

WORD CLASSES

Directions : Each of the following sentences has word/words underlined. Read the sentence carefully and find which word class the underlined word/words belongs/belong to. Indicate your response on the Answer Sheet accordingly.

1. I like that boy.
(a) Noun
 (b) Demonstrative Pronoun
(c) Participle
(d) Conjunction
2. Without health there is no happiness.
 (a) Noun
(b) Pronoun
(c) Adjective
(d) Adverb
3. You have no sense.
(a) Noun^{*}
 (b) Determiner
(c) Adverb
(d) Preposition^{*}
4. None of these cars is in use.
(a) Reflexive Pronoun
(b) Demonstrative Pronoun
(c) Distributive Pronoun
 (d) Indefinite Pronoun
5. We shall now begin to work.
 (a) Adverb
(b) Adjective
(c) Conjunction
(d) Pronoun
6. Owing to his ill health, he retired from business.
(a) Conjunction^{*}
 (b) Preposition^{*}
(c) Participle
(d) Determiner
7. My sister is just sixteen and therefore not eligible to vote.
(a) Gerund^{*}
 (b) Adverb
(c) Adjective
(d) Conjunction^{*}
8. They tried to find fault with us.
(a) Participle
(b) Verb
 (c) Infinitive
(d) Gerund
9. Which way shall we go?
(a) Noun
(b) Gerund^{*}
(c) Conjunction^{*}
 (d) Adjective[✓]
10. Alas! He is dead.
(a) Determiner
(b) Conjunction
(c) Preposition
 (d) Interjection[✓]

FILL IN THE BLANKS

Directions : Each of the following sentences in this section has a blank space and is followed by four choices. Select the most appropriate choice to fill in the blank space.

11. He was ____ speaker that I had ever heard.
 (a) the most eloquent ✓
(b) the more eloquent
(c) very eloquent
(d) eloquent
12. What was the name of the person to ____ you spoke on the phone?
(a) who
 (b) whom ✓
(c) whose
(d) which
13. Have you seen Mohan ____?
 (a) lately ✓
(b) yesterday ✓
(c) lastly
(d) late
14. We live in ____ an old house.
(a) rather ✓
(b) fairly ✓
 (c) quite ✓
(d) pretty ✓
15. I'm playing tennis tomorrow unless ____.
 (a) it rains ✓
(b) it doesn't rain
(c) it rained
(d) it may rain
16. The ____ of the car is unknown.
(a) make up ✓
 (b) making ✓
(c) made up
(d) make
17. He paid his debts ____ to the last penny.
 (a) down ✓
(b) over
(c) full
(d) fully ✓
18. Developing ____ in a diverse country requires detailed planning.
(a) growth
(b) scarcity
(c) poverty
 (d) infrastructure ✓
19. ____ provisions have been made to support agriculture.
(a) Procurement
(b) Subsidized
 (c) Adequate ✓
(d) Capital
20. The ____ growth in the Indian financial markets can be attributed to a number of reforms.
(a) efficiency
 (b) phenomenal ✓
(c) catastrophe
(d) meteor

ORDERING OF CHUNKS IN A SENTENCE

Directions : Each of the following items in this section consists of a sentence, chunks of which have been jumbled up. These chunks have been labelled as P, Q, R and S. Each sentence is followed by four sequences, namely (a), (b), (c) and (d) indicating the rearrangement of the chunks. You are required to select the most appropriate option.

