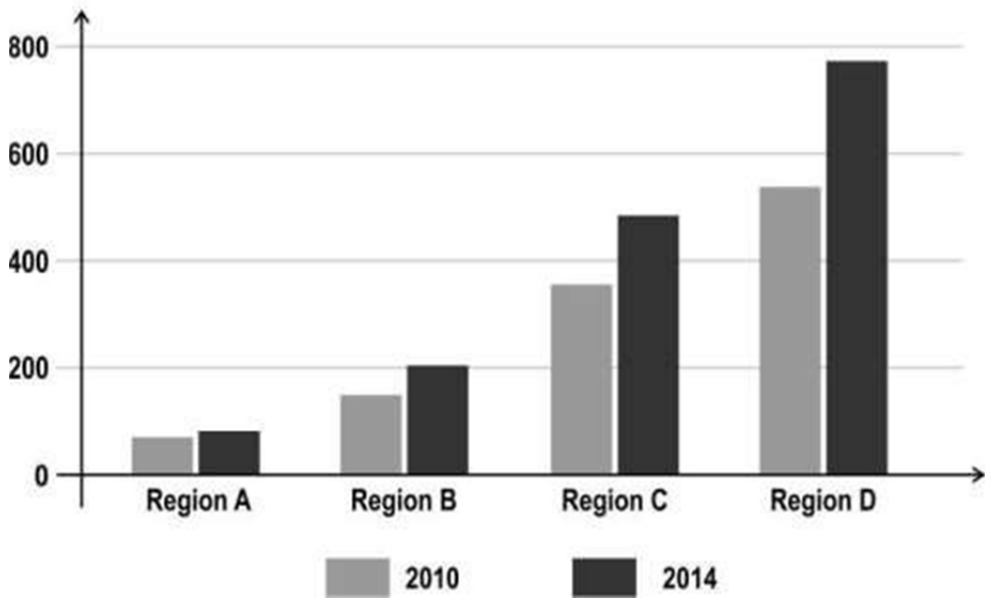


12. Chapter: Reading comprehension

Q.No	Question	Marks																														
MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTION																																
	<p>Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.</p> <p>An Increase in the Tiger population in India</p> <p>The fourth quadrennial report on the status of tigers released by the Government of India revealed that the number of tigers in India increased by 74% between 2010 and 2018, and by more than 33% between 2014 and 2018.</p> <p>(1)</p> <p>Certain methodological changes along with tiger conservation programmes have contributed to the increase. The tiger population has been estimated in three phases, wherein phase three made extensive use of camera traps. The 2018 data has been lauded since 83% of the tiger population was individually camera trapped. Additionally, in this data, all tigers above the age of one have been included while in all the previous surveys (in 2010 and 2006), only tigers above 1.5 years of age were included. (2)</p> <p>The estimate of tiger population may not be accurate owing to the limitations in counting the highly secretive carnivore. Hence, the survey provided not a specific number but the range of tiger numbers i.e., between 2,603 and 3,346.This data has a possible error of 14%. Currently, India is home to 75% of the global tiger population. (3)</p> <p>To estimate the tiger population pragmatically (since tigers keep moving within forests and are not restricted to any one state), India’s states have been classified into five different regions: Shivalik Hills and Gangetic plains, North East Hills and Brahmaputra Plains, Sunderbans, Central India and Eastern Ghats, and Western Ghats. The graph shows the region-wise distribution of India’s tiger population. (4)</p> <div><p style="text-align: center;">Region wise Tiger population in India (NTCA, 2019)</p><table><caption>Region wise Tiger population in India (NTCA, 2019)</caption><thead><tr><th>Year</th><th>North East hills & Brahmaputra Plains</th><th>Shivalik hills & Gangetic plains</th><th>Sunderbans</th><th>Western Ghats</th><th>Central Indian & Eastern Ghats</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>2006</td><td>297</td><td>412</td><td>100</td><td>0</td><td>601</td></tr><tr><td>2010</td><td>353</td><td>534</td><td>148</td><td>70</td><td>601</td></tr><tr><td>2014</td><td>485</td><td>688</td><td>201</td><td>76</td><td>776</td></tr><tr><td>2018</td><td>646</td><td>981</td><td>219</td><td>88</td><td>1033</td></tr></tbody></table><div><div>-----</div>North East hills & Brahmaputra Plains</div><div><div>- . - . - .</div>Shivalik hills & Gangetic plains</div><div><div>—————</div>Sunderbans</div><div><div>- - - - -</div>Western Ghats</div><div><div>.....</div>Central Indian & Eastern Ghats</div></div>	Year	North East hills & Brahmaputra Plains	Shivalik hills & Gangetic plains	Sunderbans	Western Ghats	Central Indian & Eastern Ghats	2006	297	412	100	0	601	2010	353	534	148	70	601	2014	485	688	201	76	776	2018	646	981	219	88	1033	
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Q.99	<p>Which of these is the meaning of the word '<u>lauded</u>' in paragraph 2?</p> <p>A. praised</p> <p>B. replaced</p> <p>C. controlled</p> <p>D. completed</p>	1															
Q.100	<p>Why is it a challenge to accurately estimate the total number of tigers present?</p> <p>A. People who are skilled at estimating without errors are few.</p> <p>B. Tigers are difficult to be spotted since they are good at hiding.</p> <p>C. Tigers are dangerous since they are prone to attacking humans.</p> <p>D. People find it difficult to keep up with the fast growing number of tigers.</p>	1															
Q.101	<p>The graph given below represents the status of tiger population of four different regions in India in 2010 and 2014. As per the passage, which of these regions does region A represent?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Region wise Tiger Population in 2010 and 2014</p>  <table border="1"> <caption>Tiger Population Data (Estimated)</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Region</th> <th>2010</th> <th>2014</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Region A</td> <td>~70</td> <td>~80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Region B</td> <td>~150</td> <td>~200</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Region C</td> <td>~350</td> <td>~480</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Region D</td> <td>~550</td> <td>~780</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>A. Sunderbans</p> <p>B. Western Ghats</p> <p>C. Shivalik Hills and Gangetic Plains</p> <p>D. North East Hills and Brahmaputra Plains</p>	Region	2010	2014	Region A	~70	~80	Region B	~150	~200	Region C	~350	~480	Region D	~550	~780	1
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Q.102	<p>Which of these factors contributed to the increase in the number of tigers in the fourth quadrennial report?</p> <p>(i) programmes designed to protect tigers</p> <p>(ii) a change in the category of tigers considered</p> <p>(iii) an improved methodological design to spot tigers</p> <p>(iv) a change in the total number of tigers above the age of one</p> <p>A. only (i) and (iii)</p> <p>B. only (iii) and (iv)</p> <p>C. only (i), (ii) and (iii)</p> <p>D. only (ii), (iii) and (iv)</p>	1		
Q.103	<p>Select the option that displays the correct cause-effect relationship.</p> <p>A.</p> <table><tr><td>Cause</td><td>Effect</td></tr></table>	Cause	Effect	1
Cause	Effect			

	<table><tr><td>The tiger population was estimated in three phases.</td><td>Phase three made extensive use of camera traps.</td></tr></table> <p>B.</p> <table><tr><td>Cause</td><td>Effect</td></tr><tr><td>India is home to the largest population in the world.</td><td>tiger The population of tigers has doubled between 2006 and 2018</td></tr></table> <p>C.</p> <table><tr><td>Cause</td><td>Effect</td></tr><tr><td>The Government of India released the fourth quadrennial report.</td><td>The number of tigers in India has increased by 74% between 2010 and 2018.</td></tr></table> <p>D.</p> <table><tr><td>Cause</td><td>Effect</td></tr><tr><td>Tigers roam within habitats that are spread across different Indian states.</td><td>Indian states are classified into different regions for estimating tiger population.</td></tr></table>	The tiger population was estimated in three phases.	Phase three made extensive use of camera traps.	Cause	Effect	India is home to the largest population in the world.	tiger The population of tigers has doubled between 2006 and 2018	Cause	Effect	The Government of India released the fourth quadrennial report.	The number of tigers in India has increased by 74% between 2010 and 2018.	Cause	Effect	Tigers roam within habitats that are spread across different Indian states.	Indian states are classified into different regions for estimating tiger population.	
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Q.104	Based on the graph given, which of these regions showed a trend different from other regions between 2006 and 2010? A. Sunderbans B. Central India and Eastern Ghats C. Shivalik Hills and Gangetic Plains D. North East Hills and Brahmaputra Plains	1														
Q.105	Which of these does the phrase ' <u>wildlife trafficking</u> ' in paragraph 5 refer to? A. organized relocation of endangered wildlife to their natural habitats B. illegal gathering, transportation and distribution of protected wildlife C. continuous tracking of wildlife using modern monitoring technologies D. excessive crowding of wildlife in a particular area due to mismanagement	1														

Q.106	<p>Based on the graph given, which of these regions has shown a 50 percent increase in tiger population between 2014 and 2018?</p> <p>A. Western Ghats</p> <p>B. Central India and Eastern Ghats</p> <p>C. Shivalik Hills and Gangetic Plains</p> <p>D. North East Hills and Brahmaputra Plains</p>	1
Q.107	<p>Which of these is true about the trend of tiger population in Shivalik plains and Gangetic plains?</p> <p>A. The tiger population has more than doubled between 2006 and 2018.</p> <p>B. The tiger population has shown a sharp increase between 2006 and 2010.</p> <p>C. The tiger population had dropped between 2010 and 2014 and showed a sharp increase between 2010 and 2018.</p> <p>D. The tiger population had increased between 2006 and 2010 and remained steady between 2010 and 2014.</p>	1
Q.108	<p>Based on the graph given, which of these regions showed the lowest growth rate of tiger population between 2014 and 2018?</p> <p>A. Western Ghats</p> <p>B. Shivalik hills and Gangetic Plains</p> <p>C. Central Indian and Eastern Ghats</p> <p>D. North East Hills and Brahmaputra Plains</p>	1
	<p>Read the passage and answer the questions.</p> <p>An Excerpt from 'A Piece of Chalk'</p> <p>I remember one splendid morning, all blue and silver, in the summer holidays when I reluctantly tore myself away from the task of doing nothing in particular, and put on a hat of some sort and picked up a walking-stick, and put six very bright-coloured chalks in my pocket. I then went into the kitchen (which, along with the rest of the house, belonged to a very square and sensible old woman in a Sussex village), and asked the owner and occupant of the kitchen if she had any brown paper. She had a great deal; in fact, she had too much; and she mistook the purpose and the rationale of the existence of brown paper. She seemed to have an idea that if a person wanted brown paper he must be wanting to tie up parcels; which was the last thing I wanted to do; indeed, it is a thing which I have found to be beyond my mental capacity. Hence, she dwelt very much on the varying qualities of toughness and endurance in the material. I explained to her that I only wanted to draw pictures on it, and that I did not</p>	

