

## SBI PO Question Paper 2019- Verbal Ability

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

Renewable energy is the future, and the future is finally here. Global investment in renewable energy shot up last year, far outstripping investment in fossil fuels, according to a UN report. As the price of clean energy technology **plummets**, it has become an increasingly attractive prospect for world governments. China was by far the world's largest investor in renewable energy in 2017, **accounting for** nearly half of the new infrastructure commissioned. This was mainly a result of its massive support for solar power, which globally attracted nearly a fifth more investment than in the previous year. Other countries including Australia, Sweden and Mexico more than doubled the amount of money they pumped into clean energy projects. "Yet again, this was a record year for new renewable power capacity being financed," Francoise d'Estais from UN Environment's energy and climate branch told *The Independent*. "We had a record 157 gigawatts commissioned last year, far outstripping the fossil fuel generating capacity, which we estimated as 70 gigawatts."

In just over a decade, concerted investment has increased the proportion of world electricity generated by wind, solar and other renewable sources from around 5 per cent to 12 per cent. "*The electricity sector remains the brightest spot for renewables with the exponential growth of solar photovoltaic and wind in recent years, and building on the significant contribution of hydropower generation.*" But, electricity accounts for only a fifth of global energy consumption, and the role of renewables in the transportation and heating sectors remains **\_\_\_\_\_ (A) \_\_\_\_\_** to the energy transition. The global replacement of traditional fuels with renewables led to around 1.8 gigatonnes of carbon dioxide emissions being avoided last year – the equivalent of removing the entire US transport system. According to the Wind and Solar Atlas, there are opportunities and potential for Wind and Solar plants in the East and West Nile areas that will produce around 31,150 MW from wind and 52,300 MW from solar. Egypt is also considering financing options to conduct feasibility studies for building the world largest solar power plant for both electricity generation and water desalination.

The UK has been performing well in clean energy generation, with recent figures showing wind and solar sources had overtaken nuclear as suppliers of electricity. However, despite these positive trends, 2017 saw a big drop of 65 per cent in British renewables investment. Experts have criticised the withdrawal of UK support for onshore wind, as previous analysis has demonstrated it already has the capacity to outcompete fossil fuels as a power source.

As renewable energy prices continue to fall, however, Professor Moslener said government subsidies are likely to become less and less important.

**Q 1.** Which of the following facts are correct as per the given passage?

- (I) The decrease in the cost of renewable energy resulted in its wide use.
  - (II) China massively supported solar power and became the largest investor in renewable energy.
  - (III) Egypt is conducting feasibility studies for building the largest solar power plant.
1. Only (I)
  2. Only (II)
  3. Only (III)
  4. Both (II) and (III)
  5. All (I),(II)and(III)

Answer: 5

**Q 2.** What did the author mean by the line “The electricity sector remains the brightest spot for renewables with the exponential growth of solar photovoltaic and wind in recent years and building on the significant contribution of hydropower generation.”?

- (I) The growth of renewable energy in the electricity sector is not that impressive.
  - (II) The electric sector has performed the best for renewables.
  - (III) Hydropower generation has a significant contribution in the electricity sector.
1. Only (I)
  2. Only (II)
  3. None
  4. Both (II) and (III)
  5. All (I),(II)and(III)

Answer: 4

**Q 3.** Which of the following is/are the positive effect(s) of renewable energy?

- (I) The overall increase in global temperature.
  - (II) Carbon dioxide emissions were reduced to a considerable amount.
  - (III)The Nile being converted into a biodiversity hotspot.
1. Only (I)
  2. Only (II)
  3. Only (III)
  4. Both (II) and (III)
  5. All (I),(II)and(III)

Answer: 2

**Q 4.** Why government subsidies are likely to become less important?

1. As China is increasing investment in this sector.
2. As the price of clean energy technology continues to plummet.
3. As Fossil fuels are the better alternative
4. As there are opportunities and potential for Wind and Solar plants in the East and West Nile areas
5. None of these