21. India has become P with time Q accounting for 25 per cent of the total available water R
the world's largest extractor of groundwater S

(a) P Q R S

(b) P R S Q

(c) Q P S R

(d) Q R P S

22. present existential perils P all over the world Q the extremes R of climate change S

(a) R S P Q

(b) P R S Q

(c) Q P S R

(d) Q R P S

23. the company forecasts P aviation market amongst Q the G20 countries R

that India will be the fastest growing S

(a) R S P Q

(b) P S Q R

(c) S P Q R

(d) Q R P S

28. earth may seem immense
P

from the perspective of humans
Q

and almost limitless
R

living on its surface
S

- (a) PQRS
- (b) SPRQ^{*}
- (c) QSPR[✓]
- (d) RPSQ

29. in terms of trading volumes,
P

have grown substantially
Q

market capitalization and turnover
R

the Indian financial markets
S

- (a) PQRS
- (b) QRPS
- (c) RSPQ
- (d) SQPR[✓]

30. emerge at last into a
P

those who passed through
Q

country of unearthly beauty
R

that valley of darkness
S

- (a) PRQS
- (b) QSPR[✓]
- (c) RPQS
- (d) SQRP

Directions :
Choose the n
on the Ansv

31. Have

- (a)
- (b)
- (c)
- (d)

32. Bite

- (a)
- (b)

33. L

34.

35

IDIOMS AND PHRASES

Directions : Given below are some idioms/phrases followed by four alternative meanings to each. Choose the response (a), (b), (c) or (d) which is the most appropriate meaning and mark your response on the Answer Sheet accordingly.

31. Have an axe to grind

- (a) to have a selfish aim or motive[✓]
- (b) a thing that causes problems
- (c) an essential equipment for work
- (d) to behave arrogantly

32. Bite the bullet

- (a) to be angry and unhappy
- (b) to start doing something in a very keen way^x
- (c) to accept something unpleasant and difficult[✓]
- (d) to try to do more than you are able to do^x

33. Laughing stock

- (a) someone who does something very stupid and is made fun of[✓]
- (b) to avoid conflict
- (c) to laugh at someone secretly
- (d) a jovial and respected person

34. Pay over the odds

- (a) to get dividends for investments
- (b) to work hard to make payments
- (c) to treat someone in the bad way
- (d) to pay more for something than it is worth[✓]

35. Play to the gallery

- (a) to do something alone
- (b) to say things that will make people admire you[✓]
- (c) to behave in a very annoying way
- (d) to take big risks in business

36. Be in the soup

- (a) to be in trouble[✓]
- (b) to be very healthy
- (c) to be good at the workplace
- (d) to be honest to people

37. A turn of the screw

- (a) to begin to behave in a more positive way
- (b) to change people's opinions in your favour
- (c) to become unpopular
- (d) an action which makes a bad situation worse[✓]

38. A white elephant

- (a) someone who is completely good and honest
- (b) something that has cost a lot of money but has no useful purpose[✓]
- (c) a situation where you waste time looking for something
- (d) to make someone feel anxious

39. A hot potato

- (a) someone who is very angry
- (b) something that is difficult to deal with[✓]
- (c) someone who is holier than appears to be^x
- (d) to be unable to decide^x

40. Apples and oranges

- (a) people who are close to each other^x
- (b) people who argue a lot^x
- (c) people who are different and thus incomparable[✓]
- (d) people who fight over minor issues

SPOTTING ERRORS

Directions : Each item in this section has a sentence with three underlined parts labelled as (a), (b) and (c). Read each sentence to find out whether there is any error in any underlined part and indicate your response on the Answer Sheet against the corresponding letter, i.e., (a) or (b) or (c). If you find no error, your response should be indicated as (d).

41. Guest is unwelcome when he stays too long. No error
(a) (b) (c) (d)

42. My friend and benefactor has come. No error
(a) (b) (c) (d)

43. Either he or I am mistaken. No error
(a) (b) (c) (d)

44. Each of these substances are found in India. No error
(a) (b) (c) (d)

45. Who do you wish to see? No error
(a) (b) (c) (d)

46. It was one of the best speeches that has ever been made in the Parliament.
(a) (b) (c)

No error
(d)

(a), (b)
indicate
and no

47. I played with same bat that you used. No error
(a) (b) (c) (d)

48. His written statement defers in several important respects
(a) (b)
from his oral statement. No error
(c) (d)

49. I have ordered for three cups of coffee. No error
(a) (b) (c) (d)

50. One must not boast of one's own success. No error
(a) (b) (c) (d)

SYNONYMS

Directions : Each item in this section consists of a sentence with an underlined word followed by four words/groups of words. Select the option that is **nearest in meaning** to the underlined word and mark your response on the Answer Sheet accordingly.

