

READING COMPREHENSION BASED GENERAL ENGLISH PRACTICE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS PDF WITH EXPLANATION

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Created By [Careericons](#) Team

DIRECTIONS:

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below. Certain words/phrases are printed in bold to help you to locate them while answering some of the questions.

PASSAGE

The stunning Baltimore Oriole is a common summer visitor to eastern and mid western deciduous woodlands, neighbourhoods, and gardens. Baltimore Orioles winter in the tropics. About 7 inches in length, the male Baltimore Oriole has a black head, throat, back and wings. Its breast, stomach, and rump are bright orange. It also has an orange patch on the top of each wing and white wing bars. The tail is mostly black with orange fringes. The female is dull orange throughout.

Baltimore Orioles range throughout the eastern and mid western United States, and can be found as far west as the Dakotas. At the western edge of their range, Baltimore Orioles may breed with the Bullock's Oriole (They were once considered the same species under the name Northern Oriole).

Baltimore Orioles build unusual pouch like nests that hang down from branches. They usually nest high in the trees, but often come down to lower heights, flashing bright orange and black feathers to delighted observers. Active and acrobatic by nature, Baltimore Orioles may even feed upside down at time.

Baltimore Orioles eat insects and berries. They can easily be attracted to gardens by nailing orange wedges to tree branches. Baltimore Orioles are also known to feed at hummingbird feeders and sapsucker wells.

Q1. The author has appreciated the Japanese for their:

- a) future expectations.
- b) perseverance in raising quality of products.
- c) passing through an ordeal.
- d) quality of products manufactured in the fifties.

Q2. According to the Japanese Ambassador, which of the following motivates the foreign investors to invest in Indian manufacturing industry?

- a) high productivity levels
 - b) assurance of continuity of the liberalisation policy
 - c) overseas remittance of profit in foreign exchange
 - d) very large scope of Indian market
-

Q3. The purpose of the author in writing this passage seems to be to:

- a) criticize government's liberalization policy.
 - b) paint a rosy picture of India's trade and commerce.
 - c) critically examine Indian investment environment.
 - d) discourage foreign investment in India.
-

Q4. According to the Japanese Ambassador, India offers a comparative advantage to foreign investors in terms of:

- a) None of these
 - b) higher productivity
 - c) abysmally low wage levels
 - d) inexpensive labour
-

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Q5. For seeking more and more foreign investment, the author suggests that we should:

- a) raise the quality of product to match international standards.
- b) link profit repatriations to exports.

- c) dismiss all critical comments on Indian conditions.
 - d) satisfy fully the whims of our foreign collaborators.
-

Q6. From the passage it can be inferred that the author is:

- a) an Indian investor.
 - b) a Japanese investor.
 - c) a secretary of the Japanese Ambassador.
 - d) a political commentator.
-

Q7. The author attributes Japan's emergence as an economic superpower to:

- A. their ability to overcome any ordeal.
- B. their tenacity and perseverance despite unfavourable circumstances.
- C. their ability to improvise and adapt to globally acceptable quality levels.

- a) All the three
 - b) A & C only
 - c) B & C only
 - d) A & B only
-

Q8. Which of the following statement(s) is/are **true** about the critical comments on investment conditions in India?

- A. These comments are difficult to be countered.
- B. These comments are received from various international quarters.
- C. These comments are based more on biases than on facts.

- a) A & B only
 - b) Only A
 - c) Only B
 - d) Only C
-

Q9. Choose the word which is most nearly the **SAME** in meaning to the word printed in capital as used in the passage.

ASSIDUOUSLY

- a) diligently
 - b) feebly
 - c) hastily
 - d) persistently
-

Q10. Choose the word which is most nearly the **SAME** in meaning to the word printed in capital as used in the passage.

IDIOSYNCRASIES

- a) characteristics
 - b) deviations
 - c) needs
 - d) demands
-

Q11. Choose the word which is most **OPPOSITE** in meaning of the word printed in capital as used in the passage.

INDUCEMENT

- a) temptation
 - b) impediment
 - c) motive
 - d) incentive
-

Q12. Choose the word which is most **OPPOSITE** in meaning of the word printed in capital as used in the passage.

