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**Directions (71-78):** Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below them.

Animals of all sorts live together in various ecosystems. Within these natural communities, the animals eat specific diets that connect them together in a food chain. The three diets of animals include creatures that eat only plants, those that eat only meat, and animals that eat both plants and meat. Animals that eat plants exclusively are herbivores, and animals that eat only meat are carnivores. When animals eat both plants and meat, they are called omnivores. The **balance** of an ecosystem depends on the presence of every type of animal. If one type of animal becomes too numerous or scarce, the entire balance of the ecosystem will change.

Carnivores will feed on herbivores, omnivores, and other carnivores in an ecosystem. A natural community depends on the presence of carnivores to control the populations of other animals. Large carnivores include wolves and mountain lions. A large carnivore might hunt down large herbivores such as elk and deer. Medium-sized carnivores include hawks and snakes, and these animals typically feed on rodents, birds, eggs, frogs, and insects. Examples of small carnivores include some smaller birds and toads. These carnivores may eat insects and worms. Carnivorous animals have strong jaws and sharp teeth to enable them to tear and rip prey. These animals often have long, sharp claws that they also use to tear prey. Carnivores depend on **sufficient** prey in the food chain to give them the food they need. If the herbivore population or the population of other carnivores declines in an ecosystem, carnivores may not survive.

With a diet comprised of only plants, herbivores can be surprisingly large animals. Examples of large herbivores include cows, elk, and buffalo. These animals eat grass, tree bark, aquatic vegetation, and shrubby growth. Herbivores can also be medium-sized animals such as sheep and goats, which eat shrubby vegetation and grasses. Small herbivores include rabbits, chipmunks, squirrels, and mice. These animals eat grass, shrubs, seeds, and nuts. An ecosystem must provide \_\_\_\_\_ **(1)** plants to sustain herbivores, and many of them spend the majority of their lives eating to stay alive. If plant availability declines, herbivores may not have enough to eat. This could cause a decline in herbivore numbers, which would also impact carnivores. Herbivores usually have special biological systems to digest a variety of different plants. Their teeth also have special designs that enable them to rip off the plants and then grind them up with flat molars.

Omnivores have an advantage in an ecosystem because their diet is the most diverse. These animals can vary their diet depending on the food that is most plentiful, sometimes eating plants and other times eating meat. Herbivores have different digestive systems than omnivores, so omnivores usually cannot eat all of the plants that an herbivore can. Generally, omnivores eat fruits and vegetables freely, but they can't eat grasses and some grains due to digestive limitations. Omnivores will also hunt both carnivores and herbivores for meat, including small mammals, reptiles, and insects. Large omnivores include bears and humans. Examples of medium-sized omnivores include raccoons and pigs. Small omnivores include some fish and insects such as flies. Omnivore teeth often resemble carnivore teeth because of the need for tearing meat. Omnivores also have flat molars for grinding up food.

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**Q71.** Why the balance of the ecosystem depends on each kind of animal?

- (a) Scarcity or abundant of a single kind can cause disturbance in the ecosystem balance.
- (b) Carnivores and Omnivorous should be less in number than herbivorous.
- (c) Specific diets of each kind of animals bring food chain in sync.
- (d) Both (b) and (c)
- (e) None of these

**Q72.** How natural community depends upon Carnivores?

- (a) They feed on grass eating, plant and meat eating animals.
- (b) They feed on other carnivores.
- (c) They control populations of other animals.
- (d) All (a), (b), and (c)
- (e) None of these

**Q73.** What is the threat to survival of carnivores?

- (a) Insufficient number of preys in the food chain.
- (b) Decline in population of herbivores and other carnivores
- (c) Both (a) and (b)
- (d) Only (b)
- (e) None of these

**Q74.** Which of the following statement(s) is/are true about herbivores?

- (a) Their diet include only vegetation
- (b) Their survival depends upon abundant plants
- (c) A major part of herbivores' life is spent on eating
- (d) They have a digestive system suitable to digest diverse kind of plants
- (e) All of the above

**Q75.** Why Omnivores are said to have an advantage?

- (a) Diverse diet
- (b) Both (a) and (c)
- (c) Diet depends upon food which is available in plentiful amount.
- (d) Only (a)
- (e) Only (c)

**Q76.** Which is the following can fill the blank (1) as given in the passage, to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct?