51. There are plenty of graduates anxious for work.

(a) composed

(b) eager

(c) indifferent

(d) prominent

52. The power of the monarchy was circumscribed by the new law.

(a) constrained

(b) naturalized

(c) circumvented

(d) notified

53. We caught him eavesdropping outside the window.

- (a) wandering aimlessly
- (b) talking loudly
- (c) listening secretly
- (d) reflecting calmly

54. The party leader exhorted his members to start preparing for the formation of their government.

- (a) expected
- (b) urged
- (c) facilitated
- (d) discouraged

55. The local people are hospitable to strangers.

- (a) surly
- (b) distant
- (c) frosty
- (d) cordial

56. Such traditional methods seem incongruous in our technical age.

- (a) unswerving
- (b) constant
- (c) unvarying
- (d) inappropriate

57. Mohan has mercurial temperament.

- (a) volatile
- (b) pleasant
- (c) agreeable
- (d) merciful

58. It is obligatory for all employees to wear protective clothing.

- (a) voluntary
- (b) elective
- (c) optional
- (d) essential

59. She has a genetic predisposition to liver disease.

- (a) resistance
- (b) immunity
- (c) vulnerability
- (d) exemption

60. She wore a sardonic smile on her face.

- (a) mocking
- (b) respectful
- (c) reverential
- (d) deferential

ORDERING OF SENTENCES

Directions : In this section, each item consists of six sentences of a passage. The first and sixth sentences are marked as S1 and S6. The middle four sentences in each have been jumbled up and labelled as P, Q, R and S. This is followed by four options each suggesting a sequence of the sentences. Identify the most appropriate option.

61. S1 : Like many of its tropical counterparts, India was a colony of Britain, which ruled out any move to adjust the exchange rate.

S6 : Banks were left with unrecoverable assets.

P : Indebted business failed.

Q : With devaluation made politically impossible, fall in export demand led to sustained and deep deflation.

R : Indebted households liquidated a variety of assets to repay loans when they could.

S : Real interest rates rose.

The correct sequence should be

(a) RSPQ

(b) QSRP

(c) SQPR

(d) PSRQ

62. S1 : Consider the potential effect of just a small increase in the earth's atmospheric temperature.

S6 : If the sea level rose only a few feet, dozens of coastal cities would be destroyed and life would change utterly.

P : Some deserts might anyway bloom.

Q : But lands now fertile might turn to deserts, and many hot climates could become uninhabitable.

R : A rise of only a few degrees could melt the polar ice caps and submerge the planet in a short time.

S : Rainfall patterns would change.

The correct sequence should be

(a) SQPR

(b) RQSP

(c) RSPQ

(d) QRSP

63. S1 : In the ancient times, the kings and the royal families had their own banner and seal.
 S6 : So the high officials commanded great respect because of the descent, ability and character.
 P : All the members of the royal family shared in the administration as far as possible.
 Q : The royal palace was maintained in a great state.
 R : The king was in theory an autocrat.
 S : There were opportunities to influence the king in the formulation of policies.

The correct sequence should be

- (a) RSPQ ✓(b) QRPS
 (c) PQSR (d) QPSR

64. S1 : The rise of East Asia in the late twentieth century may ultimately prove to be a more important world-historical event than the collapse of communism.
 S6 : Translated into political terms, this means that industrial capitalism is always accompanied by liberal democracy.
 P : In the final two decades of the twentieth century, economic growth rates on the western rim of the Pacific Basin were between two and four times higher than those in the 'developed' economies of Europe and North America.^{1,2}
 Q : The widespread assumption has been that modernization means westernization.³

R : Certainly, the balance of the world's economy shifted markedly from the West to the East in this period.⁴

S : However, the notion that there is distinctively East Asian political form is less familiar one⁵

The correct sequence should be

- (a) RSPQ (b) PQSR
 (c) SPQR ✓(d) RPSQ[✓]

65. S1 : Manipur has a long and glorious history from before the beginning of the Christian Era.

S6 : Manipur regained its independence in 1947 and merged into Indian Union in 1949.