	<p>want them to endure in the least; and that from my point of view, therefore, it was a question, not of tough consistency, but of responsive surface, a thing comparatively irrelevant in a parcel. When she understood that I wanted to draw she offered to overwhelm me with note-paper, apparently supposing that I did my notes and correspondence on old brown paper wrappers from motives of economy. (1)</p> <p>I then tried to explain the rather delicate logical shade, that I not only liked brown paper, but liked the quality of brownness in paper, just as I liked the quality of brownness in October woods, or in beer, or in the peat-streams of the North. Brown paper represents the primal twilight of the first toil of creation, and with a bright-coloured chalk or two you can pick out points of fire in it, sparks of gold, and blood-red, and sea-green, like the first fierce stars that sprang out of divine darkness. All this I said (in an off-hand way) to the old woman; and I put the brown paper in my pocket along with the chalks, and possibly other things. I suppose every one must have reflected how primeval and how poetical are the things that one carries in one's pocket; the pocket-knife, for instance, the type of all human tools, the infant of the sword. Once I planned to write a book of poems entirely about the things in my pockets. But I found it would be too long; and the age of the great epics is past. (2)</p> <p>– G. K. Chesterton</p> <p>Glossary:</p> <p>square - old-fashioned</p> <p>peat - soil formed from dying plants</p> <p><i>Source (edited): 'A Piece of Chalk', Tremendous Trifles, G. K. Chesterton</i></p>	
Q.109	<p><i>...and she mistook the purpose and the rationale of the existence of brown paper.</i> (Paragraph 1)</p> <p>Which of these is the meaning of '<u>rationale</u>' in the sentence above?</p> <p>A. need</p> <p>B. record</p> <p>C. reason</p> <p>D. chance</p>	1
Q.110	<p>Which of these best describes the narrator of the passage</p> <p>A. argumentative</p>	1

	<p>B. elaborate</p> <p>C. objective</p> <p>D. ignorant</p>	
Q.111	<p>Which of these can aptly be concluded about the narrator from the first sentence of the passage?</p> <p>A. He enjoyed his time being idle.</p> <p>B. He suffered from a vision impairment.</p> <p>C. He wished to adopt a healthy lifestyle.</p> <p>D. He was particular about his appearance.</p>	1
Q.112	<p>Why did the narrator want to write poems about things in his pocket?</p> <p>A. He felt that they were interesting to write about.</p> <p>B. He felt that it would be easy to write about them.</p> <p>C. He knew that nobody had written about them before.</p> <p>D. He was inspired by the great epics that were written about them.</p>	1
Q.113	<p><i>...I did not want <u>them</u> to endure in the least; and that from my point of view, therefore, it was a question, not of tough consistency, but of responsive surface...</i> (Paragraph 1)</p> <p>What does '<u>them</u>' refer to in the statement above?</p> <p>A. parcels</p> <p>B. pictures</p> <p>C. note-paper</p> <p>D. brown paper</p>	1
Q.114	<p>Why did the narrator prefer brown paper to note-paper for drawing pictures?</p> <p>A. He loved the shade of brown colour in brown paper.</p> <p>B. He found brown paper to be cheaper than note-paper.</p> <p>C. He realised that brown paper lasted longer than note-paper.</p> <p>D. He considered himself to be too old-fashioned to use note-paper.</p>	1
Q.115	<p>Why did the woman offer note-paper to the narrator?</p> <p>A. to test whether he could draw on a smooth surface</p>	1





	<p>B. to get rid of the excess note-papers she had with her</p> <p>C. to show him that using it will help him make better drawings</p> <p>D. to provide him with a material better than brown paper to draw on</p>	
Q.116	<p>Which of the following describes the narrator's perception about tying up parcels?</p> <p>A. He liked to do it as the last task of the day.</p> <p>B. He agreed that the woman was good at it.</p> <p>C. He felt that he lacked the skills needed for it.</p> <p>D. He sensed that people are excited about it in general.</p>	1
Q.117	<p>Based on the excerpt, which of these can be definitely concluded about the narrator and the woman?</p> <p>A. They shared a passion for drawing.</p> <p>B. They knew nothing about each other.</p> <p>C. They disliked the company of each other.</p> <p>D. They had different viewpoints on matters.</p>	1
Q.118	<p>Which of the reader's senses does the author primarily appeal to in the first two sentences of paragraph 2?</p> <p>A. sight</p> <p>B. touch</p> <p>C. smell</p> <p>D. sound</p>	1
	<p>Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.</p> <p>The-Black-Throated-Jay</p> <p>The handsome black-throated jay is a bird that must be familiar to anyone who has visited a Himalayan hill station. Nevertheless, no one seems to have taken the trouble to write about it. Those who have compiled lists of birds usually dismiss it in their notes with adjectives such as "abundant," and "very common." It is remarkable that many popular writers have discoursed upon the feathered folk of the plains, while few have devoted themselves to the interesting birds of the hills. There seem to be two reasons for this neglect of the latter. Firstly, it is only the favoured few who can spend more than ten days at a time in the cool heights; most of us have to toil in the hot plains.</p>	

	<p>Secondly, the thick foliage of the mountain-side makes bird-watching a somewhat difficult operation. (1)</p> <p>The black-throated jay is a handsome bird, more striking in appearance even than the jay of England. Its crested head is black. It is 23 to 30 inches long, more than half of which is the tail. Its back is a beautiful French grey, its wings are black and white with a bar of the peculiar shade of blue which is characteristic of the jay family and so rarely seen in nature or art. (2)</p> <p>Black-throated jays go about in flocks. Probably the majority of the common birds of the Himalayas lead a sociable existence, like that of the birds of the plains known as "Seven Sisters". In a dense wood, every tree offers either insect or vegetable food so that a large number of birds can live in company without fear of starving each other out. In the plains, food is less abundant. Hence, most birds that dwell there are able to come together only at roosting time; during the day they are obliged to separate in order to find the wherewithal to feed upon. (3)</p> <p>Like all sociable birds, the black-throated jay is very noisy. Birds have a language of a kind, a language composed entirely of interjections, a language in which only the simplest emotions—fear, joy, hunger, and maternal care—can be expressed. Now, when a considerable flock of birds is wandering through a dense forest, it is obvious that they would be very liable to lose touch with one another if they had no means of informing one another of their whereabouts. The result is that such a means has been developed. (4)</p> <p>The black-throated jay is noisy even for a sociable bird. The sound which it seems to produce more often than any other is very much like the anger-cry of the common myna. Many Himalayan birds have rather discordant notes and in this respect, these mountains do not compare favourably with the Nilgiris where the blithe notes of the bulbuls are very pleasing to the ear. (5)</p> <p>- Douglas Dewar</p> <p>Glossary: <i>crested</i> - a bird or an animal having upright feathers on the head <i>roosting</i>- sleeping <i>wherewithal</i> - resources needed for something <i>blithe</i>- cheerful <i>Source (edited): 'The Common Birds of the Western Himalayas', Birds of the Indian Hills, Douglas Dewar</i></p>	
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Q.119	<p>According to the author, which of these is NOT a reason why very little has been written about the birds of the hills?</p> <p>A. The bird-watchers find it difficult to spot and identify birds in the hills.</p> <p>B. The majority of writers lack the privilege of experiencing a prolonged stay in the hills.</p> <p>C. The majority of writers live on the plains and are caught up in the struggles of daily life.</p> <p>D. The popular writers feel that the birds of the plains are more interesting than the birds of the hills.</p>	1
Q.120	<p>According to the passage, which of these characteristics can be considered unique to the jay family?</p> <p>(i) the sound that they produce</p> <p>(ii) their language and its nature</p> <p>(iii) their habit of travelling in groups</p> <p>(iv) the shade of blue on their body</p> <p>A. only (i)</p> <p>B. only (iv)</p> <p>C. only (ii) and (iii)</p> <p>D. only (ii) and (iv)</p>	1

Q.121	<p>Which of these best explains the meaning of the following sentence from paragraph 5?</p> <p><i>Many Himalayan birds have rather discordant notes, and in this respect these mountains do not compare favourably with the Nilgiris, where the blithe notes of the bulbuls are very pleasing to the ear.</i></p> <p>A. The sound of the birds of Nilgiris is better than the sound of the Himalayan birds</p> <p>B. The sound of the birds of both Himalayas and Nilgiris are not appealing to humans.</p> <p>C. The sound of the Himalayan birds and the birds of the Nilgiris cannot be compared.</p> <p>D. The sound of the Himalayan birds is difficult to interpret when compared to the birds of the Nilgiris.</p>	1
Q.122	<p>Which of these can be correctly inferred from paragraphs 3 and 4?</p> <p>A. Birds exhibit behavioural characteristics that suit their environment.</p> <p>B. Birds in the plains are shy in nature and prefer to fly alone during the daytime.</p> <p>C. Birds have the ability to navigate through thick forests without losing their way.</p> <p>D. Birds make sounds of different frequencies to express a wide range of emotions.</p>	1

Q.123	<p>Read the following sentences from the passage and choose the option that best describes the relationship between the two.</p> <p><i>(1) Like all sociable birds, the black-throated jay is very noisy.</i></p> <p><i>(2) The black-throated jay is noisy even for a sociable bird.</i></p> <p>A. (2) repeats the information in (1)</p> <p>B. (1) contradicts the information in (2)</p> <p>C. (2) elaborates on the point stated in (1)</p> <p>D. (1) states the cause of the statement in (2)</p>	1
Q.124	<p>Which of these is the main purpose of the passage?</p> <p>A. to compare and contrast the birds of the Himalayas and birds of the plains</p> <p>B. to help readers learn about a bird that is commonly found in the Himalayas</p> <p>C. to critically analyse the reasons for Himalayan birds being neglected by writers</p> <p>D. to imply that Himalayan birds are superior to birds from other parts of the world</p>	1
Q.125	<p>Which of these proverbs best captures the development of bird language as described in the passage?</p> <p>A. Practice makes perfect.</p> <p>B. A chattering bird builds no nest.</p> <p>C. Birds of a feather flock together.</p> <p>D. Necessity is the mother of invention.</p>	1
Q.126	<p>Which of these is closest to the meaning of the word '<u>discordant</u>' used in paragraph 5?</p> <p>A. rare</p> <p>B. harsh</p> <p>C. vague</p> <p>D. complex</p>	1
Q.127	<p>Which of the following writing styles best characterises paragraph 2?</p> <p>A. narrative</p> <p>B. reflective</p>	1

	<p>C. persuasive</p> <p>D. descriptive</p>	
Q.128	<p>Based on the description in the passage, which of these drawings represents a black-throated jay?</p> <p>A. </p> <p>B. </p> <p>C. </p> <p>D. </p>	1

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow.

