Directions (1-5): Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it. Certain words are given in bold to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.

There is a sense of gloom pervading India's $150-billion information technology (IT) industry, which earned India $88 billion in foreign exchange in 2015-16 through the exports of software and IT-enabled services (ITeS). According to data from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the rate of growth of the combined exports of software and ITeS fell from 20.8 per cent in 2012-13 to 14.9 per cent in 2014-15 and to a low of 7.3 per cent in 2015-16. Global circumstances combined with the specific nature of India's IT **prowess** seem to be responsible for this fall. India's IT industry recorded remarkable growth over a long period because it exploited an outsourcing opportunity by perfecting a global delivery model for software and ITeS based on cheap skilled labour. That opportunity was offered by the cost-cutting **imperatives** facing the corporate sector in the United States and elsewhere.

As a result, IT industry revenues grew in double digits, with export earnings accounting for a large share of those revenues. Employment grew rapidly, albeit from a low base and at a lower pace than revenues. And a service industry to support the IT sector's growth grew around the principal centres of its activity, suggesting that despite the absence of physical production the sector had backward linkages through which it delivered some economy-wide benefits. This combination of the characteristics of India's IT success not only gave the industry a position of privilege in the economy but made it the symbol of India's **ostensible** post-globalisation success.

However, there were a number of features of that model that made it vulnerable to changes in circumstances. To start with, it had a high degree of dependence on exports for growth, with the U.S. accounting for a very large share of those exports, followed by the European Union (E.U.) at a distant second. At the turn of the century, the U.S. market accounted for close to two-thirds of India's IT exports and the E.U. for about a quarter, and even in 2015-16, the U.S. was first with 62 per cent and Europe second with 24 per cent. Little had changed for the industry.

Secondly, software services (or code writing and customisation of different levels of sophistication) and ITeS, rather than IT products, accounted for an overwhelming share of revenues. To **garner** those revenues, a workforce with essential IT skills and familiarity with English, communication infrastructure, and the requisite organisation were the necessary ingredients. But sustaining those revenues required constant attention to cost competitiveness, which encouraged automation of the routine activities that constitute an important part of the industry's operations.

Thirdly, this output composition required combining offshore delivery with local services provision to understand client requirements and **customize** services and even run operations. So, on-site work remained an important component of the industry's activity. In 2002-03, 48 per cent of India's exports of IT services was through the medium of a commercial presence on foreign soil and another 13.5 per cent through the presence of natural persons. By 2015-16 those figures had come down to 18.9 per cent and 16.1 per cent respectively. But the local presence, which ensured provision of 35 per cent of the value services that had risen in value from Rs. 31,100 crore to Rs.5,76,310 crore between 2002-03 and 2015-16, was undoubtedly large and crucial to the industry's performance.

Finally, a few firms (such as Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), Infosys and Wipro) account for a very large share of the industry's revenues, drawing attention to their operations and brand as happened in the U.S. recently.

1**) Why according to the passage India's IT industry is facing a sense of despondency?**
(I) Because of unavailability of cheap skilled labour force in the country.
(II) There is an abrupt decline in the rate of growth of the combined exports of software and ITeS.
(III) Because of over-exploitation of outsourcin opportunities.
(a) Only (I) is correct
(b) Only (II) is correct
(c) Both (I) and (III) are correct
(d) Both (II) and (III) are correct
(e) All are correct

2**). How the outsourcing opportunity helped India's IT industry in achieving exceptional growth?**
(I) It bettered India's global delivery model for software and ITeS based on cheap skilled labour.
(II) There was a significant growth in generation of revenues of IT industry.
(III) It helped in rapid growth of employment.
(a)   Only (I) is correct
(b)   Only (III) is correct
(c) Both (I) and (II) are correct
(d) Both (II) and (III) are correct
(e) All are correct

3**) What does the author mean by the sentence, "Little had changed for the industry" as used in the passage?**
(a) Despite the subsequent growth in other sectors, Indian IT industry failed to add value to the economy.
(b) IT Industry still had a high degree of dependence on exports for growth.
(c) Software services and ITeS were responsible for overwhelming share of revenues, rather than IT products.
(d) Both (b) and (c)
(e) All of the above

4**) Which of the following statements is/are true in context of the passage?**
(I) In 2002-03, 18.9 per cent of India's exports of IT services was through the medium of a commercial pres-

ence on foreign soil and another 16.1 per cent through the presence of natural persons.

(II) India's IT success not only gave the industry a position of privilege in the economy but made it the symbol of India's ostensible post-globalisation success.