P : Then, Manipur came under the British rule in 1891.⁴

Q : The independence and sovereignty remained uninterrupted until the Burmese invasion and occupation for around seven years in the first quarter of the 19th century (1819-1826).³

R : The political history of Manipur could be traced back to 33 AD with the coronation of Nongda Lairen Pakhangba.¹

S : After Pakhangba, a number of kings ruled over the Kingdom of Manipur.²

The correct sequence should be

- (a) RSPQ (b) PQRS
 ✓(c) RSQP[✓] (d) QPRS

66. S1 : In agriculture, water is mainly used for irrigation.
 S6 : Hence, it is difficult to practice agriculture without assured irrigation during dry seasons.
 P : The large tracts of the country are deficient in rainfall and are drought prone.
 Q : Winter and summer seasons are more or less dry in most part of the country.
 R : Irrigation is needed because of spatio-temporal variability in rainfall in the country.
 S : North-Western India and Deccan Plateau constitute such areas.

The correct sequence should be

- (a) RPSQ (b) RSPQ
 (c) SPQR (d) QPRS ✓

67. S1 : Vijayanagara or 'city of victory' was the name of both a city and an empire.
 S6 : They remembered it as Hampi, a name derived from that of the local Mother Goddess, Pampadevi.
 P : In its heyday, it stretched from the river Krishna in the North to the extreme South of the peninsula.
 Q : The empire was founded in the fourteenth century.
 R : In 1565, the city was destroyed and subsequently deserted.
 S : Although it fell into ruin in the seventeenth-eighteenth centuries, it lived on in the memories of people living in the Krishna-Tungabhadra Doab.

The correct sequence should be

- (a) PRQS (b) SPRQ
 ✓ (c) QPRS (d) RSPQ

68. S1 : During the past two decades, many organizations in both the manufacturing and service sectors have faced dramatic changes in their business environment.
 S6 : These changes have had a significant influence on management accounting systems.
 P : To succeed in today's highly competitive environment, companies have made customer satisfaction an overriding priority.
 Q : They have also adopted new management approaches and manufacturing companies have changed their manufacturing systems and invested in new technologies.
 R : Deregulation and extensive competition from overseas companies in domestic markets have resulted in a situation in which most companies now operate in a highly competitive global market.
 S : At the same time there has been a significant reduction in product life cycles arising from technological innovations and the need to meet increasingly discriminating customer demands.

The correct sequence should be

- (a) PQRS (b) RSPQ ✓
 (c) SRQP (d) QPRS

69. S1 : Gregor Johann Mendel was born on July 22, 1822 in Austria.

S6 : Based on his experiments on a total of seven characteristics in garden pea, he established Law of Segregation and Law of Independent Assortment.

P : His pioneering work laid the foundation of science of genetics and therefore, he is known as the 'Father of Genetics'.

Q : There he was exposed to the lab facilities and got interested in research and teaching.

R : In 1843, Mendel began studying even while being a monk at St. Thomas Monastery in Brno.

S : His experiments focussed on cross-breeding of pea plants and gathering data on the variations of several generations.

The correct sequence should be

(a) RSPQ

(b) PQSR

✓ (c) PRQS

(d) SPQR

70. S1 : Mahatma Gandhi found in salt a powerful symbol that could unite the nation.

S6 : The tax on salt and the government monopoly over its production, Mahatma Gandhi declared, revealed the most oppressive face of the British rule.

