

## SBI PO Prelims Mock (Based on 20th November 2021) - English Language

**Directions (1-7):** Read the given passage and answer the following questions. Some words are highlighted to help you answer some of the questions.

Curiosity is a trait of many a famous genius including Thomas Edison, Albert Einstein and Leonardo da Vinci. In an article in LIFE Magazine in 1955 entitled "Old Man's Advice to Youth: 'Never Lose a Holy Curiosity'" Einstein, who developed the theory of relativity famously said: *"The important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existence. One cannot help but be in awe when he contemplates the mysteries of eternity, of life, of the marvellous structure of reality. It is enough if one tries merely to comprehend a little of this mystery each day."* In an ever-evolving world that is fuelled by innovation, curiosity could indeed be considered a very relevant business imperative. We can all be grateful for those with a **progressive** mind and an insatiable thirst for discovery, as we have all benefited from some of their findings! Eleanor Roosevelt once observed that if a mother could ask a Fairy Godmother to endow a child with the most useful gift, that gift should be curiosity. One of the key components of cultivating a growth mindset is our ability to be curious and open-minded and to question and challenge the way we think. It helps us to avoid getting rigid in our thinking and leads us into exploring new avenues and possibilities. Curiosity is the engine of innovation and curious people have an ongoing, intrinsic interest in both their inner experience and the world around them.

Life is never boring for a curious person. Everyone possesses curiosity to some degree although people will differ according to the depth and strength of their curiosity and their willingness to act on it. Curiosity helps your mind to be more active instead of passive. The mind is a muscle and the more exercise it gets the stronger it will become. Various studies have shown that keeping your brain active and alert can be very helpful as well in later life. Curiosity is the engine of intellectual achievement; those who are more interested in a topic will learn faster and prime the brain better for learning. Curiosity is associated with high performance in both academic and work settings. There is evidence to suggest that the more we learn, the more we want to learn.

Curious people rarely find life boring because there is always something new to explore and discover. You can turn any event into something fascinating by sharpening your observation and giving your attention to something you would normally miss. Walt Disney embraced curiosity as one of the core ingredients of living a fulfilling and exciting life. He said: "We keep moving forward, opening new doors, and doing new things, because we are curious and curiosity keeps leading us down new paths." In any business context, it is important that people keep **satisfying** the thirst of innovating new ways of doing things so that they can keep ahead of the game. Refreshing the way we do things helps us to be more agile and work smarter by letting go of irrelevant habits.

**Q1.** Why does the author refer to curiosity as the engine of innovation?

- (a) It assists us in staying flexible in our thoughts.
- (b) It stimulates people to explore different things.
- (c) It enables people to be naturally eccentric around them.
- (d) It makes a person's life more bold and adventurous.
- (e) None of these

**Q2.** Why does the author encourage us to be grateful for all those who are keen to know?

- (a) Because they aided us in fostering a growth ethic and a desire to learn.
- (b) Because they were interactive individuals who queried our assumptions.
- (c) Because some of their research and discoveries have helped us all.
- (d) Because they had an intense thirst for knowledge and an open mind.
- (e) All of these

**Q3.** Which of the following instances could be deduced from Albert Einstein's quotation italicized in the first paragraph?

- (a) People should not cease questioning in order to be innovative in their activities.
- (b) Curiosity comes to an end when its inherent purpose for being is accomplished.
- (c) It is adequate to understand a tiny proportion of a mystery each and every day.
- (d) All of these
- (e) Only (a) and (c)

**Q4.** Why does a curious person's life never get monotonous as per the information provided in the given passage?

- (a) Because everyone has an unquenchable need to learn new things.
- (b) Because the depth and power of one's curiosity affect one's thoughts.
- (c) Because curiosity encourages our thoughts to be less futile.
- (d) Because curious people always have something fresh to learn and explore.
- (e) None of these

**Q5.** Which of the following statements is/are incorrect based on the information provided in the given passage?

- (a) Curiosity helps the mind to be active as the more exercise it gets the stronger it will become.
- (b) One of the most important factors in having a full and exciting life is curiosity.
- (c) In both academic and professional settings, curiosity is linked to excellent performance.
- (d) Only (a) and (c)
- (e) None of these

**Q6.** Choose the most appropriate antonym of the word '**PROGRESSIVE**', as highlighted in the given passage.

- (a) Exasperate
- (b) Dwindling
- (c) Augmenting
- (d) Cumulative
- (e) None of these

**Q7.** Which of the following words should replace the word '**SATISFYING**', as highlighted in the passage to make the given sentence grammatically correct and contextually meaningful.