(III) A workforce with essential IT skills and familiarity with English, communication infrastructure, and the requisite organisation were the necessary ingredients for drawing attention of the outsourcing opportunity.

(a) Only (I) is true
(b) Only (II) is true
(c) Both (I) and (II) are true
(d) Both (II) and (III) are true
(e) All are true

5) **Why according to the passage the growth rate of combined exports of software and ITeS slumped to a new low?**

(a) Global circumstances combined with the specific nature of India's IT prowess seem to be responsible for this fall.

(b) India's over dependence on the exports of software and ITeS for growth.

(c) Due to absence of physical production.

(d) Lack of workforce with essential IT skills and familiarity with English, and communication infrastructure.

(e) All of the above.

Directions (6-8): Choose the word/group of words which is most similar in meaning to the word/group of words printed in bold as used in passage.

6) Prowess
(a) Dexterity   (b) Method   (c) Composure
(d) Liberty   (e) Serenity

7) Garner
(a) Pick up   (b) Setup   (c) Preserve
(d) Buy up   (e) Amass

8) Imperative
(a) Subtle   (b) Piercing   (c) Vital
(d) Supple   (e) Mercurial

Directions (9-10): Choose the word/group of words which is most opposite in meaning to the word/group of words printed in bold as used in passage.

9) Ostensible
(a) Avowed   (b) Genuine   (c) Alleged
(d) Illusory   (e) Feigned

10) Customize
(a) Sustenance   (b) Broaden   (c) Maintenance
(d) Reshape   (e) Comply

Directions (11-15): In each of the questions given below, two parts of the sentence are given in bold which is then followed by four possible alternatives. You

have to choose the option which fits the sentence most appropriately. If all the four alternatives are incorrect choose option (e) as your correct choice.

11) Satyagraha is Gandhi's **greatness in gifting mankind**. Etymologically, the term means passion for, or firmness in Truth satya in Sanskrit means Truth and agraha **that define passion and firmness**.

(a) greatest gifts to mankind; denoting passion and firmness

(b) one of the great gifts of mankind; resemble passion and firmness

(c) greatest gift to mankind; denotes passion or firmness

(d) gifting to a mankind; which denote passion or firmness

(e) No correction required

12) The AIP module is not part of the original Scorpene contract but the Navy **has been keen on having them fitted** on the last two of the six Scorpene submarines **being manufactured by** Mazgaon Docks Limited (MDL) in Mumbai.

(a) is keen to have them fit; manufactured by

(b) keening on have them fit; which is manufactured at

(c) have been keen to have them fitted; which is manufactured by

(d) is keening on having them fit; manufacturing in

(e) No correction required

13) **The Trump administration's renewed focus on hard approaches to counter terrorism could provide these elites with more excuses in continuation of living in their mental comfort zones.**

(a) to countering terrorism; more excuses to continue living

(b) to counter terrorism; better excuse to continue to live

(c) counter of terrorism; more excuses for continuation to live

(d) in countering terrorism; more excuses continuing to live

(e) No correction required

14) **In the parliamentary democratic system of governance in India, the responsibility for running the administration rest with the electing representatives of the people.**

(a) in India; is resting with the elected

(b) as in India; rests with the elected

(c) of India; do rest with the elected

(d) like India; rests in the elected

(e) No correction required

15) The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) **was an early initiative by China** to knit together important regional countries in Asia in an organisation **that had significant** security overtones.

(a) had been an early initiative by China; with significant

(b) is an early initiative for China; signifying

(c) has been an early initiative by China; which signified

(d) was an early initiative for China; to signify
(e) No correction required

Direction (16-20): There are two different sentences with a blank space in each question. Choose the word from the given options which fits into both the blanks appropriately without altering their meanings.

16) **(1)** The only difficulty in this _____ is to secure debtors that will not die.
   (2) She was in a state of rare contentment, an _____ to the gaiety that was hers by nature.
   (a) accretion   (b) increase   (c) enlargement
   (d) accessory   (e) None of the above

17) **(1)** He issued what was in reality an _____ proclamation, which President Lincoln was compelled to modify.
   (2) Friction increased between the races at the South after _____.
   (a) abolition   (b) autarchy   (c) exemption
   (d) immune   (e) emancipation

18) **(1)** It was feared that there could be a _____ unsettling of established governments and a new political order could come into being, oriented away from the traditional leadership of the region.
   (2) On the other hand, _____ emigration was not sufficient to remove the evil.
   (a) comprehensively (b) wholesale   (c) voluminous
   (d) extensive   (e) haphazard