Adoption in India and Its Status since 2013

Adoption in India is governed by the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015. According to the relevant guidelines, the eligibility criteria for a Prospective Adoptive Parent (PAP)—an individual who intend to adopt a child—are the following. (1)

(i) They should be physically, mentally, and emotionally stable, financially capable and should not have any life-threatening medical condition.

(ii) Any PAP can adopt a child subject to the following:

a. the consent of both spouses is mandatory in case of a married couple

b. a single female can adopt a child of any gender

c. a single male is not eligible to adopt a girl child

(iii) A couple should have at least two years of stable marital relationship to become eligible for adoption.

(iv) The age of the PAP as on the date of registration shall be counted for deciding their eligibility to apply for children of different age groups. In case of couples, the composite age of PAPs shall be counted as given in the table below.

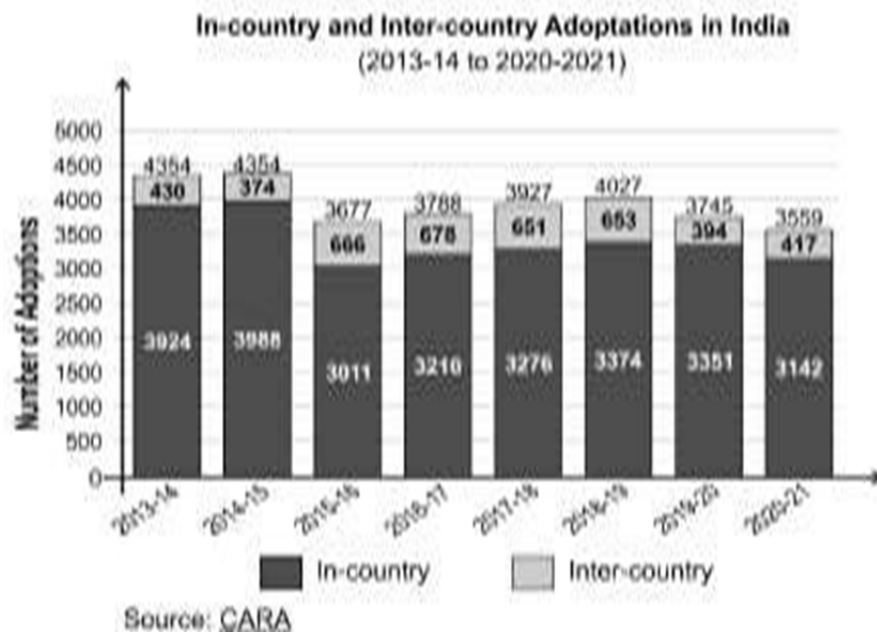
Age of the Child	Maximum composite age of prospective adoptive parents (couple)	Maximum age of single prospective adoptive parent
Up to 4 years	90 years	45 years
Above 4 and upto 8 years	100 years	50 years
Above 8 and upto 18 years	110 years	55 years

(v) The minimum age difference between the child and either of the PAPs should be at least twenty-five years.

(vi) The age criteria for PAPs shall not be applicable in the case of relative adoptions and adoption by a step-parent.

(vii) Couples with three or more children shall not be considered except in certain conditions. (2)

The graph given below gives details of the in-country adoptions and inter-country adoptions (adoptions by a person from another nation) that took place in India between 2013-14 and 2020-21.



Various estimates indicate that the number of orphaned and abandoned children in the country has increased since 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic. These children are at a high risk of becoming victims of trafficking and illegal adoptions. But the lengthy and complicated adoption process is a stumbling block in their rehabilitation. The government has made some amendments to increase the pace of adoptions. Whether these will reduce the delay in the adoption process and increase the adoption numbers remains to be seen. (3)

- Pavithra K M

Glossary :

composite - combined

rehabilitation - restoring someone to normal life

Source (edited): 'Data: Adoptions decreased in 2020-21 as number of Orphaned children increase on account of COVID-19' - <https://factly.in/adoptions-decreased-in-2020-21-as-number-of-orphaned-children-increase-on-account-of-covid-19/>

Q.129	<p>Which of these can be inferred from the table given in the passage?</p> <p>A. The younger parents should adopt younger children and older parents should adopt older children.</p> <p>B. The age of single prospective adoptive parents should be the half of prospective adoptive couples</p> <p>C. The youngest group of children will be adopted by relatively younger prospective adoptive parents.</p> <p>D. The youngest group of children have higher chances of being adopted by couples than single individuals.</p>	1
Q.130	<p>Based on point (v) in the passage, choose a suitable option to complete the sentence below.</p> <p><i>Couples can adopt a child if_____.</i></p> <p>A. one of them is at least 25 years older than the child</p> <p>B. both parents are at least 25 years older than the child</p> <p>C. both parents have completed at least 25 years of age</p> <p>D. there is an age difference of at least 25 years between the partners</p>	1
Q.131	<p>According to the passage, you CANNOT adopt a child if you are a_____.</p> <p>A. couple who already has three or more children</p> <p>B. 30-year-old male who wants to adopt a 1-year-old boy</p> <p>C. 30-year-old female who wants to adopt a 1-year-old girl</p> <p>D. married person who wants to adopt despite your spouse's opposition</p>	1
Q.132	<p>According to the graph, the trend in inter-country adoptions has been _____between 2013 and 2021.</p> <p>A. unvarying</p> <p>B. increasing</p> <p>C. fluctuating</p> <p>D. decreasing</p>	1
Q.133	<p>During which of the following time periods did the maximum number of inter-country adoptions take place in India?</p>	1

	<p>A. 2013-14</p> <p>B. 2014-15</p> <p>C. 2015-16</p> <p>D. 2018-19</p>													
Q.134	<p>Which of these can replace the word ‘<u>amendments</u>’ in paragraph 4?</p> <p>A. sections</p> <p>B. changes</p> <p>C. schemes</p> <p>D. agreements</p>	1												
Q.135	<p>Which of the following CANNOT be a possible outcome of the amendments made with respect to the adoption process?</p> <p>A. a decrease in the chances of child trafficking</p> <p>B. a decrease in the number of children up for adoption</p> <p>C. a decrease in the number of adoptions that are illegal</p> <p>D. a decrease in the time involved in the adoption process</p>	1												
Q.136	<p>Which of these facts from the passage shows a cause-effect relationship?</p> <p>A.</p> <table><tr><td>cause</td><td>effect</td></tr><tr><td>the COVID-19 pandemic occurred</td><td>an increase in the number of abandoned children</td></tr></table> <p>B.</p> <table><tr><td>cause</td><td>effect</td></tr><tr><td>an estimate of total number of orphaned children taken</td><td>a complicated and lengthy adoption process</td></tr></table> <p>C.</p> <table><tr><td>cause</td><td>effect</td></tr><tr><td>the age of single prospective adoptive parent counted</td><td>a composite age criteria for prospective adoptive parents</td></tr></table> <p>D.</p>	cause	effect	the COVID-19 pandemic occurred	an increase in the number of abandoned children	cause	effect	an estimate of total number of orphaned children taken	a complicated and lengthy adoption process	cause	effect	the age of single prospective adoptive parent counted	a composite age criteria for prospective adoptive parents	
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cause	effect					
an eligibility criteria for prospective adoptive parents exists	data for in-country and inter-country adoptions made available					
Q.137	<p>Which of these does the expression '<u>stumbling block</u>' in paragraph 4 refer to?</p> <p>A. a unique feature of the rehabilitation process</p> <p>B. a stage that is involved in the rehabilitation process</p> <p>C. a barrier that causes difficulty in the rehabilitation process</p> <p>D. a hidden danger that is present in the rehabilitation process</p>	1				
	<p>Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow.</p> <p>A Beautiful Mind: Book Review</p> <p>How many of us, who are not practising mathematicians or mathematics students, have heard about a mathematician? It would probably just be a few of us. The reason for this is not the fact that mathematicians are not very famous in general. Rather, it is because of the common perception that what mathematicians do is abstract and insignificant in real-life. Another reason could be that we hardly have biographies of great mathematicians. Hence, Sylvia Nasar's book 'A Beautiful Mind'— later made into a movie of the same name — is indeed a great boon. (1)</p> <p>The book chronicles the journey of a brilliant mathematician, John Nash, through his years of creativity and mental turmoil. Nash was a highly eccentric and first-rate genius graduate student at Princeton University, then the world centre for mathematics, where he made fundamental contributions to one of the most important theories of rational human behaviour of our times, called the 'game theory'. It is ironic that a man who did this turned into a highly irrational being in his later life. (2)</p> <p>At the age of 31, Nash was diagnosed with schizophrenia. Since then, for more than three decades, one of the most brilliant minds of our times spent a ghostlike existence in the hallowed walls of the Princeton Mathematics Department. In 1994, he re-emerged by winning the prestigious Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences and rose to instant world fame. (3)</p> <p>Nash's story told in a poignant manner by Nasar is worth a read if you understand the anguish and turmoil that a human could experience in life. This award-winning biography is a drama about the mystery of the human mind, the creation of beauty, a triumph over incredible adversity and the healing power of pure love. It is fascinating and disturbing at the same time. The book can be aptly described as astonishing as it gives a vivid account of a genius's life and his work. It is a superbly written account of a man who has a dark madness that at times is illuminated by his most creative spirit. A mini classic in its own right, Nasar deserves kudos for managing to keep the book readable even for the non-mathematicians. (4)</p>					