- (a) Pleasing
- (b) Exploring
- (c) Impeding
- (d) Mitigating
- (e) No replacement required

**Directions (8-12):** In each of the questions below, a sentence is given with two blanks that indicate that some parts are missing. Identify the correct pair of words that fit in the sentence to make it grammatically and contextually correct.

**Q8.** At the start of the \_\_\_\_\_ pandemic, there seemed to be positive \_\_\_\_\_ on the environment.

- (a) world-wide, outcome
- (b) global, impact
- (c) global, nature
- (d) regional, impact
- (e) ongoing, outcome



**Q9.** The unions \_\_\_\_\_ the new owners of the workers' \_\_\_\_\_ to the company.

- (a) assured, loyalty
- (b) exempted, allegiance
- (c) assured, treason
- (d) confirmed, treason
- (e) exempted, loyalty

**Q10.** A facial \_\_\_\_\_ of the suspect and the drawing \_\_\_\_\_ that it was in fact a match.

- (a) mismatch, reveal
- (B) comparison, showed
- (c) data, suggest
- (d) features, suggest
- (e) contrast, reveal

**Q11.** Because of a \_\_\_\_\_ in sales, the company owner has no choice but to \_\_\_\_\_ a few workers.

- (a) efflux, elevated
- (b) decline, promote
- (c) influx, fire
- (d) surge, dismiss
- (e) decline, dismiss

**Q12.** Decades ago, Western nations faced a fuel \_\_\_\_\_ when the Arab countries placed a/an \_\_\_\_\_ on petroleum trades.

- (a) shortage, embargo
- (b) shortage, deterrent
- (c) abundance, sanction
- (d) abundance, embargo
- (e) deficiency, permit

**Directions (13-17):** In each sentence few words are given in bold. They may or may not be arranged in a proper sequence. Choose the sequence that make the sentence grammatically and contextually meaningful. If the sentence is correct, choose option(e) i.e., no rearrangement is required.

**Q13.** There is(A) **dipped** for optimism in India's battle(B) **reason** the COVID-19 pandemic as (C) **against** new coronavirus cases have(D) **daily** to a nine-month low.

- (a) ADBC
- (b) BCDA
- (c) DBCA
- (d) CDAB
- (e) No rearrangement is required

**Q14.** Although she has an(A) **interfere** on the matter, Brenda won't(B) **internal** in the company's(C) **opinion** issues(D) **without** being asked.

- (a) ADBC
- (b) BCAD
- (c) DBCA
- (d) CABD
- (e) No rearrangement is required

**Q15.** To(A) **avoid** being fired from his teaching gig, the(B) **incompetent** coach decided to(C) **resign** and leave on his own(D) **accord**.

- (a) ADBC
- (b) BCAD
- (c) DBCA
- (d) CABD
- (e) No rearrangement is required

**Q16.** The(A) **asthma** of smoking in(B) **blissing** is a(C) **restaurants** to people like myself who (D) **abolition** from allergies and(E) **suffer**.

- (a) ABDEC
- (b) BCDAE
- (c) DCBEA
- (d) CADEB
- (e) No rearrangement is required

**Q17.** Because we had(A) **decided** than we needed, we(B) **fortunate** to sacrifice our Christmas(C) **offering** by(D) **more** them to the less(E) **gifts**.

- (a) ABDEC
- (b) BDCAE
- (c) DAECB
- (d) CADEB
- (e) No rearrangement is required

**Directions (18-22):** There are three sentences given in each question. Find the sentence(s) which is/are grammatically correct and mark your answer choosing the best possible alternative among the five options given below each question. If all the sentences are incorrect, choose (e) i.e. 'None is correct' as your answer.