P : On 31 January, 1930, he sent a letter to Viceroy Irwin stating eleven demands. ✓

Q : The idea was to make the demands wide-ranging, so that all classes within Indian society could identify with them and everyone could be brought together in a united campaign! ✓

R : Salt was something consumed by the rich and the poor alike, and it was one of the most essential items of food. ✓

S : The most stirring of all was the demand to abolish the salt tax. ✓

The correct sequence should be

(a) PQSR

(b) SRQP

✓ (c) RPQS ✓

(d) QPRS ✓

ANTONYMS

Directions : Each item in this section consists of a sentence with an underlined word followed by four words or groups of words. Select the option that is **opposite in meaning** to the underlined word and mark your response on the Answer Sheet accordingly.

71. Brevity is the soul of wit.
(a) concision
(b) economy
(c) terseness
(d) verbosity
72. Blend the grains to make a smooth paste.
(a) separate
(b) mingle
(c) coalesce
(d) amalgamate
73. The project wasted a considerable amount of time and money.
(a) substantial
(b) trifling
(c) plentiful
(d) abundant
74. She has always been disdainful of people who haven't been to college.
(a) contemptuous
(b) dismissive
(c) scornful
(d) respectful
75. He had a frugal lunch.
(a) sparing
(b) extravagant
(c) meagre
(d) delicious
76. He is forced to lead an itinerant life.
(a) vagrant
(b) roving
(c) settled
(d) nomadic
77. His malicious intentions were aborted.
(a) pernicious
(b) spiteful
(c) benevolent
(d) vindictive
78. Comics tend to perpetuate several myths.
(a) cease
(b) conserve
(c) sustain
(d) maintain
79. Krishna is a redoubtable person.
(a) formidable
(b) fearsome
(c) awe inspiring
(d) unimpressive
80. The movie is about fusion of old and contemporary ideas.
(a) joining
(b) bonding
(c) separation
(d) blending

CLOZE COMPOSITION

Directions : In this section, there is a passage having some blank spaces with four words or groups of words given. Select whichever word or group of words you consider the most appropriate for the blank space and indicate your response on the Answer Sheet accordingly.

It is necessary, _____ 81. (a) in regard to ✓ any war, to consider, not its proper justification in

(b) connecting

(c) describing

(d) linking

past agreements, _____ 82. (a) and its real justification in the balance of good which it

(b) until

(c) but ✓

(d) unless

is to bring to mankind. At the beginning of a war, each nation, under the influence of what is called _____ 83. (a) disloyalty, believes that its own victory is

(b) patriotism, ✓

(c) infidelity,

(d) falseness,

_____ 84. (a) nationally certain and of great importance to mankind. The praiseworthiness of

(b) individually

(c) autonomously

(d) both ✓

this belief has become an accepted maxim of common sense : even when war is actually in progress

it _____ 85. (a) is held to be natural and right that a citizen of an enemy country

(b) has been withheld

(c) was held

(d) had been withheld

should regard the victory of his side as assured and highly _____ 86. (a) unpleasant. By
(b) unlikely.
 (c) desirable.
(d) malignant.

concentrating attention upon the supposed advantages of the victory of our own side, we
more or less blind to the evils inseparable from war and

87. (a) becoming

(b) become

(c) had become

(d) have been becoming

equally certain whichever side may ultimately prove _____ 88. (a) successful. Yet so long
(b) thriving.
 (c) victorious.
(d) failing.

as these are not fully realized, it is impossible _____ 89. (a) to judge justly
(b) to be judged
(c) to judging
(d) having judged

90. (a) whether a war is or is not likely to be beneficial to the human race. Although

(b) therefore

(c) however

(d) since

the theme is trite, it is necessary therefore briefly to remind ourselves what the evils of war really are.

PREPOSITIONS AND DETERMINERS

Directions : Each of the following sentences in this section has a blank space with four options. Select whichever preposition or determiner you consider the most appropriate for the blank space and indicate your response on the Answer Sheet accordingly.