	<p>The book is a must-read and can interest people from all walks of life. Even someone like a politician will enjoy the book, as Nash's theories are widely used in predicting election outcomes. In short, 'A Beautiful Mind' is a great book to read and John Nash is an even greater mortal to know about. I would highly recommend this book even to</p> <p>those who have watched the movie so that they can understand the bigger picture. (5)</p> <p>- Manjil P. Saikia</p> <p>Glossary:</p> <p>abstract - not practical</p> <p>schizophrenia - a serious mental disorder</p> <p>poignant - causing a feeling of sadness</p> <p>Source (edited): 'A Beautiful Mind: Book Review' - https://gonitsora.com/a-beautiful-mind-book-review/</p>	
Q.138	<p>Which of these reflects the author's opinion about mathematicians?</p> <p>A. They are spoken about only by other mathematicians.</p> <p>B. They are not as well-known as people from other areas.</p> <p>C. They have not made contributions that can be useful in everyday life.</p> <p>D. They are only a few in number since mathematics is a difficult subject to study.</p>	1
Q.139	<p>The author feels that it was ironic that Nash turned into an irrational person in his later years because_____.</p> <p>A. he was both creative and confused at the same time</p> <p>B. he was an unconventional person during his graduate days</p> <p>C. he had studied in one of the world's most prestigious universities</p> <p>D. he had contributed to formulating a theory based on logical behavior</p>	1
Q.140	<p>Which of these does the phrase '<u>ghostlike existence</u>' in paragraph 3 refer to?</p> <p>A. the years he took a break from his academic life</p> <p>B. the way that Nash looked due to his mental illness</p>	1

	<p>C. the period of time in Nash’s life when he went unnoticed</p> <p>D. the discomfort he felt within the walls of Princeton University</p>	
Q.141	<p>Select the option that suitably completes the dialogue with reference to paragraph 3.</p> <p><i>Naya: I never thought I would have to face these adversities. I feel lost and discouraged. I don’t think things will ever get better.</i></p> <p><i>Nila: I can understand your feelings but always remember that_____.</i></p> <p>A. life has its ups and downs</p> <p>B. preparation is the key to success</p> <p>C. we should never lose our humility</p> <p>D. the best thing in life is to be content</p>	1
Q.142	<p>Which of these underlined words gives the correct meaning of the word ‘hallowed’ found in paragraph 3?</p> <p>A. Visitors like the park near the pond as it is serene and <u>shady</u>.</p> <p>B. The <u>lofty</u> swimming pool is the highlight of the new resort that has come up in the town.</p> <p>C. Elderly people could not enjoy the exhibition since the walkway was quite <u>crowded</u>.</p> <p>D. People became very emotional as they visited the <u>sacred</u> ground where the martyrs were buried.</p>	1
Q.143	<p>What is the relationship between the following sentences from the passage?</p> <p><i>(1) Nash's story told in a poignant manner by Nasar is worth a read if you understand the anguish and turmoil that a human could experience in life.</i></p> <p><i>(2) The book is a must-read and can interest people from all walks of life.</i></p> <p>A. (2) contradicts (1)</p> <p>B. (2) is independent of (1)</p> <p>C. (2) asserts the key idea in (1)</p> <p>D. (2) exemplifies the thought in (1)</p>	1
Q.144	<p>Given below are four different reviews of the book 'The Beautiful Mind'. Which of these contradicts the review of the book presented in the passage?</p>	1

	<p>A. This book is definitely going to leave a mark because it is not often that we come across biographies of eminent mathematicians.</p> <p>B. One might assume that the book would excite readers only at an intellectual level but it also appeals to our tender human emotions.</p> <p>C. Even though one might get inspired from Nash's story of overcoming life's challenges, the book could also leave the readers troubled and unsettled.</p> <p>D. The book excites its readers by maintaining its focus on the academic brilliance of Nash and not touching upon the emotional struggles that he faced.</p>	
Q.145	<p>Which of the these aspects of 'The Beautiful Mind' does the author find especially appealing?</p> <p>A. It helps politicians to participate in elections more effectively.</p> <p>B. It has won awards and has proven its greatness beyond any doubt.</p> <p>C. It helps people understand that madness and creativity are closely related.</p> <p>D. It can be understood even by people who lack a mathematical background.</p>	1
Q.146	<p>Which of these best describes the author's tone in the review given?</p> <p>A. formal</p> <p>B. nostalgic</p> <p>C. subjective</p> <p>D. argumentative</p>	1
Q.147	<p>The main purpose of paragraph 5 is to_____.</p> <p>A. show that John Nash's life is greater than what is depicted in the book</p> <p>B. claim that the movie based on Sylvia Nasar's book failed to do justice to the book</p> <p>C. motivate people to pay closer attention to the practicality of Nash's theories in everyday life</p> <p>D. highlight that the book is relatable and encourage people to read it to know about John Nash</p>	1
Free Response Question / Subjective Question		
	<p>Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.</p> <p>Volcanoes, not Asteroids, May Have Taken Out the Dinosaurs</p> <p>Dinosaurs died gradually from climate change caused by a series of severe</p>	

volcanic eruptions in the Deccan traps in India at the end of the Cretaceous period, says Gerta Keller, professor at Princeton University. This theory debunks the long-held notion that dinosaurs died due to climate change when a giant meteor hit the Yucatan region of Mexico. "The **Chicxulub impact** hit the Yucatan about 300,000 years before the mass extinction that included dinosaurs and therefore could not have caused it," Keller says. (1)

Research by volcanologists shows that lava eruptions in the Deccan were not continuous but occurred in **pulses**, with each pulse lasting about 10 to at most a 100 years, and the pulses were separated by short periods of quiescence. New results from eight subsurface cores drilled by the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation of India, a public-sector undertaking, in the Krishna-Godavari Basin of eastern India, reveal that at least nine lava flows mark the critical volcanic phase that ended in the mass extinction. This ending phase may have occurred over as little as 10,000 to 100,000 years. During each lava eruption, fire shot up in tall columns from fissures in the Earth's surface and lofted gases into the stratosphere while the oozing lava flow as sheets, or in rivers, up to 1046 kilometers across India, and formed the longest lava flows on Earth. "Their destructive nature is evident in the marine life record: the population of marine life decreased by about 50 percent after the first of these long lava flows," says Keller. "By the time of the last lava flow, the mass extinction was complete." The sulfur dioxide gas injected into the stratosphere converted to sulfate aerosols that caused climate cooling. The cooling lasted until the sulfate aerosols were washed out as acid rain and caused the ocean to acidify in the process. (2)

Keller doesn't disagree with scientists who believe that the Chicxulub impact affected the climate. The event would certainly have caused earthquakes, tsunamis, regional fires and injected huge quantities of sulfur dioxide into the stratosphere, causing cooling and acidification of the land and oceans. "The difference is that the quantity of gas injection from the main phase of Deccan eruptions was 30 to 100 times larger than the Chicxulub impact and occurred over a shorter geological period of time, with each pulse lasting about 10 years or more." (3)

Up until now, sceptics have doubted whether gas from Deccan-like eruptions can reach the stratosphere, but the relatively small 1783-1784 Laki eruption in Iceland revealed that even rather small eruptions loft gases into the stratosphere. Field research by Keller and her collaborators has revealed that the mass extinction coincided with the end of the main phase of Deccan eruptions, suggesting that volcanism killed dinosaurs. (4)

- Author Unknown

Glossary:

Chicxulub impact - an event marked by a huge explosion caused by a large asteroid

pulses - short bursts

Q.148	The passage mentions two differing views regarding the extinction of dinosaurs. Which global phenomenon is the underlying cause of dinosaurs’ extinction in both these views? Answer in one sentence.	1																														
Q.149	In 20–30 words, cite a point from the passage that shows that the lava flows from the deccan eruptions were extensive.	2																														
<p>Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.</p> <p>An Increase in the Tiger population in India</p> <p>The fourth quadrennial report on the status of tigers released by the Government of India revealed that the number of tigers in India increased by 74% between 2010 and 2018, and by more than 33% between 2014 and 2018.</p> <p>(1)</p> <p>Certain methodological changes along with tiger conservation programmes have contributed to the increase. The tiger population has been estimated in three phases, wherein phase three made extensive use of camera traps. The 2018 data has been lauded since 83% of the tiger population was individually camera trapped. Additionally, in this data, all tigers above the age of one have been included while in all the previous surveys (in 2010 and 2006), only tigers above 1.5 years of age were included. (2)</p> <p>The estimate of tiger population may not be accurate owing to the limitations in counting the highly secretive carnivore. Hence, the survey provided not a specific number but the range of tiger numbers i.e., between 2,603 and 3,346.This data has a possible error of 14%. Currently, India is home to 75% of the global tiger population. (3)</p> <p>To estimate the tiger population pragmatically (since tigers keep moving within forests and are not restricted to any one state), India’s states have been classified into five different regions: Shivalik Hills and Gangetic plains, North East Hills and Brahmaputra Plains, Sunderbans, Central India and Eastern Ghats, and Western Ghats. The graph shows the region-wise distribution of India’s tiger population. (4)</p> <div><p style="text-align: center;">Region wise Tiger population in India (NTCA, 2019)</p><table><thead><tr><th>Year</th><th>North East hills & Brahmaputa Plains</th><th>Shivalik hills & Gangetic plains</th><th>Sunderbans</th><th>Western Ghats</th><th>Central Indian & Eastern Ghats</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>2005</td><td>100</td><td>412</td><td>297</td><td>601</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>2010</td><td>148</td><td>534</td><td>353</td><td>601</td><td>70</td></tr><tr><td>2014</td><td>201</td><td>485</td><td>688</td><td>776</td><td>76</td></tr><tr><td>2018</td><td>219</td><td>646</td><td>981</td><td>1033</td><td>88</td></tr></tbody></table></div>			Year	North East hills & Brahmaputa Plains	Shivalik hills & Gangetic plains	Sunderbans	Western Ghats	Central Indian & Eastern Ghats	2005	100	412	297	601	0	2010	148	534	353	601	70	2014	201	485	688	776	76	2018	219	646	981	1033	88
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	<p>The Sustainable Development Goal 15 of the United Nations stresses on sustainable management of forests, curbing biodiversity loss and reversing land degradation. Two specific goals towards this are prevention of threatened species from extinction and putting an end to wildlife trafficking. A significant increase in tiger population between 2010–2018 is, therefore, a step in the right direction. (5)</p> <p>- Pavithra K M</p> <p>Glossary:</p> <p>quadrennial - happening every four years</p> <p>pragmatically - realistically</p> <p>Source (edited): 'Tiger population in India increases by 74% in 8 years' - https://factly.in/tiger-population-in-india-increases-by-74-in-8-years%E2%82%AC/</p>	
Q.150	What does it mean when paragraph 2 states that '83% of the tiger population was individually camera trapped'? Answer in 20–30 words.	2
Q.151	<p>Rewrite the sentence below by replacing the underlined word with a word that means the same from paragraph 5.</p> <p><i>The coach feels that her players should be <u>controlling</u> their temper and displaying better sportsmanship.</i></p>	1
Q.152	Why does the author state that the increase in the tiger population between 2010–2018 is 'a step in the right direction'? Answer in 30–40 words.	2
Q.153	In a sentence, state one way in which each of us can contribute to the conservation of tigers.	2
Q.154	Why do you think it is important that we need to protect tigers? Answer in 20–30 words.	2
Q.155	<p>Complete the following statement with an appropriate inference from the passage.</p> <p><i>It is appropriate to refer to India as the Land of Tigers because_____.</i></p>	1
Q.156	According to the passage, the quadrennial reports reveal the status of tigers in India. In 20–30 words, state an advantage of these reports.	2
	<p>Read the passage and answer the questions.</p> <p>An-Excerpt-from-‘A-Piece-of-Chalk'</p>	

