



IBPS Clerk Prelims 2015 Memory Based (English)

Directions (71-80): Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it. Certain words are printed in bold to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.

Once upon a time in a village, there lived six blind men. In spite of their blindness, they had managed to educate themselves. Seeking to expand their knowledge, they decided to visit a zoo and try out their skills in recognising animals by their touch. The first animal they came across, as soon as they entered the zoo, was an elephant.

As the first man approached the elephant, the elephant waved its trunk, and the man felt something brush past him. Managing to hold on to it, he felt it, and found something long and moving. He jumped back in alarm, shouting "Move away! This is a snake!" Meanwhile, the second man had moved closer, and walked right near its legs. As the man touched the thick, cylindrical-shaped legs, he called out "Do not worry. These are just four trees here. There is certainly no snake!" The third man was **curious** hearing the other two, and moved forward. As he walked towards the elephant, he felt his hand touch one of the tusks. Feeling the smooth, sharp ivory tusk, the man cried out "Be careful! There is a sharp spear here." The fourth man cautiously walked up behind the elephant, and felt its swinging tail. "It's just a rope! There is nothing to be afraid of," he said. The fifth man had meanwhile reached out and was touching the huge ears of the animal. "I think all of you have lost your sense of touch!" he said. "This is nothing but a huge fan!" The sixth did not want to be left out. As he walked towards the elephant, he bumped into its massive body, and he exclaimed! This is just a huge mud wall! There is no animal at all!" six of them were **convinced** that they were right, and began arguing amongst themselves.

Wondering what the commotion was all about, the zoo keeper arrived at the scene, and was surprised to see six blind men surrounding an elephant, each of them shouting at the top of their voice! "Quiet!" he shouted out, and when they had calmed down, he asked, "Why are all of you shouting and arguing in this manner?" They replied, "Sir, as you can see, we are all blind. We came here to expand our knowledge. We sensed an animal here, and tried to get an idea of its appearance by feeling it. However, we are not able to arrive at a **consensus** over its appearance, and hence are arguing. Can you please help us and tell us which of us is right"?

The zoo keeper laughed before answering, "My dear men, each of you has touched just one portion of the animal. The animal you see is neither a snake, nor any of the other things you have

mentioned. The animal in front of you is an elephant!" As the six men bowed their head, ashamed of the scene they had created, the zoo keeper said, "My dear men, this is a huge animal, and luckily, it is tame. It stood by calmly as each of you touched it. You are extremely lucky that it stayed calm even during your argument, for if it had got angry, it would have trampled all of you to death!" He continued further, "It is not enough to gather knowledge, but it is also important to learn to share and **pool** your knowledge. Instead of fighting amongst yourselves, if you had tried to put all your observations together, you might have had an idea of the animal as a whole! Also, when you cannot see the entire truth, it is better to go to someone who does know the complete truth, rather than guess about small parts of it. Such half-knowledge is not only useless, but also dangerous. If you had come directly to me, I would have helped you identify all the animals without putting you in danger!" The six men apologised to the zoo keeper, and assured him that they had learnt their lesson. From now on they would seek true knowledge from qualified people, and would also try to work together as a team so that they could learn more.

Q71. Which part of the elephant resembled a big fan?

- (1) The wide ears
- (2) The mouth
- (3) The long slender trunk
- (4) The big wrinkled body
- (5) The end of the tail

Q72. Why did the six blind men visit the zoo?

- (1) They wanted to touch an elephant.
- (2) They had heard a lot about animals.
- (3) They wanted to visit the animals in the zoo.
- (4) They wished to recognise animals by their touch and feel.
- (5) They had never been to a zoo before.

Q73. What was the First thing the blind men came across as they entered the zoo?

- (1) A large mud wall
- (2) The zoo keeper
- (3) The trees
- (4) The elephant

(5) A snake

Q74. Why is it that each of the six blind men had different impressions of the elephant?

- A. Each of them touched only a portion of the elephant.
- B. Each of the six blind men approached different animals.
- C. The blind men were touching the surroundings instead of the elephant.
- D. They had never touched an elephant before.

(1) Only A

(2) Only A and C

(3) Only C

(4) Only B and D

(5) Only B

Q75. Why were the six men arguing and shouting amongst themselves?

- (1) Each of them wanted his voice to be heard over and above the others.
- (2) Each of them thought he was right about the animal.
- (3) There was a lot of noise in the zoo and they couldn't hear each other.
- (4) They were having an interesting debate.
- (5) None of these

Q76. What advice did the zoo keeper give to the six blind men?

- (1) That the elephant was tame and obedient.
- (2) That they were very lucky to have had the opportunity to visit the zoo.
- (3) That it was important to share knowledge and work together as a team.
- (4) That they were not qualified to be knowledgeable individuals.
- (5) That the elephant is made up of different parts.

Directions (77-78): Choose the word which is most nearly the same in meaning as the word printed in bold as used in the passage.

Q77. Convinced

- (1) Certain
- (2) Doubtful
- (3) Pressured
- (4) Committed
- (5) Daring

Q78. Pool

- (1) Expand
- (2) Gather
- (3) Devote
- (4) Apply
- (5) Combine

Directions (79-80): Choose the word which is most opposite in meaning as the word printed in bold as used in the passage.