19) **(1)** The French President Emmanuel Macron's new centrist party is _____ poised for a landslide victory in the parliamentary elections.
   (2) The opinion of parliament on two other questions during the session was, _____ influenced by events in France.
   (a) evidently   (b) seemingly   (c) ostensibly
   (d) apparently   (e) All of the above

20) **(1)** Parliament takes pride in asserting the supremacy of the institution, at times even ignoring what it perceives as judicial _____ in its functioning.
   (2) It would have been enough to have cured the whole Roxburghe Club from _____ with libraries and books forever and ever.
   (a) concern   (b) examining   (c) tracing
   (d) meddling   (e) quest

Directions (21-30): In the following passage there are blanks, each of which has been numbered and one word has been suggested alongside the blank. These numbers are printed below the passage and against each, five options are given. In four options, one word is suggested in each option. Find out the appropriate word which fits the blank appropriately. If the word written alongside the blank fits the passage, choose

option 'e' (No correction required) as the correct choice.

Summer is one of the toughest periods of the year for anyone **completing (21)** from school. This means we are talking about almost one crore students who gave their class XII exam. With an **investiture (22)** ratio of around 24.3%, we are looking at almost 30 lakh students **rapidly(23)** trying to obtain good scores in their XII board exams or sitting for entrance examinations for various higher education **institutions (24)**. If their scores are not good, their careers will be **found (25)** to be dead.

Thirty lakh students! This is a/an **terrifying (26)** figure for the Darwinian struggle they know they will be getting into. Why? Because the higher education system in India is a binary **phenomenon (27)**. You either have **intellectually (28)** elite colleges, a handful of them, or a vast majority of **exceptional (29)** ones which have lost their ability to even signal the quality of their students — one of the most basic purposes for an educational institution to exist. The trajectory to professional success then crucially **rest (30)** on your ability to secure a seat in one of the good colleges.

Q21. (a) finishing   (b) certifying   (c) graduating
       (d) passing   (e) No correction required

Q22. (a) record   (b) enrolment   (c) enlisting
       (d) induction   (e) No correction required

Q23. (a) carelessly   (b) gravely   (c) hysterically
       (d) desperately   (e) No correction required

Q24. (a) establishment (b) association (c) corporation
       (d) formulation   (e) No correction required

Q25. (a) sensed   (b) perceived   (c) sighted
       (d) marked   (e) No correction required

Q26. (a) astounding   (b) horrible   (c) shocking
       (d) terrible   (e) No correction required

Q27. (a) reflection   (b) dream   (c) creation
       (d) experience   (e) No correction required

Q28. (a) capably   (b) keenly   (c) prudently
       (d) thoughtfully (e) No correction required

Q29. (a) unusual   (b) rotten   (c) mediocre
       (d) rugged   (e) No correction required

Q30. (a) link   (b) support   (c) derive
       (d) hinges   (e) No correction required

S1. Ans.(b)
Sol. Refer the first paragraph, "According to data from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the rate of growth of the combined exports of software and ITeS fell from 20.8 per cent in 2012-13 to 14.9 per cent in 2014-15 and to a low of 7.3 per cent in 2015-16." Hence only statement (II) is the correct reason.

S2. Ans.(e)
Sol. Refer the last few lines of first paragraph, "India's IT industry recorded remarkable growth over a long period because it exploited an outsourcing opportunity by perfecting a global delivery model for software and ITeS based on cheap skilled labour." and the first few lines of second paragraph, "As a result, IT industry revenues grew in double digits, with export earnings accounting for a large share of those revenues. Employment grew rapidly, albeit from a low base and at a lower pace than revenues." Hence all three statements are correct in context of the passage.

S3. Ans.(d)
Sol. Refer the first few sentences of the third paragraph, "However, there were a number of features of that model that made it vulnerable to changes in circumstances. To start with, it had a high degree of dependence on exports for growth, with the U.S. accounting for a very large share of those exports…" and the first sentence of the fourth paragraph, "Secondly, software services (or code writing and customisation of different levels of sophistication) and ITeS, rather than IT products, accounted for an overwhelming share of revenues." Hence both the statements (b) and (c) are correct in context of the passage.