	<p>I remember one splendid morning, all blue and silver, in the summer holidays when I reluctantly tore myself away from the task of doing nothing in particular, and put on a hat of some sort and picked up a walking-stick, and put six very bright-coloured chalks in my pocket. I then went into the kitchen (which, along with the rest of the house, belonged to a very square and sensible old woman in a Sussex village), and asked the owner and occupant of the kitchen if she had any brown paper. She had a great deal; in fact, she had too much; and she mistook the purpose and the rationale of the existence of brown paper. She seemed to have an idea that if a person wanted brown paper he must be wanting to tie up parcels; which was the last thing I wanted to do; indeed, it is a thing which I have found to be beyond my mental capacity. Hence, she dwelt very much on the varying qualities of toughness and endurance in the material. I explained to her that I only wanted to draw pictures on it, and that I did not want them to endure in the least; and that from my point of view, therefore, it was a question, not of tough consistency, but of responsive surface, a thing comparatively irrelevant in a parcel. When she understood that I wanted to draw she offered to overwhelm me with note-paper, apparently supposing that I did my notes and correspondence on old brown paper wrappers from motives of economy. (1)</p> <p>I then tried to explain the rather delicate logical shade, that I not only liked brown paper, but liked the quality of brownness in paper, just as I liked the quality of brownness in October woods, or in beer, or in the peat-streams of the North. Brown paper represents the primal twilight of the first toil of creation, and with a bright-coloured chalk or two you can pick out points of fire in it, sparks of gold, and blood-red, and sea-green, like the first fierce stars that sprang out of divine darkness. All this I said (in an off-hand way) to the old woman; and I put the brown paper in my pocket along with the chalks, and possibly other things. I suppose every one must have reflected how primeval and how poetical are the things that one carries in one's pocket; the pocket-knife, for instance, the type of all human tools, the infant of the sword. Once I planned to write a book of poems entirely about the things in my pockets. But I found it would be too long; and the age of the great epics is past. (2)</p> <p>– G.K.Chesterton</p> <p>Glossary: square- old-fashioned peat - soil formed from dying plants</p> <p>Source (edited): 'A Piece of Chalk', Tremendous Trifles, G. K. Chesterton</p>	
Q.157	<p>Select the response that best fits the following statement about the passage.</p> <p><i>The narrator intended to make a drawing of the landscape when he went out on the summer morning.</i></p>	1

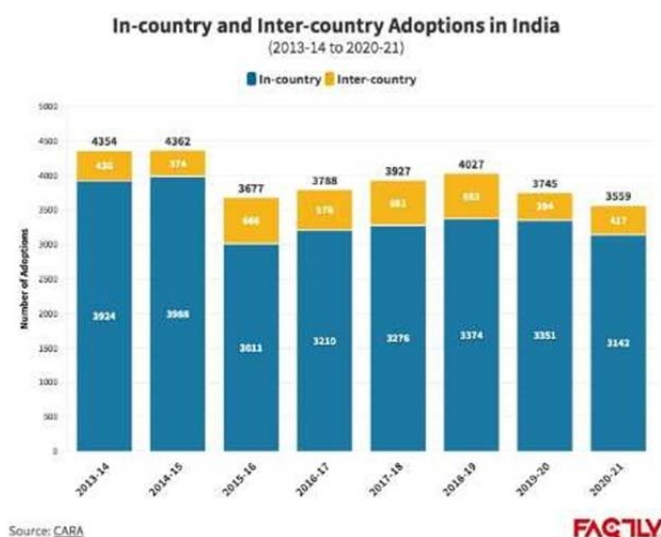
	<p>Responses:</p> <p>Yes - if the statement agrees with the information</p> <p>No - if the statement contradicts the information</p> <p>Not Given - if there is no information on this</p>	
Q.158	Based on the passage, how can the description of the woman as 'square and sensible' be justified? Answer in 60–90 words.	4
Q.159	<p>In accordance with the narrator's view, complete the sentence below by adding an appropriate comparison.</p> <p><i>...but liked the quality of brownness in paper, just as I liked the quality of brownness in October woods, or in beer, or in the peat-streams of the North, or in_____.</i></p>	1
Q.160	In 20–30 words, state any one trait of the narrator and justify it with an example.	2
Q.161	<p>Rewrite the sentence below by replacing the underlined word with a suitable word from paragraph 1.</p> <p><i>She works really hard to come up with architectural styles that can <u>withstand</u> the test of time.</i></p>	1
Q.162	<p>Whom does the narrator compare an artist to in the statement below? Explain your answer in 60–90 words.</p> <p><i>...and with a bright-coloured chalk or two you can pick out points of fire in it, sparks of gold, and blood-red, and sea-green, like the first fierce stars that sprang out of divine darkness. (Paragraph 2)</i></p>	4
Q.163	Provide a suitable alternative title to the passage. Answer in one sentence.	1
	Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.	
Q.164	<p>Rewrite the following sentence by replacing the underlined word with another word/phrase without changing the meaning.</p> <p><i>Those who have compiled lists of birds usually <u>dismiss</u> it in their notes with adjectives such as "abundant," and "very common." (paragraph 1)</i></p>	1
Q.165	Unlike the birds of the plains, why do the birds of the Himalayas tend to live mostly in flocks? Answer in 40–50 words.	3

Q.166	Which personality trait of the author can be inferred from paragraph 2? Support your answer with an example in 40–50 words.	3
Q.167	Identify a word from paragraph 4 to complete the following sentence suitably. <i>In general, food labels are too complicated and confusing and are _____ to mislead consumers.</i>	1
Q.168	In 20–30 words, state a point in your own words to challenge the following statement about the passage. <i>The author’s view that it is a challenge to learn about the birds of the hills is not valid because one can always cage these birds and study them closely.</i>	1
Q.169	Complete the following sentence with a short phrase based on your understanding of the passage. <i>We can say that jays are not unique to the Himalayas because_____.</i>	1
Q.170	How does human language differ from that of the language of the birds? State one point in 20–30 words.	2
Q.171	In paragraph 3, the writer mentions the 'fear of starving each other out'. In 20–30 words, state how birds could starve each other out.	2
	<p>Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow.</p> <p>Adoption in India and Its Status since 2013</p> <p>Adoption in India is governed by the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015. According to the relevant guidelines, the eligibility criteria for a Prospective Adoptive Parent (PAP)—an individual who intend to adopt a child—are the following. (1)</p> <p>(i) They should be physically, mentally, and emotionally stable, financially capable and should not have any life-threatening medical condition.</p> <p>(ii) Any PAP can adopt a child subject to the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> the consent of both spouses is mandatory in case of a married couple a single female can adopt a child of any gender a single male is not eligible to adopt a girl child <p>(iii) A couple should have at least two years of stable marital relationship to become eligible for adoption.</p> <p>(iv) The age of the PAP as on the date of registration shall be counted for deciding their eligibility to apply for children of different age groups. In case of</p>	

couples, the composite age of PAPs shall be counted as given in the table below.

Age of the Child	Maximum composite age of prospective adoptive parents (couple)	Maximum age of single prospective adoptive parent
Up to 4 years	90 years	45 years
Above 4 and upto 8 years	100 years	50 years
Above 8 and upto 18 years	110 years	55 years

The graph given below gives details of the in-country adoptions and inter-country adoptions (adoptions by a person from another nation) that took place in India between 2013-14 and 2020-21.



Various estimates indicate that the number of orphaned and abandoned children in the country has increased since 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic. These children are at a high risk of becoming victims of trafficking and illegal adoptions. But the lengthy and complicated adoption process is a stumbling block in their rehabilitation. The government has made some amendments to increase the pace of adoptions. Whether these will reduce the delay in the adoption process and increase the adoption numbers remains to be seen. (3)

- Pavithra K M

Glossary:

composite - combined

rehabilitation - restoring someone to normal life

Q.172 Why do you think it is important that a country has laws regarding the adoption process? Answer in 30–40 words.

2

Q.173	Why does the eligibility criteria specify that prospective adoptive parents should be emotionally stable? Answer 40–50 words.	3
Q.174	How does the author feel about the amendments meant to increase the rate of adoptions? Answer in one sentence.	1
Q.175	<p>Select a suitable word from the eligibility criteria listed to complete the above sentence appropriately.</p> <p><i>The students were required to have their parents' _____ to participate in the 10-kilometer hike.</i></p>	1
Q.176	What do you think could be a challenge associated with inter-country adoptions? Answer in one sentence.	1
Q.177	<p><i>The rules and regulations regarding adoptions in India include restrictions.</i></p> <p>Based on the information in the passage, which of the following responses best fits the statement above?</p> <p>Responses:</p> <p>Yes - if the statement agrees with the information</p> <p>No - if the statement contradicts the information</p> <p>Not Given - if there is no information on this</p>	1

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow.

