d) industry (e) cunning
20. (a) perfect (b) sensible (c) simple  
(d) daring (e) intricate
21. (a) resources (b) practice (c) talent  
(d) contribution (e) decision
22. (a) possesses (b) contributes (c) transfers

- (d) expresses (e) retains
23. (a) uncertainly (b) need (c) calamity  
(d) difficulty (e) encounter
24. (a) dominance (b) endeavour (c) escape  
(d) winning (e) survival
25. (a) vicinity (b) imbalance (c) stake  
(d) decline (e) dishonour

**Directions (26-30):** Rearrange the following sentences into a meaningful paragraph and then answer the questions given below it.

- (A) There also seems to be a lack of diversification of income from farm activities.  
(B) Recent surveys however show there is a surprisingly high mismatch between average monthly income and expenditure in rural households.  
(C) The Indian economy is currently characterized by strong consumer demand or expenditure.  
(D) Most farmers have very low yielding productive assets.  
(E) There are two factors which keep a farmer's income level below expenditure patterns.  
(F) This phenomenon is seen both in rural and urban households.

26. What will be the **LAST (SIXTH)** sentence of the paragraph?  
(a) E (b) C (c) F  
(d) D (e) A
27. What will be the **FIFTH** sentence of the paragraph?  
(a) F (b) D (c) C  
(d) B (e) None of these
28. What will be the **FIRST** sentence of the paragraph?  
(a) A (b) B (c) C  
(d) F (e) E
29. What will be the **SECOND** sentence of the paragraph?  
(a) F (b) E (c) B  
(d) C (e) None of these
30. What will be the **FOURTH** sentence of the paragraph?  
(a) A (b) D (c) E  
(d) C (e) F

**Directions (31-35):** Pick out the most effective word/phrase from the given words to fill in the blank to make the sentence meaningfully complete.

31. The festival must be perceived as an effort to \_\_\_\_\_ relations between both nations.  
(a) confirm (b) evoke (c) pave  
(d) swap (e) improve
32. \_\_\_\_\_ by the female anopheles mosquito malaria is common during the monsoon.  
(a) Typical (b) Aggravated (c) Inflicted  
(d) Acquired (e) Transmitted

33. The morning \_\_\_\_\_ was shattered by her terrified screams.  
 (a) routine (b) services (c) tranquility  
 (d) prayers (e) excitement
34. Our team \_\_\_\_\_ to make every effort to clinch the title.  
 (a) practiced (b) vowed (c) believed  
 (d) try (e) decide
35. The Government failed to \_\_\_\_\_ the steep rise in prices of essential commodities.  
 (a) examine (b) debate (c) check  
 (d) defend (e) decrease

**Directions (36-40):** Read each sentence to find out whether there is any grammatical error in it. The error if any will be in one part of the sentence. Make the number of that part with error as your answer. If there is no error mark (5). (Ignore errors in punctuation if any).

36. I seen /(1), the article in the paper /(2) about the unusually /(3) heavy rainfall this year /(4) No error /(5).
37. Hardly had I /(1) finished the report /(2) that he demanded /(3) I complete the presentation. /(4) No error /(5).
38. Good students are /(1) always advance working /(2) in order to ensure /(3) they achieve good results. /(4) No error /(5).
39. There was a good movie /(1) at one of the theatres /(2) because we decided /(3) to go. /(4) No error /(5).
40. One of the reasons /(1) I resigned from the team /(2) was that I /(3) had broken my leg. /(4) No error /(5).

**Directions (41-45):** In each item two of the words are related in some way i.e. they are similar or opposites. Pick out the option which represents this pair.

41.  
 (1) genuine (2) proof  
 (3) true (4) fundamental  
 (a) 1-2 (b) 2-3 (c) 1-3  
 (d) 3-4 (e) 2-4
42.  
 (1) permit (2) corrupt  
 (3) convince (4) sanction  
 (a) 1-2 (b) 2-4 (c) 1-4  
 (d) 2-3 (e) 1-3
43.  
 (1) sentiment (2) tranquil  
 (3) serious (4) solemn  
 (a) 1-2 (b) 2-3 (c) 2-4  
 (d) 3-4 (e) 1-4

44.

- |            |           |
|------------|-----------|
| (1) minute | (2) tight |
| (3) reduce | (4) exact |
| (a) 1-2    | (b) 1-4   |
| (d) 3-4    | (e) 1-3   |

45.

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|--------------|--------------|
| (1) relevant | (2) explicit |
| (3) apt      | (4) willing  |
| (a) 1-4      | (b) 1-3      |
| (d) 2-3      | (e) 2-4      |

**Directions (46-50):** In each sentence below four words have been printed in **bold** which are numbered (1), (2), (3) and (4). Each of these words may be misspelt or inappropriate in the context of the sentence. Find out the wrongly spelt or inappropriate word. The number of that word is the answer. If all four words are correctly spelt and appropriate the answer is (5) i.e. All correct.

46. The **National** /(1) Cadet **Corpse** /(2) are used to **dealing** /(3) with **calamities** /(4) All correct /(5).
47. He **promised** /(1) to give me **permission** /(2) if I **compiled** /(3) with his **wishes** /(4) All correct /(5).
48. The Director **decided** /(1) in **favour** /(2) of raising the **salaries** /(3) of all **employers** /(4) All correct /(5).
49. It is my **firm** /(1) **believe** /(2) that he will **emerge** /(3) **victorious** /(4) All correct /(5).
50. Those **unfortunate** /(1) children are **slogging** /(2) twelve hours a day to **earn** /(3) a **livelyhood** /(4) All correct /(5).

## ANSWERS

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|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. (d)  | 11. (d) | 21. (c) | 31. (e) | 41. (c) |
| 2. (c)  | 12. (d) | 22. (b) | 32. (e) | 42. (c) |
| 3. (a)  | 13. (e) | 23. (b) | 33. (c) | 43. (d) |
| 4. (d)  | 14. (c) | 24. (e) | 34. (b) | 44. (b) |
| 5. (b)  | 15. (b) | 25. (c) | 35. (c) | 45. (b) |
| 6. (b)  | 16. (e) | 26. (e) | 36. (a) | 46. (b) |
| 7. (d)  | 17. (a) | 27. (b) | 37. (c) | 47. (c) |
| 8. (b)  | 18. (d) | 28. (c) | 38. (d) | 48. (d) |
| 9. (b)  | 19. (a) | 29. (a) | 39. (c) | 49. (e) |
| 10. (e) | 20. (e) | 30. (c) | 40. (e) | 50. (d) |