JUSTIFIABLE

- a) inevitable
- b) temptation

c) formidable

d) unreasonable

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DIRECTIONS:

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it. Certain words in the passage are printed in bold to help you to locate them easily while answering some of the questions.

PASSAGE

The University Grants Commissions directive to college and university lecturers to spend a minimum of 22 hours a week in direct teaching is the product Of budgetary cutbacks rather than pedagogic wisdom. It may seem odd, at first blush, that teachers should protest about teaching a mere 22 hours. However, If one considers the amount of time academics require to prepare lectures of good quality as well as the time they need to spend doing research, It is clear that most conscientious teacher's work more than 40 hours a week. In university systems around the world, lecturers rarely spend more than 12 to 15 hours In direct teaching activities a week. The average college lecturer in India does not have any office space.

If computers are available, internet connectivity is unlikely. Libraries are poorly stocked. Now the UGC says universities must implement a complete freeze on all permanent recruitment, abolish all posts which have been vacant for more than a year, and cut staff strength by 10 percent. And it is in order to ensure that these cutbacks do not affect the quantum of teaching that existing lecturers are being asked to work longer. Obviously, the quality of teaching and academic work in general will decline. While it is true that some college teachers do not take their classes regularly, the UGC and the Institutions concerned must find a proper way to hold them accountable. An absentee teacher will continue to play truant even if the number of hours he is required to teach goes up.

All of us are well aware of the unsound state that the Indian higher education system is in today. Thanks to years of sustained financial neglect most Indian universities and colleges do no research worth the name. Even as the number of students entering colleges has increased dramatically, public investment in higher education has actually declined in relative terms. Between 1985 and 1997, when public expenditure on higher education as a percentage of outlays on all levels of education grew by more than 60 percent in Malaysia and 20 percent in Thailand, India showed a decline of more than 10 percent. Throughout the world, the number of teachers in higher education per million population grew by more than 10 percent In the same period in India it fell by one percent. Instead of transferring the burden of government apathy on to the backs of the teachers, the UGC should insist that the needs of the country's university system are adequately catered for.

Q13. Why does the UGC want to increase the direct teaching hours of university teachers ?

- a) UGC wants teachers to spend more time in their department merits.
 - b) UGC does not have money to appoint additional teachers.
 - c) UGC feels that the duration of contact between teacher and the taught should be more.
 - d) UGC wants teachers to devote some time to improve university administration.
 - e) None of these
-

Q14. Which of the following is the reason for the sorry state of affairs of the Indian Universities as mentioned in the passage ?

- a) Involvement of teachers in extracurricular activities
 - b) Heavy burden of teaching hours on the teachers
 - c) The poor quality of teachers
 - d) Politics within and outside the departments
 - e) Not getting enough financial assistance
-

Q15. Which of the following statements/s/are **TRUE** in the context of the passage?

- A. Most colleges do not carry out research worth the name.
- B. UGC wants lecturers to spend a minimum of 22 hours a week in direct teaching.
- C. Indian higher education system is in an unsound state.

- a) All (A), (B) and (C)
 - b) Only (B)
 - c) Only (A) and (C)
 - d) Only (A)
 - e) Only (B) and (C)
-

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Answers to the above questions :

Q1. Answer: (b)

The meaning is implied in the last sentence.

Q2. Answer: (d)

The Japanese ambassador acknowledges that the vastness of the Indian market is a great inducement for investment in the manufacturing industry.

Q3. Answer: (c)

The author describes the Indian investment scenario in toto. He presents a comparative analysis regarding foreign investment in India.

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Q4. Answer: (a)

Comparatively though labour is inexpensive in India, but at the same time productivity is not high. Therefore, it cannot be cited as an advantage here.

Q5. Answer: (a)

If foreign investment is to be wooed assiduously, we will have to meet exacting international standards.

Q6. Answer: (d)

The author is a political commentator because he talks about the government policy and makes various proposals regarding foreign investment in India.

Q7. Answer: (a)

Q8. Answer: (c)

The passage reflects the views of the Japanese ambassador who also talks about the problems faced by foreign investors in India.

Q9. Answer: (a)

Q10. Answer: (a)

Q11. Answer: (b)

Q12. Answer: (d)

Q13. Answer: (e)

Q14. Answer: (e)

Q15. Answer: (a)

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