91. Steve has gone away. He will be away _____ Monday.
(a) on
(b) by
 (c) until
(d) from
92. I'll see you _____ Friday morning.
(a) in
 (b) on
(c) along
(d) at
93. Write your name _____ the top of the page.
 (a) at
(b) in
(c) by
(d) with
94. Sohan is studying _____ the university.
(a) in
 (b) at
(c) on
(d) from
95. He is indebted _____ his friend.
(a) from
(b) with
(c) by
 (d) to
96. Can I be held responsible _____ my spouse's debts?
 (a) for
(b) to
(c) by
(d) with
97. It was fun to hang out _____ the pier.
(a) down
(b) with
(c) in
 (d) beneath
98. Can you pass _____ sugar, please?
(a) a
(b) an
 (c) the
(d) No article
99. Our train leaves from _____ platform number 5.
(a) a
(b) an
 (c) the
(d) No article
100. _____ children learn very quickly.
 (a) Some
(b) A
(c) Any
(d) Much

COMPLETION OF SENTENCE

Directions : Each of the following items features one part of a sentence followed by four alternatives. Complete the sentence by choosing the correct alternative.

101. They were informed that the inaugural version of the scheme

- (a) had three parts.✓
- (b) was three parts.
- (c) have three parts.
- (d) had has three parts.

102. What would you do

- (a) if you would won a lot of money?
- (b) if you have won a lot of money?
- (c) if you will win a lot of moneys?
- (d) if you won a lot of money?✓

103. If it stopped raining

- (a) we had gone out.
- (b) we could go out.✓
- (c) we should go out.
- (d) we ought to go out.

104. Let me know

- (a) if you have any further news.✓
- (b) if you had any further news.
- (c) if you has any further news.
- (d) if you had have any further news.

105. We stayed

- (a) at the cheap hotel in the town.
- (b) at the cheaper hotel in the town.
- (c) at the cheapest hotel in the town.✓
- (d) at a cheapest hotel in the town.

106. Julia got married

- (a) as she was 22.
- (b) when she was 22.✓
- (c) because she was 22.
- (d) since she was 22.

107. What time

- (a) does this train get at London?
- (b) does this train get in London?✓
- (c) does this train get into London?✓
- (d) does this train get to London?✓

108. How are you

- (a) getting on in your new job?✓
- (b) getting of in your new job?
- (c) getting along your new job?✓
- (d) getting off in your new job?

109. I am trying to

- (a) shut down on coffee.
- (b) cut down on coffee.✓
- (c) break down on coffee.
- (d) turn down on coffee.

110. Many accidents

- (a) cause careless driving.
- (b) have caused careless driving.
- (c) are caused by careless driving.✓
- (d) will cause careless driving.

COMPREHENSION

Directions : In this section, you have **two** short passages. After each passage, you will find some items based on the passage. First, read a passage and answer the items based on it. You are required to select your answers based on the contents of the passage and the opinion of the author only.

Passage—1

The third great defect of our civilization is that it does not know what to do with its knowledge. Science has given us powers fit for the gods, yet we use them as small children. For example, we do not know how to manage our machines. Machines were made to be humanity's servants, yet man has grown so dependent on them that they are in a fair way to become his masters. Already most people spend most of their lives looking after and waiting upon machines. And the machines are very stubborn masters. They must be kept at the right temperature. And if they do not get their meals when they expect them, they grow sulky and refuse to work or burst with rage and blow up and spread ruin and destruction all around. So we have to wait upon them very attentively and do all that we can to keep them in a good temper. Already we find it difficult either to work or play without the machines, and some time may come when they will rule us altogether, just as we rule the animals.

And this brings me to the point at which I asked, "What do we do with all the time which the machines have saved for us, and the new energy they have given us?" On the whole, it must be admitted, we do very little. For the most part, we use our time and energy to make more and better machines which will give us still more time and still more energy, and what are we to do with them? The answer, I think, is that we should try to become more civilized. For the machines themselves, and the power which the machines have given us, are not civilization but aids to civilization. But you will remember that we agreed at the beginning that being civilized meant making and linking beautiful things, thinking freely and living rightly and maintaining justice equally among people. A person has a better chance today to do these things than he/she ever had before; he/she has more time, more energy, less to fear and less to fight against. If he/she will give his/her time and energy which his/her machines have won for him/her to make more beautiful things, to find out more and more about the universe, to remove the cause of quarrels between nations, to discover how to prevent poverty, then I think our civilization would undoubtedly be the greater as it would be more lasting than it has ever been.