A Beautiful Mind: Book Review

How many of us, who are not practising mathematicians or mathematics students, have heard about a mathematician? It would probably just be a few of us. The reason for this is not the fact that mathematicians are not very famous in general. Rather, it is because of the common perception that what mathematicians do is abstract and insignificant in real-life. Another reason could be that we hardly have biographies of great mathematicians. Hence, Sylvia Nasar's book 'A Beautiful Mind' — later made into a movie of the same name — is indeed a great boon. (1)

The book chronicles the journey of a brilliant mathematician, John Nash, through his years of creativity and mental turmoil. Nash was a highly eccentric and first-rate genius graduate student at Princeton University, then the world centre for mathematics, where he made fundamental contributions to one of the most important theories of rational human behaviour of our times, called the 'game theory'. It is ironic that a man who did this turned into a highly irrational being in his later life. (2)

At the age of 31, Nash was diagnosed with schizophrenia. Since then, for more than three decades, one of the most brilliant minds of our times spent a ghostlike existence in the hallowed walls of the Princeton Mathematics Department. In 1994, he re-emerged by winning the prestigious Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences and rose to instant world fame. (3)

Nash's story told in a poignant manner by Nasar is worth a read if you understand the anguish and turmoil that a human could experience in life. This award-winning biography is a drama about the mystery of the human mind, the creation of beauty, a triumph over incredible adversity and the healing power of pure love. It is fascinating and disturbing at the same time. The book can be aptly described as astonishing as it gives a vivid account of a genius's life and his work. It is a superbly written account of a man who has a dark madness that at times is illuminated by his most creative spirit. A mini classic in its own right, Nasar deserves kudos for managing to keep the book readable even for the non-mathematicians. (4)

	<p>The book is a must-read and can interest people from all walks of life. Even someone like a politician will enjoy the book, as Nash's theories are widely used in predicting election outcomes. In short, 'A Beautiful Mind' is a great book to read and John Nash is an even greater mortal to know about. I would highly recommend this book even to those who have watched the movie so that they can understand the bigger picture. (5)</p> <p>- Manjil P. Saikia</p> <p>Glossary:</p> <p>abstract - not practical</p> <p>schizophrenia - a serious mental disorder</p> <p>poignant - causing a feeling of sadness</p> <p><i>Source (edited): 'A Beautiful Mind: Book Review' - https://gonitsora.com/a-beautiful-mind-book-review/</i></p>	
Q.178	Describe Nash's personality as a university student in 20–30 words.	2
Q.179	In paragraph 1, why does the author of the review consider Sylvia Nasar's book 'A Beautiful Mind' to be a 'great boon'? Support your answer with two points from the review in 40–50 words.	3
Q.180	In 20–30 words, describe a challenge that Nash would have likely faced after being diagnosed with schizophrenia?	2
Q.181	<p>What does the author of the review mean by the statement below? Answer in one sentence.</p> <p><i>It is a superbly written account of a man who has a dark madness that at times is illuminated by his most creative spirit. (Paragraph 4)</i></p>	1
Q.182	<p>Based on the information given in paragraph 5, which of the following responses best fits the statement below?</p> <p><i>When compared to the movie of the same name, the book 'A Beautiful Mind' gives a more detailed and broader perspective on Nash's life.</i></p> <p>Responses:</p> <p>Yes - if the statement agrees with the information</p> <p>No - if the statement contradicts the information</p> <p>Not Given - if there is no information on this</p>	1


Q.183	<p><i>This award-winning biography is a drama about the mystery of the human mind, the creation of beauty, a triumph over <u>incredible adversity</u> and the healing power of pure love. (Paragraph 4)</i></p> <p>What does the phrase '<u>incredible adversity</u>' specifically refer to in the statement above?</p>	1
	<p>Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.</p> <p>The Black-Throated Jay</p> <p>The handsome black-throated jay is a bird that must be familiar to anyone who has visited a Himalayan hill station. Nevertheless, no one seems to have taken the trouble to write about it. Those who have compiled lists of birds usually dismiss it in their notes with adjectives such as "abundant," and "very common." It is remarkable that many popular writers have discoursed upon the feathered folk of the plains, while few have devoted themselves to the interesting birds of the hills. There seem to be two reasons for this neglect of the latter. Firstly, it is only the favoured few who can spend more than ten days at a time in the cool heights; most of us have to toil in the hot plains. Secondly, the thick foliage of the mountain-side makes bird-watching a somewhat difficult operation. (1)</p> <p>- Douglas Dewar</p> <p><i>Source (edited): 'The Common Birds of the Western Himalayas', Birds of the Indian Hills, Douglas Dewar</i></p>	
Q.184	<p>Rewrite the following sentence by replacing the underlined word with another word/phrase without changing the meaning.</p> <p><i>Those who have compiled lists of birds usually <u>dismiss</u> it in their notes with adjectives such as "abundant," and "very common." (paragraph 1)</i></p>	1

Answer Key & Marking Scheme

Q.No	Answers	Marks				
Q.99	A. praised	1				
Q.100	B. Tigers are difficult to be spotted since they are good at hiding.	1				
Q.101	A. Sunderbans	1				
Q.102	C. only (i), (ii) and (iii)	1				
Q.103	<div>D.</div> <table><tr><th>Cause</th><th>Effect</th></tr><tr><td>Tigers roam within habitats that are spread across different Indian states.</td><td>Indian states are classified into different regions for estimating tiger population.</td></tr></table> <div>Answer and Distractor Explanations: Option 4 is correct because the classification of Indian states to regions was made because of tigers' behavior of roaming within large areas that might spread across different states. Students choosing this have correctly understood this relationship between the two events stated. Option 1 is incorrect because making good use of camera traps is not a result of experiment being designed in three phases. Students choosing this may have failed to understand this. Option 2 is incorrect the doubling of tiger population between 2010 and 2018 is not caused by India being home to the majority populations of tigers present worldwide. Students choosing this may have failed to understand this. Option 3 is incorrect because it is not because the tiger population was increased that the quadrennial report was published. Students choosing this may have failed to understand this.</div>	Cause	Effect	Tigers roam within habitats that are spread across different Indian states.	Indian states are classified into different regions for estimating tiger population.	1
Cause	Effect					
Tigers roam within habitats that are spread across different Indian states.	Indian states are classified into different regions for estimating tiger population.					
Q.104	<div>B. Central India and Eastern Ghats</div> <div>Answer and Distractor Explanations: Option 2 is correct because according to the graph given in the passage, the total number of tigers in Central India and Eastern Ghats has remained the same (601). This trend is different from the trends shown by other regions mentioned in the options as they clearly show an increase in the tiger population between 2006 and 2010. Students choosing option 1 may have correctly made this inference. Options 1, 3 and 4 are incorrect as they all show an increase in the tiger population and hence, represent similar trends Students choosing these options may not have correctly made this inference.</div>	1				

Q.105	B. illegal gathering, transportation and distribution of protected wildlife	1
Q.106	B. Central India and Eastern Ghats	1
Q.107	A. The tiger population has more than doubled between 2006 and 2018.	1
Q.108	D. North East Hills and Brahmaputra Plains	1
Q.109	C. reason	1
Q.110	<p>B. elaborate</p> <p>Answer and Distractor Explanations:</p> <p>Option 2 is correct because the narrator goes into deep details while describing the colour brown. He offers many examples and details, and describes the incident with the woman by noting the various thoughts and observations he had. Students choosing this option may have correctly inferred this. Options 1, 3 and 4 are incorrect because there is no evidence in the passage to suggest that he is argumentative, objective, or ignorant. In fact, he offers his own opinion and demonstrates a great depth of knowledge on some things.</p>	1
Q.111	A. He enjoyed his time being idle.	1
Q.112	A. He felt that they were interesting to write about.	1
Q.113	<p>D. brown paper</p> <p>Answer and Distractor Explanations:</p> <p>Option 4 is correct because the narrator refers to brown paper in the sentence quoted. Students choosing this may have correctly understood the reference made. Options 1, 2 and 3 are incorrect because though these things are mentioned in the given context of the passage, 'them' in the quoted sentence in the question do not refer to them. Students choosing these may not have understood this.</p>	1

Q.114	<p>A. He loved the shade of brown colour in brown paper.</p> <p>Answer and Distractor Explanations:</p> <p>Option 1 is correct because the beginning of paragraph 2 conveys this clearly. Students choosing this option may have rightly understood this. Options 2 and 3 are incorrect because though these describe characteristics of brown paper, the passage makes it clear that these are not reasons for the narrator's preference for brown paper. Students choosing these options may have failed to understand these points. Option 4 is incorrect the passage does not support this claim.</p>	1
Q.115	D. to provide him with a material better than brown paper to draw on	1
Q.116	C. He felt that he lacked the skills needed for it.	1
Q.117	D. They had different viewpoints on matters.	1
Q.118	A. sight	1
Q.119	D. The popular writers feel that the birds of the plains are more interesting than the birds of the hills.	1
Q.120	B. only (iv)	1
Q.121	<p>A. The sound of the birds of Nilgiris is better than the sound of the Himalayan birds.</p> <p>Answer and Distractor Explanations:</p> <p>Option 1 is correct because the tested sentence states that the Himalayan birds 'do not compare favourably' with the ones in the Nilgiris. Students choosing this option may have correctly understood that the meaning of this statement is similar to the statement in option 1. Option 2 is incorrect because the option states that the sound of the birds of both Himalayas and Nilgiris are not pleasing to the ears, and has a different meaning. Option 3 is incorrect because the tested sentence clearly compares the Himalayan birds and the birds of the Nilgiris. Option 4 is incorrect because the tested sentence does not mean that the sound of the Himalayan birds is difficult to understand when compared to that of the birds of the Nilgiris. Students choosing these options may not have understood the meaning of the tested sentence provided.</p>	1
Q.122	A. Birds exhibit behavioural characteristics that suit their environment.	1
Q.123	<p>C. (2) elaborates on the point stated in (1)</p> <p>Answer and Distractor Explanations:</p>	1

	Option 3 is correct because (2) is adding on more details to the information in (1) that black-throated jays are noisy. Students choosing this option have correctly understood this. Options 1, 2 and 4 are incorrect because they do not correctly describe the logical relationship between the two sentences. Students choosing these may not have correctly understood the meaning conveyed by (1) and/or (2).	
Q.124	B. to help readers learn about a bird that is commonly found in the Himalayas	1
Q.125	D. Necessity is the mother of invention.	1
Q.126	B. harsh	1
Q.127	D. descriptive	1
Q.128	 <p>C.</p> <p>Answer and Distractor Explanations:</p> <p>Option 3 is correct because the image represents a bird with a crested head and a long tail as described in the passage. Students choosing this may have rightly understood these two features described. Option 1 is incorrect because it represents a bird with no crest and short tail. Students choosing this may not have correctly understood both the relevant features mentioned. Option 2 is incorrect because it represents a bird with a long tail but no crest. Students choosing this may not have rightly understood that the bird has a crest. Option 4 is incorrect because it represents a bird with a crest but which has a short tail. Students choosing this may not have rightly understood that the bird has a long tail.</p>	1
Q.129	<p>C.</p> <p>Answer and Distractor Explanations:</p> <p>Option 3 is correct because the table shows that the maximum age allowed for PAPs for adoption of children up to 4 years is 45 years (for single adoptive parent) and 90 years (for couples). Though this does not make sure that all younger parents 'will' adopt younger children, it makes sure that the youngest children will be adopted only by relatively younger parents. Students choosing this may have rightly made this inference. Option 1 is incorrect because the</p>	1