- (a) Largely
- (b) Abundant
- (c) Diversity
- (d) Quite
- (e) None of these.



**Q77.** Which of the following words is most **similar** in meaning as **BALANCE**, highlighted in the given passage?

- (a) Affecting
- (b) Poignant
- (c) Equilibrium
- (d) Considerate
- (e) None of these.

**Q78.** Which of the following words is most **opposite** in meaning with **SUFFICIENT**, highlighted in the given passage?

- (a) Inadequate
- (b) Ample
- (c) Plenty
- (d) Enough
- (e) None of these.

**Directions (79-84):** In the following passage there are blanks, each of which has been numbered. These numbers are printed below the passage and against each, five options are given. Find out the appropriate word which fits the blank appropriately to make a grammatically and contextually correct sentence.

Two decades have passed since the mid-day meal became a part of the daily routine in government schools nationwide. In this long passage of time, procedures have \_\_\_\_\_ (79) but accidents continue to occur. Funds from the Centre flow smoothly though procurement of food items faces hurdles of different kinds. The latest \_\_\_\_\_ (80) in mid-meal stories concerns milk. Government norms entitle every child to receive 150 ml of milk as part of the mid-day meal. However, a video revealed recently how one litre of milk was mixed in a bucketful of water so that it would \_\_\_\_\_ (81) for the more than 80 children present that day in a school in rural Uttar Pradesh (U.P.). This was somewhat similar to the one reported from U.P. a couple of months ago. In the earlier incident, a video showed plain chapatis being served with salt. The two videos made it to the national media; they also proved useful for the officers who \_\_\_\_\_ (82) the mid-day meal scheme since they also depend on unauthorised videographers to learn about the reality in schools. Each such revelation leads to the same \_\_\_\_\_ (83) official statement: punish the guilty, locate the video-maker and deal with him/her. In the latest mid-meal story narrated above, authorities in U.P. have reportedly done the \_\_\_\_\_ (84) needful, i.e. they have fired the apparent culprit who is a para-teacher.

**Q79.**

- (a) Balances
- (b) Stabilized
- (c) Persistent
- (d) Stabilizing
- (e) None of these.

**Q80.**

- (a) Stained
- (b) Retaliate
- (c) Accusations
- (d) Blunder
- (e) None of these.

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**Q81.**

- (a) Suffice
- (b) Assent
- (c) Patriotism
- (d) Benefit
- (e) None of these.

**Q82.**

- (a) React
- (b) Negate
- (c) Supervise
- (d) Unify
- (e) None of these.

**Q83.**

- (a) Amalgamate
- (b) Reflexive
- (c) Applicable
- (d) Unlikely
- (e) None of these.

**Q84.**

- (a) Permit
- (b) Annihilate
- (c) Customary
- (d) Stride
- (e) None of these.

**Directions (85-89):** Each question below has one blank, which is indicating that something has been omitted. Find out which option(s) can be used to fill up the blank in the sentence in the same sequence to make it meaningfully complete.

**Q85.** Maharashtra has been \_\_\_\_\_ into a new party system over the past few years, with the BJP trying hard to replace the Congress as the dominant party in the State.

- (i) Investigated
- (ii) Transitioning
- (iii) Framing
- (a) Only (i)
- (b) Only (ii)
- (c) Both (ii) and (iii)
- (d) Both (i) and (ii)
- (e) None of these.

**Q86.** The theme song of Downton Abbey along with a panoramic shot of the imposing monarchic structure is enough to \_\_\_\_\_ memories.

- (i) Evoke
- (ii) Recall
- (iii) Sent
- (a) Only (i)
- (b) Only (ii)
- (c) Both (ii) and (iii)
- (d) Both (i) and (ii)
- (e) None of these.

**Q87.** With tomato and onion prices continuing to soar, the Centre is considering a \_\_\_\_\_ to increase cultivation of these staple vegetables in the north Indian region.


- (i) Proposal
- (ii) Role
- (iii) Novel
- (a) Only (i)
- (b) Only (ii)
- (c) Both (ii) and (iii)
- (d) Both (i) and (ii)
- (e) None of these.