Q79. Consensus

- (1) Harmony
- (2) Disagreement
- (3) Information
- (4) Order
- (5) Inference

Q80. Curious

- (1) Strange
- (2) Funny
- (3) Freak
- (4) Eager

(5) Uninterested

Directions (81-85): Read each sentence to find out whether there is any grammatical error in it. The error, if any, will be in one part of the sentence. If there is no error in the sentence, mark (5) 'No Error' as your answer.

Q81. In times of crisis, (1)/ the Bhagavad Gita gives light (2)/ and guide to the mind tortured by doubt (3)/ and torn by conflict of duties.(4)/ No Error (5).

Q82. It was not easy for late Raja Ram Mohan Roy (1)/ to root out the custom of sati (2)/ because a majority of (3)/ the educated class does not support him. (4)/ No Error (5).

Q83. Deplete of the ozone layer (1)/ and the greenhouse effect (2)/are two long-term effects (3) / of air pollution. (4)/ No Error.

Q84. Most of the people which (1)/ have been victims (2)/ of extreme violence (3)/ are too frightened to report it to the police. (4)/No Error (5).

Q85. Many multinational companies (1)/ have not been as (2) /successful in India (3) /than we expected. (4)/ No error (5)

Directions (86-90): In each question below, four words printed in bold type are given. These are numbered (1), (2), (3) and (4). One of these words printed in bold may either be wrongly spelt or in appropriate in the context of the sentence. Find out the word that is inappropriate or wrongly spelt, if any. The number of that word is your answer. If all the words printed in bold are correctly spelt and appropriate in the context of the sentence then mark (5) i.e. 'All Correct', as your answer.

Q86. All the **competitors** (1)/**completed** (2)/the **race** (3)/, with just one **excepstion**. (4)/ All Correct (5).

Q87. Poor **posture** (1)/ can **lead** (2)/ to **muscular** (3)/**problems** (4)/in later life. All Correct (5)

Q88. The **pump** (1)/ shut **off** (2)/as a **result** (3)/of a **mechanikal** (4)/ failure. All Correct (5).

Q89. The **Principal** (1)/gave a very **pompous** (2)/ **speech** (3)/about '**The portals of learning**'. (4)/ All Correct (5).

Q90. **Copeing** (1)/with her mother's long **illness** (2)/was a heavy **load** (3)/to **bear** (4)/. All Correct (5).

Directions (Q. 91–95): Rearrange the following six sentences (1), (2), (3), (4), (5) and (6) in the proper sequence to form a meaningful paragraph; then answer the questions given below them.

(A) The able bodied men of the tribe gathered to discuss how to climb the mountain.

(B) As part of their plundering they kidnapped a baby of one of the families.

(C) One day the mountain tribe invaded those living in the valley.

(D) “We couldn’t climb the mountain. How could you?”, they asked the mother, “It wasn’t your baby!” she replied.

(E) There were two tribes in the Andes—one lived in the valley and the other high up in the mountains.

(F) Two days later they noticed the child’s mother coming down the mountain that they hadn’t yet figured out how to climb.

Q91. Which of the following should be the SECOND sentence after rearrangement?

(1) (A)

(2) (B)

(3) (C)

(4) (D)

(5) (E)

Q92. Which of the following should be the FIFTH sentence after rearrangement?

(1) (A)

(2) (B)

(3) (C)

(4) (D)

(5) (E)

Q93. Which of the following should be the FIRST sentence after rearrangement?

(1) (A)

(2) (B)

(3) (C)

(4) (D)

(5) (E)

Q94. Which of the following should be the SIXTH (LAST) sentence after rearrangement?

- (1) (A)
- (2) (B)
- (3) (C)
- (4) (D)
- (5) (E)

Q95. Which of the following should be the THIRD sentence after rearrangement?

- (1) (A)
- (2) (B)
- (3) (C)
- (4) (D)
- (5) (E)

Directions (Q. 96–100): In the following passage there are blanks each of which has been numbered. These numbers are printed below the passage and against each five words are suggested one of which fits the blank appropriately. Find out the appropriate word in each case.

A long time ago, Anansi the spider, had all the wisdom in the world (96) in a huge pot. Nyame, the sky god, had given it to him. Anansi had been instructed to share it with everyone. Anansi greedily thought, "I will not share the treasure of knowledge with everyone. I will keep all the wisdom for myself." So, Anansi decided to (97) the wisdom on top of a tall tree. He then tied the loose end around his waist so that the pot hung in front of him. He then started to climb the tree. Anansi's son watched in fascination as his father (98) up the tree. Finally, Anansi's son told him "If you tie the pot to your back, it will be easier to cling to the tree and climb." Anansi tied the pot to his back (99), and continued to climb the tree, with much more ease than before. When Anansi got to the top of the tree, he became angry. "A young one with some common sense knows more than I, and I have the pot of wisdom!" In anger, Anansi (100) down the pot of wisdom. The pot broke, and pieces of wisdom flew in every direction.

- Q96.** 1) stored
- 2) Accumulated
- 3) Put
- 4) Gained
- 5) Measured

Q97. 1) darken

2) Conceal

3) Hide

4) reveal

5) Obstruct

Q98. 1) fought

2) Maintained

3) Battled

4) Struggled

5) Encountered

Q99. 1) inspite

2) Beside

3) Side

4) Rear

5) Instead

Q100. 1) support

2) Away

3) Previous

4) Bounce

5) Threw