S4. Ans.(b)
Sol. Refer the statements, "In 2002-03, 48 per cent of India's exports of IT services was through the medium of a commercial presence on foreign soil and another 13.5 per cent through the presence of natural persons.", "This combination of the characteristics of India's IT success not only gave the industry a position of privilege in the economy but made it the symbol of India's ostensible post-globalisation success," and "To garner those revenues, a workforce with essential IT skills and familiarity with English, communication infrastructure, and the requisite organisation were the necessary ingredients." Hence only statement (II) is true in context of the passage.

S5. Ans.(a)
Sol. Refer the first paragraph, "According to data from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the rate of growth of the combined exports of software and ITeS fell from 20.8 per cent in 2012-13 to 14.9 per cent in 2014-15 and to a low of 7.3 per cent in 2015-16. Global circumstances combined

with the specific nature of India's IT prowess seem to be responsible for this fall." Hence (a) is the correct option in context of the passage.

S6. Ans.(a)
Sol. Prowess means skill or expertise in a particular activity or field. **Dexterity** means skill in performing tasks, especially with the hands. Hence both are similar in meanings.
Serenity means the state of being calm, peaceful, and untroubled.

S7. Ans.(e)
Sol. Garner means gather or collect (something, especially information or approval). Hence "**amass**" is the word most similar in meaning to it.

S8. Ans.(c)
Sol. Imperative means a factor or influence making something necessary. Hence 'vital' is the word most similar in meaning to it.
Supple means bending and moving easily and gracefully; flexible.
Mercurial means subject to sudden or unpredictable changes of mood or mind.

S9. Ans.(b)
Sol. Ostensible means stated or appearing to be true, but not necessarily so. Hence '**genuine**' is the word most opposite in meaning to it.
Avowed means that has been asserted, admitted, or stated publicly.

S10. Ans.(b)
Sol. Customize means modify (something) to suit a particular individual or task. Hence '**broaden**' is the word most opposite in meaning to it.
Sustenance means the maintaining of someone or something in life or existence.

S11. Ans.(c)
Sol. "greatest gift to mankind, denotes passion or firmness" is the correct set of phrases in context of the sentence structure and subsequent grammar usage.

S12. Ans.(e)
Sol. As the sentence is in passive form, "has been keen on having them fitted, being manufactured by" are the correct phrases in context of the sentence structure and grammatical usage. Hence it doesn't require any correction.

S13. Ans.(a)
Sol. "to countering terrorism, more excuses to continue living" is the correct set of phrases in context of the sentence structure and subsequent grammar usage.

S14. Ans.(b)
Sol. "as in India, rests with the elected" is the correct set of phrases in context of the sentence structure and subsequent grammar usage.

S15. Ans.(e)
Sol. The given sentence is grammatically correct.

S16. Ans.(a)
Sol. Accretion means a thing formed or added by gradual growth or increase.

S17. Ans.(e)
Sol. Emancipation means the fact or process of being set free from legal, social, or political restrictions; liberation.

S18. Ans.(b)
Sol. Wholesale means done on a large scale; extensive.

S19. Ans.(e)
Sol. All the given options fit into the blanks appropriately as all four words mean the same i.e. so as to give the impression of having a certain quality; apparently.

S20. Ans.(d)
Sol. Meddling means interfering in something that is not one's concern.

S21. Ans.(c)
Sol. "graduating" is the correct word replacement as it means successfully completing an academic degree, course of training, or high school.

S22. Ans.(b)
Sol. "enrolment" is the correct word replacement as it means the action of enrolling or being enrolled.

S23. Ans.(d)
Sol. "desperately" is the correct word replacement as it means used to emphasize the extreme degree of something.

S24. Ans.(e)
Sol. "institutions" is the correct word and it does not require any replacement as the word is in plural form (i.e. various higher education **institutions**)

S25. Ans.(b)
Sol. "perceived" is the correct word replacement as it means interpret or regard (someone or something) in a particular way.

S26. Ans.(a)
Sol. "astounding" is the correct word replacement as it is in positive sense than other given options. **5 Adda247 |** No. 1 APP for Banking & SSC Preparation **Website:** bank-

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S27. Ans.(e)
Sol. "phenomenon" is the correct word as it doesn't require any correction as it means a fact or situation that is observed to exist or happen, especially one whose cause or explanation is in question.

S28. Ans.(e)
Sol. "intellectually" is the correct word as it does not require any correction as it means cleverly.

S29. Ans.(c)
Sol. "mediocre" is the correct word replacement as it means of only average quality; not very good.

S30. Ans.(d)
Sol. "hinges" is the correct word replacement as the verb should be singular in particular with the subject of the sentence. Hinge means attach or join with or as if with a hinge.