**Q88.** The Railways will speed up trains to reduce running time and maximise \_\_\_\_\_ of infrastructure across its network.

- (i) Collecting
- (ii) Effectiveness
- (iii) Utilisation
- (a) Only (i)
- (b) Only (ii)
- (c) Both (ii) and (iii)
- (d) Both (i) and (ii)
- (e) None of these.

**Q89.** There could be more interest rate \_\_\_\_\_ by the RBI as some of the members of the monetary policy committee have observed that growth is yet to bottom out

- (i) Increment
- (ii) Cuts
- (iii) Growths
- (a) Only (i)
- (b) Only (ii)
- (c) Both (ii) and (iii)
- (d) Both (i) and (ii)
- (e) None of these.

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**Directions (90-94):** In each of the questions given below four words are given in bold. These four words may or may not be in their correct position. The sentence is then followed by options with the correct combination of words that should replace each other in order to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct. Find the correct combination of the words that replace each other. If the sentence is correct as it then select option (e) as your choice.

**Q90.** Today, thermal **accounts (A)** capacity **generation (B)** for about two-thirds the **installed(C)** generation **capacity(D)** in the country.

- (a) A-B
- (b) A-C
- (c) B-D
- (d) C-D
- (e) The sentence is correct

**Q91.** The IMF **followed(A)** the World Bank in **reducing(B)** its forecast for India's **economic(C)** growth in the current **financial(D)** year.

- (a) A-B
- (b) A-C
- (c) B-D
- (d) C-D
- (e) The sentence is correct

**Q92.** In **pursuit (A)** of novel ways to draw **caught (B)** to the Big Prize, the **Academy(C)** seems to have been **attention (D)** on the wrong foot again.

- (a) A-B
- (b) A-C
- (c) B-D
- (d) C-B
- (e) The sentence is correct

**Q93.** With **power (A)** growth, the **demand(B)** for **economic (C)** in India is only going to **increase(D)** further.

- (a) A-B
- (b) A-C
- (c) B-D
- (d) C-D
- (e) The sentence is correct

**Q94.** The Air Quality Index of Delhi **worsened(A)** slightly and **expected (B)** in the "poor" category and is **stayed (C)** to further **deteriorate(D)** from the last week of the month.

- (a) A-B
- (b) A-C
- (c) B-C
- (d) C-D
- (e) The sentence is correct

**Direction (95-100):** The following questions consist of a sentence. Four of the words of the sentences are marked in bold, which may or may not be correctly spelled. Option corresponding to misspelt word is your answer. If there is no misspelled word in the sentence then choose (d), i.e., 'All are correct' as your answer.

**Q95.** Education, for most of us, is a necessary public good central to the task of nation **building** and, like fresh air, is **neccessary** to make our **communities** come alive.

- (a) Education
- (b) Building
- (c) Neccessary
- (d) Communities
- (e) All are correct

**Q96.** The Budget's **provisons** for collecting more in taxes from the **incomes** of the super-rich were aimed at **redistributing** wealth to bring about more **equitable** development.

- (a) Provisons
- (b) Incomes
- (c) Redistributing
- (d) Equitable
- (e) All are correct

**Q97.** Ideas **rejected** more than two **decades** ago during the **liberalisaetion** phase are back in **circulation**.

- (a) Rejected
- (b) Decades
- (c) Liberalisaetion
- (d) Circulation
- (e) All are correct

**Q98.** The proposal to **establish** a National Research Foundation, with an "overarching goal to enable a culture of research to **permeate** through our universities" needs to be **applauded** and widely supported.

- (a) Establish
- (b) Overarching
- (c) Permeate
- (d) Applauded
- (e) All are correct

**Q99.** **Policymaking** has three **essenteal** ingredients: technical elements, **administrative** inputs and political **goals and packaging**.

- (a) Policymaking
- (b) Essenteal
- (c) Administrative
- (d) Packaging
- (e) All are correct

**Q100.** The **Central Bureou** of Investigation has set up an Online Child Sexual **Abuse and Exploitation** Prevention/**Investigation** Unit.

- (a) Bureou
- (b) Abuse
- (c) Exploitation
- (d) Investigation
- (e) All are correct

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