Answer: 2

**Q 5.** Which of the following words will come in place of (A) as given in the passage?

1. Elevate
2. Existence
3. Erratic
4. Diabolic
5. Critical

Answer: 5

**Q 6.** Which of the following word is most similar in meaning to “accounting for” as given in the passage?

1. contradict
2. contribute
3. Devious
4. Retrieve
5. Categorical

Answer: 2

**Q 7.** Which of the following word is most similar in meaning to “plummets” as given in the passage?

1. Intensify
2. Escalate
3. Callous
4. Slump
5. reminiscent

Answer: 4

**Directions (8-12):** Read the given passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

The withdrawal of Houthi rebels from three of Yemen’s ports as part of the December 2018 ceasefire agreement should have been the basis for further talks to expand the truce to other parts of the country. But while the withdrawal was underway last week, Houthis, who are reportedly getting support from Iran, carried out a drone attack on a Saudi pipeline, and in retaliation Riyadh launched airstrikes on Sanaa, the capital city controlled by the rebels, killing at least six civilians, including children. Yemen now risks falling back to the pre- ceasefire days of conflict with fighting has broken out in parts of the government-controlled south. What makes the resumption of hostilities more dangerous is the regional angle. Tensions are on the rise in West Asia over the U.S.-Iran standoff. The U.S. had earlier warned against possible attacks by either Iran or Iran-backed militias against American interests or its allies in the region and has deployed an aircraft carrier and a bomber squad to the Gulf. Immediately after the pipeline was attacked, the Saudis blamed Iran for ordering it, an allegation which both Tehran and the Houthis have **refuted**. Whether Iran was actually behind the attack or not, the incident and the subsequent Saudi airstrikes show how the Yemeni conflict is entangled with the regional rivalry between Iran and Saudi Arabia. Saudi Arabia started its Yemen military campaign in March 2015 with the goal of driving Houthis out of territories they captured. Four years of war have devastated the country. According to the UN, at least 7,000 civilians have been killed. Thousands of others have died due to disease, poor health care and malnutrition. The blockade Saudi Arabia imposed on Yemen steadily worsened the country’s hunger problem and health-care crisis. The country is on the brink of famine. It’s a shame that even when the ceasefire was holding, the Saudis did not halt bombing Yemen. Saudi Arabia appears to be frustrated that it is not able to defeat the Houthis even after years of heavy bombing. The Houthis, on their part, continue to provoke the Saudis through the cross-border rocket and drone attacks. The Yemenis are stuck in between. The way forward is the Hodeida model. The December ceasefire took effect in the Red Sea port city and both the rebels and government forces stuck to it till the rebels pulled out last week. They should continue talks under international mediation and replicate the Hodeida model elsewhere in Yemen. For this to be achieved, the Houthis should decouple themselves from the regional politics, and stay focused on resolving differences with the government and rebuilding the war-torn country, while Saudi Arabia should get out of Yemen.

**Q 8.** Choose the option which is most opposite to the word in the question, as mentioned in the passage.  
“refuted”

1. negated
2. disputed
3. confuted
4. verified
5. None of these

Answer: 4

**Q 9.** Which of the following is/are correct according to the passage?

- I. According to the author, the withdrawal of Houthi rebels from three of Yemen's ports as part of the December 2018 ceasefire agreement should have been the basis for further talks to expand the truce to other parts of the country.
- II. The December ceasefire took effect in the Red Sea port city and both the rebels and government forces stuck to it till the rebels pulled out previous week.
- III. Saudi Arabia started its Persian military campaign in March 2018 with the goal of driving Houthis out of territories they captured.

1. only II
2. II and III
3. I and II
4. I only
5. None of these

Answer: 3

**Q 10.** Which of the following is/are incorrect according to the passage?

- I. Four years of war have devastated the country of Iran.
- II. The U.S. had warned against probable attacks by either Iran or Iran-backed militias against American interests or its allies in the region and has deployed an aircraft carrier and a bomber squad to the Indian ocean.
- III. It was not confirmed if Iran was actually behind the attack or not, but the subsequent Saudi airstrikes show how the Yemeni conflict is entangled with the regional rivalry between Iran and Saudi Arabia.

1. Only II
2. II and III
3. I and II
4. I only
5. None of these

Answer: 3

**Q 11.** "The country is on the brink of famine." Which of the following options explain the above statement of the author?

1. The government has been exploiting the civilians and the present state of the country is in shambles.
2. Thousands of civilians have been killed man others have died due to disease, poor health care and malnutrition.
3. Thousands of civilians have left the country and emigrated to Europe via the Red sea.
4. Thousands of children have been rendered orphans because their families have been killed in the war.
5. None of these

Answer: 2

**Q 12.** Why did Riyadh launch airstrikes on Sanaa, the capital of Yemen?

1. Riyadh had retaliated to the recent violation of the truce between the US and Iran by the rebels in Iran.
2. Saudi Arabia wanted to capture the oilfields in the oil-rich northern province of Iran.
3. The Houthis, who have been getting support from Iran, carried out a drone attack on a Saudi pipeline, so Riyadh launched airstrikes in retaliation.