**Q18.** (A) Tepid response to reopening of schools as parents prefer than wait and watch  
(B) The National Education Policy lays emphasis in imparting teaching in mother tongue in primary classes.  
(C) The episode betrays a lack of understanding of the recovery process and its underlying principles.

(a) Only (A)  
(b) Both (A) and (C)  
(c) Both (C) and (B)  
(d) Only (C)  
(e) None is correct

**Q19.** (A) Prereaders progressed faster in learning to read the visual list, whereas novice and veteran readers progressed faster in learning to read the phonetic list.  
(B) The residents of city X are dismayed to find its locality in the news for all the wrong reasons.  
(C) Farmers refused to end protest in Noida despite of repeated requests

**Q20.** (A) Chennai have a history of implementing innovative and inclusionary models of slum clearance.  
(B) In the absence of a policy, the relocations have been governed by ad hoc government orders.  
(C) Much residents sell or rent out their allotments and return to informal settlements in the city to safeguard their painstakingly crafted pathways to a better life.

**Q21.** (A) China seems to be mending its diplomatic fences with the Arab countries.  
(B) A Canada has become the world's first patient diagnosed with climate change, linked to breathing trouble caused by air pollution  
(C) His comforting words helped to sustain me in my faith during those dark days.

**Q22.** (A) Israel is growing increasingly suspicious of almost every country.  
(B) The percentage of rural children who was not enrolled in school doubled during the pandemic  
(C) Delhi has recorded the lowest rate of inflation among the metro city in the country.

**Directions (23-27):** Rearrange the following six sentences (A), (B), (C), (D), and (E) in the proper sequence to form a meaningful paragraph and then answer the questions given below.

(A) Since they were part of the local culture, they could not be separated from religion.

(B) The Indians, Greeks, Mesopotamians and Egyptians led the way, but every culture, strangely enough, used the same animals to represent the same powers.

(C) They were stronger, faster, could live in the sea or air, had abilities and senses that the human could not even aspire to.

(D) So there was a willingness to use animals as gods. They gave added meaning to the divine.

(E) In the ancient world, humans were not just close to animals but, in most cases, deeply dependent on them.

**Q23.** Which of the following should be the FIRST sentence after rearrangement?

- (a) A
- (b) C
- (c) D
- (d) B
- (e) E

**Q24.** Which of the following should be the SECOND sentence after rearrangement?

- (a) E
- (b) D
- (c) C
- (d) B
- (e) A

**Q25.** Which of the following should be the THIRD sentence after rearrangement?

- (a) E
- (b) B
- (c) D
- (d) A
- (e) C

**Q26.** Which of the following should be the FOURTH sentence after rearrangement?

- (a) B
- (b) D
- (c) A
- (d) E
- (e) C

**Q27.** Which of the following should be the LAST (SIXTH) sentence after rearrangement?

- (a) E
- (b) A
- (c) B
- (d) C
- (e) D

**Directions (28-30):** In each question three sentences are given corresponding to a single idiom/phrasal verb. Choose the sentence(s) that have the correct usage of the given idiom.

**Q28.** Take off

- (A) I'll **take off** now, and see you later.
  - (B) The plane will **take off** in twenty minutes
  - (C) The doctor gave me tablets to **take off** the pain.
- (a) Only (A)
  - (b) Only (B)
  - (c) Only (C)
  - (d) only (A) and (B)
  - (e) Only (B) and (C)

**Q29.** Up in the arms

- (A) The whole village is **up in arms** about the proposal to build an airport nearby.
  - (B) The children were jumping **up in the arms** with excitement.
  - (C) Her eyes widened and her chest moved **up in the arm** faster as her breath quickened.
- (a) Only (A)
  - (b) Only (B)
  - (c) Only (C)
  - (d) only (A) and (B)
  - (e) All of the above

**Q30.** On cloud nine

- (A) I told her how much of her winnings would be going to taxes, she was definitely **on cloud nine**.
  - (B) Although we are making good profits there is a **cloud nine**, the government may increase taxes.
  - (C) I've been **on cloud nine** ever since I landed my dream job.
- (a) Only (A)
  - (b) Only (B)
  - (c) Only (C)
  - (d) only (A) and (C)
  - (e) All of the above