111. The general tone of the passage is

- (a) critical
- (b) descriptive
- (c) demonstrative ✓
- (d) informational

112. The use of machines has failed to bring us

- (a) spiritual freedom
- (b) more leisure and more energy
- (c) slavery and destruction
- (d) culture and civilization ✓

113. According to the passage, our civilization would be made greater

(a) if man devotes his time to make more beautiful things

(b) if man looks after and waits upon machines

(c) if machines are made man's servants

(d) if man discovers how to prevent poverty ✓

114. According to the passage, which one of the following descriptions about machines is true?

(a) They already rule us like we rule animals.

(b) They wait upon us attentively ✗

(c) They are inexorable masters ✓

(d) They have made man more civilized ✗

115. According to the passage, how do we use the powers bestowed upon us by science?

(a) Judiciously ✓

(b) Temperamentally ✗

(c) Divinely ✗

(d) Irrationally ✓

Passage—II

Plastic is an essential commodity with multiple uses based on its key qualities of malleability, flexibility, and durability. Plastics are omnipresent in agriculture, fisheries, renewable energy, transport, technology, retail, textiles, personal care products, and all the other sectors and industries that directly or indirectly affect our daily life. Plastic has indeed made our lives more convenient, but it has come at a higher price than we imagined. The plastic pollution overflowing our landfills, clogging waterways, and infiltrating the ocean is primarily made of discarded items and packaging. Plastic lasts for hundreds of years, slowly disintegrating into smaller and smaller pieces, but never fully degrading. Indeed, one of the key perks of plastic is its longevity. And yet, the plastic packaging of nearly every product we purchase and many plastic products themselves are intended to be discarded after a single use. Throwaway plastic is an oxymoron, but it has become our sad, increasingly dangerous reality.

Plastic pollution should make everyone angry. This is a crisis we can see with the naked eye, day in and day out. Plastic has been found on even the most remote, uninhabited islands, and in the deepest parts of the ocean. Because we can see it, we are more keenly aware of it, unlike some other forms of pollution. In 2019, the World Health Organization (WHO) called for further studies on the impacts of microplastics on human health. An initial study, hampered by a lack of adequate data, concluded microplastics pose no danger at current levels (WHO, 2019). Although the WHO report was

inconclusive about the effects of plastic on human health, other studies have linked the chemicals in plastic to negative health outcomes including endocrine disruption (Dabre 2020). Plastic particles have been detected in drinking water and in the food we eat, with a 2019 study commissioned by WWF estimating humans consume about five grams (or one credit card in weight) of plastic every week.

We have seen the devastating effects plastic has on marine life. For instance, unable to process ingested plastic waste pieces, seabirds and other sea creatures starve to death. We have seen sea turtles and other animals tangled in fishing nets or trapped in plastic pack rings. Plastic pollution also wreaks havoc on land, clogging drains and preventing rainwater from soaking into the soil, which leads to flooding. Terrestrial creatures also suffer the effects of plastic waste, with some getting trapped in discarded plastic bags and suffocating to death.

116. Plastic has distressing effects on

- (a) only humans
- (b) only marine life
- (c) both humans and marine life ✓
- (d) None of the above

117. Plastic and plastic particles can be found

- (a) in the oceanic depths ✓
- (b) on mountain tops
- (c) in metals and minerals
- (d) All of the above ✓

118. Plastic pollution appears to be

- (a) an epidemic ✓
- (b) a pandemic ✓
- (c) a small menace
- (d) a temporal health issue

119. Plastic is considered an essential commodity because

- (a) it has made our lives easier
- (b) it causes health hazard
- (c) it clogs natural ecosystem

(d) it has multiple uses in our everyday lives ✓

120. The word 'clogging' in the passage means

- (a) obstruction ✓
- (b) flow
- (c) opening
- (d) clearing