4. Saudi Arabia wanted to capture the strait of Hormuz which is a strategic location with respect to transport of oil to other nations.
5. None of the above

Answer: 3

**Direction (13-15):** Read the following information carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Renewable Energy (RE) is the future. With that said, one can argue that the future has arrived, in parts at least. Worldwide acceptance towards green energy is giving the sustainable energy sector more market share every year. The growth is consistent, with each year out-performing the previous, leading renewable energy to *account for* 1/3rd of global energy capacity.

It's **fair** to state that the growth trajectory is incredible, and considering that it took only a little more than a just decade to reach this position, we could call it \_\_\_\_\_. However, the most important question is, is this satisfactory? The goal of green energy transition is to solve growing energy scarcity and reduce dependency on fossil fuels in order to move towards a fully sustainable energy landscape. Therefore, to identify success, we need to compare renewable energy growth with the current scenario.

According to WHO's estimates, currently, more than 7 million people die every year from pollution, up from 4.2 million in 2016. Fossil fuel consumption has increased globally from 94,462/twh in 2000 to 1,33,853/twh now. The rise in population (currently 7.7 billion) indicates a steady growth in energy demand worldwide. In comparison, the fact that renewable energy took a decade to become 1/3 of energy capacity is not the ideal pace, considering we might not have two more decades to wait for RE to catch up.

**Q 13.** Which of the following words is most similar to the word '*fair*' with reference to the context of the passage?

1. Excellent
2. Reasonable
3. Coloured
4. Diligent
5. Prejudiced

Answer: 2

**Q 14.** Which of the following is similar in meaning to 'Account for'?

1. To form a particular part of something
2. To consider or regard
3. Take an opportunity
4. Doing anything risky
5. Take control of

Answer: 1

**Q 15.** Which of the following words can most appropriately fill in the blank, as given in the passage, grammatically and contextually?

It's fair to state that the growth trajectory is incredible, and considering that it took only a little more than a just decade to reach this position, we could call it \_\_\_\_\_.

1. Phenomenal
2. Affordable
3. Inadequate
4. Affective

5. Dismal

Answer: 1

**Direction (16-21):** Given below is a paragraph consisting of blanks against each number. Identify the correct option among the five alternative pairs that perfectly fits into the given blank against the respective number to make the paragraph contextually meaningful and grammatically correct.

On October 29, 1929, Black Tuesday hit Wall Street as investors \_\_\_\_ (16) \_\_\_\_ some 16 million shares on the New York Stock Exchange in a single day. Billions of dollars were lost, \_\_\_\_ (17) \_\_\_\_ out thousands of investors. In the aftermath of Black Tuesday, America and the rest of the industrialized world \_\_\_\_ (18) \_\_\_\_ downward into the Great Depression (1929-39), the deepest and longest-lasting economic \_\_\_\_ (19) \_\_\_\_ in the history of the Western industrialized world up to that time. During the 1920s, the U.S. stock market underwent rapid expansion, reaching its peak in August 1929, after a period of wild speculation.

By then, production had already declined and unemployment had risen, leaving stocks in great excess of their real value. Among the other causes of the eventual market collapse were low wages, the \_\_\_\_ (20) \_\_\_\_ of debt, a struggling agricultural sector and an excess of large bank loans that could not be liquidated.

Stock prices began to decline in September and early October 1929, and on October 18 the fall began. Panic set in, and on October 24, Black Thursday, a record 12,894,650 shares were traded. Investment companies and leading bankers attempted to \_\_\_\_ (21) \_\_\_\_ the market by buying up great blocks of stock, producing a moderate rally on Friday.

**Q 16.**

1. Traded
2. Invaded
3. Segregated
4. Daunted
5. Halted

Answer: 1

**Q 17.**

1. Affording
2. Wiping
3. Wanting
4. Vacating
5. Artificial

Answer: 2

**Q 18.**

1. Reprimanded
2. Embedded
3. Spiralled
4. Mounted
5. Disregarded

Answer: 3

**Q 19.**

1. provided
2. Infiltration

3. Dismantle
4. Downturn
5. Diversification

Answer: 4

**Q 20.**

1. Commotion
2. impair
3. significant
4. Proliferation
5. Renovate

Answer: 4

**Q 21.**

1. Infirmity
2. Credibility
3. Stabilize
4. Burdened
5. Rationalize

Answer: 3

**Directions (22-25):** Match the following sentences in Part I with those given in Part II:

**Q 22.**

I	II
A. The collegium has now repeated its recommendations, emphasising that there is nothing adverse against the two judges in terms of their	D. keen to fill up the current vacancies.
B. In systemic terms, the advisability of retaining	E. "conduct, competence and integrity" and that there is no reason to agree with the Government.
C. The Supreme Court is	F. collaborative process involving the executive and the judiciary, and there cannot be a time frame for it.