	<p>table merely gives the minimum age requirement to adopt each category of children and does not make a linear connection between the age group of children and a specific age of PAPs. Students choosing this may have failed to understand this. Option 2 is incorrect because the table does not portray any such relationship mentioned in the option. Students choosing this may have erroneously made a relation because of the visual structure of the table. Option 4 is incorrect because the table simply presents age criteria of both couples and single individuals as facts and does not indicate the probability of the youngest children being adopted by either couples or single individuals. Students choosing this may have failed to understand this</p> <p>The youngest group of children will be adopted by relatively younger prospective adoptive parents.</p>	
Q.130	<p>A. one of them is at least 25 years older than the child</p> <p>Answer and Distractor Explanations:</p> <p>Option 1 is correct because 'either' in point (v) means 'one of the adoptive parents' and hence, it rightly explains the meaning of the tested sentence. Students choosing this may have rightly understood this. Option 2 is incorrect because it does not correctly explain the meaning of the tested sentence. Students choosing this may not have rightly understood the usage of 'either of' in the given context. Option 3 is incorrect because 'twenty-five years' refers to 'the age difference between the child and the PAPs' and not the age of the parents. Students choosing this may not have understood this. Option 4 is incorrect because it does not correctly explain the meaning of the tested sentence. Students choosing this may not have rightly understood that the age difference involves the difference in the age of PAPs and the child and not between the partners.</p>	1
Q.131	D. married person who wants to adopt despite your spouse's opposition	1
Q.132	C. fluctuating	1
Q.133	C. 2015-16	1
Q.134	B. changes	1
Q.135	B. a decrease in the number of children up for adoption	1
Q.136	A.	1

Q.137	<p>C. a barrier that causes difficulty in the rehabilitation process</p> <p>Answer and Distractor Explanations:</p> <p>Option 3 is correct because it matches the meaning of the tested phrase in the context given in the passage. Students choosing this may have rightly understood the meaning of the tested phrase. Options 1, 2 and 4 are incorrect because they do not correctly describe the meaning of the phrase 'stumbling block'. Students choosing this may have failed to understand the correct meaning of the tested phrase.</p>	1
Q.138	<p>B. They are not as well-known as people from other areas.</p> <p>Answer and Distractor Explanations:</p> <p>Option 2 is correct because in paragraph 1, the author states that it is a 'fact' that mathematicians are not very famous in general. Students choosing this may have correctly understood this. Option 1 is incorrect because the passage just implies that only people from a mathematical background know about mathematicians. Students choosing this may have misunderstood the first sentence of paragraph 1 that states this. Option 3 is incorrect because paragraph 1 suggests this as a common perception that people have. Students choosing this may not have understood that it did not involve the author's viewpoint. Option 4 is incorrect because no part in the passage supports this claim. Students choosing this may have just gone by a general viewpoint that many students have.</p>	1
Q.139	<p>D. he had contributed to formulating a theory based on logical behavior</p> <p>Answer and Distractor Explanations:</p> <p>Option 4 is correct because in paragraph 2, the author states that 'it is ironic that a man who did this turned into a highly irrational being in his later life' where 'this' refers to the fact that he made a fundamental contribution towards a theory that involves rational human behavior. Students choosing this may have understood this clearly. Option 1 is incorrect because the author does not state or imply that he finds this ironical. Students choosing this may have misunderstood what the first sentence of paragraph 2 implies. Option 2 is incorrect because the fact mentioned does not contribute to the irony of the situation described. Students choosing this may have failed to understand the meaning and concept conveyed by expressions like 'irony' and 'unconventional'. Option 3 is incorrect because the author does not find this to be the reason for the irony he points out. Students choosing this may have been influenced by a bias that studying in prestigious universities can shape one into a logical being.</p>	1
Q.140	<p>C. the period of time in Nash's life when he went unnoticed</p>	1

Q.141	<p>A. life has its ups and downs</p> <p>Answer and Distractor Explanations:</p> <p>Option 1 is correct because paragraph 3 describes two phases in Nash's life, namely the phase where he battled through his mental illness and lived a life where he was hardly known, and the phase where he received well-deserved recognition and fame. Students choosing this may have understood that the expression in option 1 matches what paragraph 3 implies about life in general. Options 2, 3 and 4 are incorrect because they do not match the implication in paragraph 3.</p>	1
Q.142	<p>D. People became very emotional as they visited the <u>sacred</u> ground where the martyrs were buried.</p>	1
Q.143	<p>C. (2) asserts the key idea in (1)</p>	1
Q.144	<p>D. The book excites its readers by maintaining its focus on the academic brilliance of Nash and not touching upon the emotional struggles that he faced.</p> <p>Answer and Distractor Explanations:</p> <p>Option 4 is correct because it contradicts the author's view that the book contains 'anguish and turmoil that a human could experience in life' and talks about the 'mystery of the human mind'. Also, the author states that the book deals with both Nash's life and work. Students choosing this option may have rightly understood this. Option 1 is incorrect because it agrees with the author's statement in paragraph 1 that 'we hardly have biographies of great mathematicians' and hence the book is a 'great boon'. Students choosing this option may have failed to notice this. Option 2 is incorrect because it agrees with the author's views presented in paragraph 4. Students choosing this option may have failed to understand that references to emotions like 'pure love' include the portrayal of tender emotions. Option 3 is incorrect because it agrees with the author's view in paragraph 4 that the book is 'fascinating and disturbing at the same time'. Students choosing this option may have failed to understand this.</p>	1

Q.145	D. It can be understood even by people who lack a mathematical background.	1
Q.146	C. subjective	1
Q.147	D. highlight that the book is relatable and encourage people to read it to know about John Nash	1
Q.148	<p>Sample Answer: Climate change is the underlying cause of both the views mentioned in the passage regarding the extinction of dinosaurs.</p> <p>Content</p> <p>◆ Clearly states the underlying cause (climate change/the impact on climate)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid response supported by the text.</i></p>	1
Q.149	<p>Sample Answer: The passage states that the lava eruptions in the Deccan up to 1046 kilometers across India and formed the longest lava flows on Earth. This point agrees with the estimation that the lava flows from the deccan eruptions were quite extensive.</p> <p>Content</p> <p>◆ Cites a point of evidence in support of the proposition given (the lava spread up to 1046 kilometers/the lava flows spread across around 1000 kilometers/the longest lava flow from the Deccan Traps was considered to be the longest lava flows on Earth)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid responses supported by the text.</i></p> <p>Expression</p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks]</p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks]</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	2
Q.150	<p>Sample Answer: The statement that 83% of the tiger population was individually camera trapped means that 83% of the tigers that were identified through cameras that were set up in the tigers' natural habitats.</p>	2

	<p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ Explains the meaning of the statement provided</p> <p>(83% of individual tigers being captured in a camera installed/the images of 83% of the total tiger population caught and marked using specialized cameras)</p> <p><i>Accept any other similar response.</i></p> <p><u>Expression</u></p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks]</p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks]</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	
Q.151	<p>Sample Answer: The coach feels that her players should be <u>curbing</u> their temper and displaying better sportsmanship.</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ Rewrites the sentence using the suitable word</p> <p>(curbing)</p>	1
Q.152	<p>Sample Answer: The writer states this because the outcome contributes towards the success of the Sustainable Development Goal 15 established by the United Nations. The goal focuses on the prevention of threatened species. Since tigers are an endangered species, the increase in the tiger population is aligned to this goal.</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ Explains the rationale of the expression used with reference to the context in the passage</p> <p>(tigers are an endangered species and hence increase in their numbers is aligned to Goal 15 by the UN/increase in tiger population is a progress in relation to Goal 15/increase in tiger population advances Goal 15 by the UN)</p> <p><i>Accept any responses directly supported by the text.</i></p> <p>Expression</p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks]</p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks]</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met.</i></p>	2

	<p><i>Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	
Q.153	<p>Sample Answer: We can contribute to the conservation of tigers by not purchasing products that are made from tigers or their parts.</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ States a meaningful way one can contribute to the conservation of tigers (monitoring our purchases/spreading awareness and sharing news about the tiger population/volunteering for tiger conservation programmes/donating for wildlife conservation projects/careful driving in the natural habitats of tigers)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid response supported by the text.</i></p> <p><u>Expression</u></p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks]</p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks]</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	2
Q.154	<p>Sample Answer: It is important that we protect tigers because failure to do so might lead to their extinction.</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ States why conservation of tiger population is important (tigers are too few in number and may become extinct if not protected/all species deserve to live on the planet in a safe environment/tigers play a significant role in maintaining the health and diversity of an ecosystem/protecting tigers results in protecting natural habitats/tigers prevent over-grazing by limiting herbivore numbers)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid answer.</i></p> <p><u>Expression</u></p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks]</p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks]</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	2

Q.155	<p>Sample Answer: It is appropriate to refer to India as the Land of Tigers because <u>India is home to 75% of the tiger population in the world.</u></p> <p>Content</p> <p>◆ Completes the sentence with a reason from the text</p> <p>(India is home to the largest number of tigers in the world/India has large number of tigers)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid response.</i></p>	1
Q.156	<p>Sample Answer: The quadrennial reports help to regularly track the number of tigers in India and aid in formulating new programmes to conserve tigers.</p> <p>Content</p> <p>◆ Clearly states an advantage of quadrennial reports</p> <p>(adapt existing methodologies to monitor tigers, if required/formulate efficient programmes to conserve tigers/make concentrated efforts on certain regions that require attention/have an accurate statistics of the tiger population)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid answer.</i></p> <p>Expression</p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks]</p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks]</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	2
Q.157	<p>Sample Answer: Not Given</p> <p>Content</p> <p>◆ Select the correct option from the responses given</p> <p>(Not Given)</p>	1
Q.158	<p>Sample Answer: The woman in the passage can be aptly described as a square based on the way she viewed the functionality of brown paper. She considered the sole purpose of brown paper to be of tying up parcels, which is the most conventional way of using brown paper. Also, the fact that she gave thought to the toughness and endurance of brown paper to best fit the tying of parcels and that she made an effort to save brown paper for future use shows that she is sensible.</p>	4