1. A-D
2. B-D
3. C-E, B-F
4. A-E, C-D
5. None of these

Answer: 4

**Solution 22:**

- The collegium has now repeated its recommendations, emphasising that there is nothing adverse against the two judges in terms of their "conduct, competence and integrity" and that there is no reason to agree with the government.

- The Supreme Court is keen to fill up the current vacancies.  
The above-mentioned statements are grammatically and logically correct.

**Q 23.**

I	II
A. It is true that the filling up of vacancies is a continuous and	D. the collegium system of appointments is a major concern
B. Were tensions in trade policy to flare up again, it could result	E. borne by American consumers and could result in the U.S.
C. The cost of these tariffs will, after all, eventually be	F. in large disruptions to global supply chains and pose downside risks to global growth, the IMF warned.

1. A-D
2. B-D
3. C-E, B-F
4. A-F, C-D
5. None of these

Answer: 3

**Solution 23:**

- The cost of these tariffs will, after all, eventually be borne by American consumers and could result in the U.S.
- Were tensions in trade policy to flare up again, it could result in large disruptions to global supply chains and pose downside risks to global growth, the IMF warned.

The above-mentioned statements are grammatically and logically correct.

**Q 24.**

I	II
A. It is unlikely that the Trump administration will temper its “my way or the highway” approach to Iranian oil sales, and New Delhi	D. was that Washington may not be willing to meet India halfway on trade issues.
B. Perhaps the most worrying signal from Mr Ross’s outburst	E. the labelling of non- vegetarian dairy products.
C. The U.S. must understand the cultural differences over	F. for a ceasefire between government troops and the Taliban underscores the mood in Kabul.

1. A-D
2. B-D, C-E



3. C-E, B-F
4. A-F, C-D
5. None of these

Answer: 2

**Solution 24:**

- Perhaps the most worrying signal from Mr Ross's outburst was that Washington may not be willing to meet India halfway on trade issues.
- The U.S. must understand the cultural differences over the labelling of non- vegetarian dairy products.

The above-mentioned statements are grammatically and logically correct.

**Q 25.**

I	II
A. The Taliban, for its part, immediately shot down the proposal,	D. its capacity to strike anywhere, including in the most fortified of locations
B. Without the Taliban's reciprocity,	E. vowing to continue attacks through the Ramzan month
C. The group controls half of Afghanistan and has shown	F. no ceasefire will hold.

1. A-E, B-F, C-D
2. B-D
3. C-E, B-F
4. A-F, C-D
5. None of the above

Answer: 1

**Solution 25:**

- The Taliban, for its part, immediately shot down the proposal, vowing to continue attacks through the Ramzan month.
- Without the Taliban's reciprocity, no ceasefire will hold.
- The group controls half of Afghanistan and has shown its capacity to strike anywhere, including in the most fortified of locations.

The above-mentioned statements are grammatically and logically correct.

**Directions (26-30):** Read each sentence to find out whether there is any grammatical or idiomatic error in it. The error, if any, will be in one part of the sentence. The number of that part is the answer. If there is 'No error', the answer is (e). (Ignore errors of punctuation, if any.)

**Q 26.** People have the freedom (a)/ of speech but at the (b)/ same time each of them (c)/ have to remember their fundamental duties (d)/ No error (e)

1. d
2. a
3. b
4. c
5. e

Answer: 1

**Solution 26:**

'has ' should replace 'have' as 'each of' is always followed by a singular verb.

**Q 27.** The number of students (a)/ competing in the event (b)/ has been fallen (c)/ because of the prize money. (d)/ No error. (e)

1. a
2. e
3. b
4. c
5. d

Answer: 4

**Solution 27:**

'Has fallen' should replace 'has been fallen'

**Q 28.** While he used to walk (a)/ along the road, (b)/ a wild and ferocious dog (c)/ knocked him down. (d)/ No error. (e)

1. a
2. c
3. e
4. b
5. d

Answer: 1

**Solution 28:**

'While he was walking' should replace 'while he used to walk'

**Q 29.** Anaya is even willing (a)/ to make Mexico (b)/ one of the first countries to (c)/ introduces a universal basic income. (d) / No error. (e)

1. d
2. a
3. b
4. c
5. e

Answer: 1

**Solution 29:**

'introduce ' should replace 'introduces'

**Q 30.** There were no surprises (a)/ in the second bi-monthly monetary policy (b)/ announcement by the (c)/ Reserve Bank of India. (d)/ No error. (e)

1. a
2. c
3. e
4. b
5. d

Answer: 3