	<p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ Explains a reason for the woman being described as a square [1 mark] (the woman's view about brown paper/the woman finding it difficult to understand the reason why the narrator wanted to draw on brown paper)</p> <p>◆ Explains a reason for the woman being described as sensible [1 mark] (the woman thought about various qualities of brown paper to make it best for tying up parcels/the woman chose to save brown paper for future use/she offered note-paper to draw)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid answer supported by the text.</i></p> <p><u>Organisation</u></p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if the criteria has been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award half of the allotted marks if the criteria needs improvement.</i></p> <p><i>Award 0 marks if the criteria has not been met.</i></p> <p><u>Language Mechanics</u></p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if there are two minor errors or one major error.</i></p> <p><i>Award half of the allotted marks if there are three to four minor errors or two major errors.</i></p> <p><i>Award 0 marks if there are more than four minor errors or more than two major errors.</i></p>	
Q.159	<p>Sample Answer: ...but liked the quality of brownness in paper, just as I liked the quality of brownness in October woods, or in beer, or in the peat-streams of the North, or in <u>earthen vessels</u>.</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ Completes the sentence with an appropriate comparison (earthen vessels/rich soil/owls)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid response.</i></p>	1
Q.160	<p>Sample Answer: The narrator is very imaginative as it is evident from the way he describes the qualities of brown paper.</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ States a trait of the narrator [0.5 mark]</p>	2

	<p>(imaginative/observant/creative)</p> <p>◆ Provides a reason for the choice [0.5 mark]</p> <p>(imaginative because he sees brown paper as best fitting to draw/observant because he identifies various shades of brown/creative because he likes to draw)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid answer supported by the text.</i></p> <p><u>Expression</u></p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks]</p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks]</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	
Q.161	<p>Sample Answer: She works really hard to come up with architectural styles that can <u>endure</u> the test of time.</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ Rewrites the given sentence by using a suitable word from the paragraph (endure)</p>	1
Q.162	<p>Sample Answer: The narrator compares an artist to a divine power or God in the statement given above. He feels that when an artist makes attractive drawings with colours like gold, red and green on brown paper, he is essentially demonstrating the same artistic creativity that a divine power or God showed when he created fiery stars out of the darkness that existed.</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ Clearly states the comparison made [1 mark] (divine power/Creator/God)</p> <p>◆ Explains the details of the comparison made [1 mark] (the colourful drawings made by artist being compared to the attractive stars created by God/the creativity involved in an artist's drawing being compared to that of the artistic creativity of the Creator/the colourful drawings on brown paper being compared to that of first instances of Creation in the darkness that served as a canvas)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid answer supported by the text.</i></p>	4

	<p><u>Organisation</u></p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if the criteria has been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award half of the allotted marks if the criteria needs improvement.</i></p> <p><i>Award 0 marks if the criteria has not been met.</i></p> <p><u>Language Mechanics</u></p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if there are two minor errors or one major error.</i></p> <p><i>Award half of the allotted marks if there are three to four minor errors or two major errors.</i></p> <p><i>Award 0 marks if there are more than four minor errors or more than two major errors.</i></p>	
Q.163	<p>Sample Answer: 'An Artist's Musings' could be an alternative title to this passage.</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ Provides a suitable title for the excerpt given</p> <p>(The Beauty of Brown/A Wandering Mind/Shades of Perceptions)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid response</i></p>	1
Q.164	<p>Sample Answer: Those who have compiled lists of birds usually <u>ignore</u> it in their notes with such adjectives such as "abundant," and "very common."</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ Gives an appropriate meaning of the word in the context given</p> <p>(ignore/put away/shrug off/overlook/disregard)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid response.</i></p>	1
Q.165	<p>Sample Answer: In the Himalayas, there are a large number of trees that provide abundant sources of food for birds. Hence, birds can exist in flocks and still have access to sufficient amount of food sources. However, in the plains, the food sources are much less than the hills. So, birds mostly prefer to stay separately to avoid a situation where there will be a shortage of food.</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ Explains why the birds of the Himalayas tend to live mostly in flocks</p>	3

	<p>(presence of abundant sources of food in the Himalayas/lack of sufficient sources of food in the plains/difference in the availability of food sources in the hills and plains)</p> <p><i>Accept any variations of the given response.</i></p> <p><u>Expression</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks] • Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks] <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	
Q.166	<p>Sample Answer: The details in paragraph 2 show that the narrator is very observant. He provides a vivid description of the appearance of the black-throated jay and notes that the shade of colour that the bird has is rarely seen in nature.</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ States a personality trait [1 mark] <p>(keenly interested in birds/observant/knowledgeable)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Provides a supporting example for the stated trait [1 mark] <p>(the narrator notes the unique features of the black-throated jay/draws comparisons with the jay of England)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid responses supported by the text.</i></p> <p><u>Expression</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks] ◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks] <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	3
Q.167	<p>Sample Answer: In general, food labels are too complicated and confusing and are <u>liable</u> to mislead consumers.</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Selects a suitable word from the paragraph 	1

	(liable)	
Q.168	<p>Sample Answer: I disagree because one needs to observe birds in their natural habitat to learn about their characteristics accurately.</p> <p>Content</p> <p>◆ States a point to challenge the statement given</p> <p>(birds need to be observed in their natural habitats/the characteristics of birds can be accurately recorded only in natural environments)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid response.</i></p>	1
Q.169	<p>Sample Answer: We can say that jays are not unique to the Himalayas because the writer mentions the jay of England.</p> <p>Content</p> <p>◆ Completes the sentence with an appropriate phrase</p> <p>(the writer mentions the jay of England/a reference to the jay of England is made in the passage)</p> <p><i>Accept any variations of the given responses.</i></p>	1
Q.170	<p>Sample Answer: Human language is made up of words that express complex emotions. On the other hand, bird language is composed entirely of interjections and can convey only basic emotions.</p> <p>Content</p> <p>◆ States one major difference between human language and bird language</p> <p>(human language is complex but bird language is simple/human language is composed of words and sounds but bird language is composed only of interjections/human language can convey complex feelings but bird language can convey only basic emotions)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid response.</i></p> <p>Expression</p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks]</p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks]</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	2

Q.171	<p>Sample Answer: When birds live together in places where there are limited sources of food, it might lead to a shortage of food supply. Thus, when the birds that manage to find food consume them, they end up exhausting the limited supply and leaving the rest of the birds in the group to starve.</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ States how birds starve each other out <p>(some birds exhaust the food resources which results in other birds going hungry/a small population of birds use up the total supply of food)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid answer.</i></p> <p><u>Expression</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks] ◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks] <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	2
Q.172	<p>Sample Answer: It is important because laws regarding adoption ensures transparency of the process and accountability of those involved. They ensure that the entire adoption process is controlled keeping in mind the best interests of the adopted children.</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Explains the importance of adoption laws <p>(ensures transparency/serves in the best interests of adopted children/protects the rights of prospective adoptive parents)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid answer</i></p> <p><u>Expression</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks] ◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks] <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	2
Q.173	<p>Sample Answer: It is important that prospective adoptive parents are emotionally stable because this will help them maintain a balance in the way</p>	3

	<p>they express their emotions, thereby promoting the needed emotional development in children. Children who are brought up by emotionally stable parents feel safe, loved and secure as they grow up.</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ Explains the reason for the criteria</p> <p>(ensure emotional well-being of adopted children/equips parents to fulfill the emotional needs of children/emotional stability needed to meet the challenges of parenthood)</p> <p><u>Expression</u></p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks]</p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks]</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	
Q.174	<p>Sample Answer: The author of the article is uncertain about whether the amendments would yield the intended results.</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ States the author's view about the government amendments done to increase the rate of adoptions</p> <p>(uncertain about the effectiveness/unsure about the effects of amendments)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid response supported by the text.</i></p>	1
Q.175	<p>Sample Answer: The students were required to have their parents' <u>consent</u> to participate in the 10-kilometer hike.</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ Selects a suitable word</p> <p>(consent)</p>	1
Q.176	<p>Sample Answer: In inter-country adoptions, there are high chances of having problems in communication since the adoptive parents and adopted children might not speak the same language.</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ States a challenge of inter-country adoptions</p>	1

	<p>(challenges of not speaking the same language/cultural and racial barriers/more complicated process/more expensive/more waiting period)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid response.</i></p>	
Q.177	<p>Sample Answer: Yes</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ Selects a suitable response</p> <p>(Yes)</p>	1
Q.178	<p>Sample Answer: Nash was an exceptionally brilliant student during his graduate days at the university. While being a genius, he was also known to be having an unconventional and strange behaviour.</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ Describes Nash's personality as a university student</p> <p>(Nash was a genius and had an eccentric behaviour/Nash made excellent academic contributions and had a unique personality)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid answer supported by the text.</i></p> <p><u>Expression</u></p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks]</p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks]</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	2
Q.179	<p>Sample Answer: The author of the review considers Sylvia Nasar's book 'A Beautiful Mind' to be a great boon because of two primary reasons. Firstly, it would help to bust a common misconception among people that mathematicians deal with abstract things. Secondly, there are very few biographies written about mathematicians in general.</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ Describes two reasons for the author's view of the book as a 'great boon'.</p> <p>(helps people who aren't from a mathematics ground to get to know famous mathematicians/helps people to overcome their misconceptions about mathematicians/would be relevant since there are very less number of biographies about mathematicians)</p>	3

	<p><i>Accept any variations of the given responses.</i></p> <p><u>Expression</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks] ◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks] <p>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met.</p> <p>Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met.</p> <p>Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</p>	
Q.180	<p>Sample Answer: Nash would have found the time period after his diagnosis very challenging. There are chances that the credibility of his academic contributions would have been questioned, thereby bringing him distress and discouragement.</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Explains a challenge that Nash would have faced after being diagnosed with schizophrenia <p>(the credibility of his work could have been called to question/his contributions may have been neglected/might have hampered his social life/might have struggled with doing daily activities)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid response.</i></p> <p><u>Expression</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks] ◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks] <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	2
Q.181	<p>Sample Answer: In the given statement, the author means that the eccentricities of Nash's personality can be better understood if we understand and recognize the excellent creativity he possessed.</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ States the meaning of the statement provided <p>(Nash's eccentricities was another side of his creative self/Nash's madness could be best interpreted when looked through the lens of his creative spirit)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid response.</i></p>	1

Q.182	<p>Sample Answer: Yes</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ Provides a clear response from the options given (Yes)</p>	1
Q.183	<p>Sample Answer: The phrase 'incredible adversity' refers to the mental illness that Nash suffered.</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ States what the phrase specifically means in the context (the mental illness Nash suffered/schizophrenia that was diagnosed in Nash/the loneliness Nash suffered due to schizophrenia) <i>Accept any other valid response supported by the text.</i></p>	1
Q.184	<p>Sample Answer: Those who have compiled lists of birds usually <u>ignore</u> it in their notes with such adjectives such as "abundant," and "very common."</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <p>◆ Gives an appropriate meaning of the word in the context given (ignore/put away/shrug off/overlook/disregard) <i>Accept any other valid response.</i></p>	1