

# SBI PO Prelims Previous Year Question Paper 2018

## English Language (Questions & Answers)

**Direction Q. (1 - 5):** Read the given passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Certain words are printed in bold to help you locate them while answering some of these. According to the diaper maker Unicharm, in Japan, adult diapers now outsell baby diapers. That's because a quarter of the country's population is 65 or older. By 2060, that proportion will hit 40 percent. What adjustments have to be made when so many people grow old simultaneously? To take one example, after a recent surge in accidents involving older drivers, the government began testing the Robot Shuttle, an autonomous bus intended for use in rural areas, where Japan's shrinking pains have hurt the most. Other tweaks include slowing down escalators and equipping shopping carts with magnifying glasses. It's long been observed that Japan's aging doesn't bode well for its economy. Lots of old people means a financial drain on both the private and public sectors, as health-care and pension costs skyrocket and productivity declines. But the news isn't all bad: Amid this elder boom, a new, 100 trillion yen (\$800 billion) consumer category has emerged, known as "the silver market." Millions of Japanese seniors who have long been saving for retirement find themselves at the center of a commercial bonanza. The products vying for their attention range from Docomo's Raku-Raku 4, a smartphone that's "easier to hear" and also has jumbo screen icons, to Fujisoft's Palro, a \$6,000 "carebot" that combats dementia through trivia games and fitness drills. Even video-game arcades, long a bastion of youth, are wooing goldenagers with benches for resting; arcade staffers are encouraged to get certified as senior-friendly "service assistants."

**Q. (1)** What is the passage about?

1. How Japan is handling its aging population, the percentage of which is quite high as compared to those of the young.
2. Japan's economy is regressing badly as the maximum population is old and cannot contribute to the growth of the economy.
3. Japan is a techno- friendly economy and the old people have not failed to embrace technology.
4. Japan sells more diapers for the old than for babies.

5. Japan has progressed so much in terms of technology that it is giving a huge challenge to the developed countries like the U. S. and the U.K.

**Answer:** 1 (The passage discusses how the population of the age is on a relative increase in Japan, so much so that more than young babies, there are old people.)

**Q. (2)** Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?

- A. The government of Japan is mindful towards its aging population.
- B. Japan's aging population, rather than being harmful to the economy, has led to positive developments in the economy.
- C. The capital invested in the old population in Japan is more or less a waste as it can well be used to procure the future of the young generation.

1. Only B
2. Only C
3. Both B and C
4. Both A and B
5. Both A and C

**Answer:** 4 (Both A and B)

**Q. (3)** What does the author mean when he/she says, "It's long been observed that Japan's aging doesn't bode well for its economy"?

1. The old people are revered in Japan.
2. The increasing number of old people in Japan have people a burden on their families and the society.
3. People growing old is a recent phenomenon in Japan, unlike in the past when the youth superseded the number of the old.
4. The old people of Japan have been able to prove beneficial for the economy, as in given their old age their contribution to the economy has been less.
5. None of these.

**Answer:** 4 (The word 'bode' means to predict or promise. So the given excerpt means that the old population of Japan had never promised a prosperous economy.)

**Q. (4)** Which of the following statement is true with respect to the passage?

1. By 2060, Japan's population of increase by 15% of what it presently is.
2. The health- care and pension costs provided to the old people in Japan are quite expensive and in the face of the zerocontribution made by the old population, these investments burden the economy.
3. The rural areas have been the most adversely affected owing to a large number of older population.
4. Japan has developed certain new equipment's and gadgets, exclusively designed for the old people, thus leading to the flourishing to a new market altogether.
5. All of these.

**Answer:** 5

**Q. (5)** Which of the following words is similar in meaning to "hurt" as used in the passage.

1. Harm
2. Cut
3. Burn
4. Suffer
5. Procured

**Answer:** 1 (The sentence using the word 'hurt' intends to convey that Japan's lessening pain has been affected in a manner so as to be detrimental to it. So, the most similar word is 'harm')

**Q. (6)** Which of the following words is opposite in meaning to "drain" as used in the passage.

1. Downflow
2. Absorption

3. Effective
4. Radiation
5. Discharge

**Answers:** 2 (The word 'drain' has been used in a context whereby it is conveying the idea that the ageing population is a burden on the Japanese economy. Therefore, the appropriate word which is opposite in meaning will be 'absorption')

**Direction Q. (7 - 10):** In this question, two columns I and II and three sentences are given, which are divided into two parts. Column I (A, B and C) consists of the first half of each sentence and Column II (D, E and F) consists of the second half of each sentence. Match column I with column II, so that the sentences formed are both meaningful and grammatically correct.

**Q. (7) Column I:**

- A. Most farmers depend on
- B. It is important to plan recruitments in advance
- C. As the city has experienced a continuous downpour

**Column II:**

- D. for the past two days, the condition of the roads has deteriorated
- E. a rather than waiting until a vacancy occurs
- F. urban markets to secure their livelihoods

1. B - E and C - F
2. A - E, B - F and C - D
3. A - F and C - D
4. B - F
5. A - E and C - F

**Answer:** 3

**Solution:** The combined sentences are:

- Most farmers depend on urban markets to secure their livelihoods.

- As the city has experienced a continuous downpour for the past two days, the condition of the roads has deteriorated.

**Q. (8) Column I:**

- A. What you see typically in a workplace is that
- B. You may be well equipped to go for an excursion
- C. More often than not it is the PR that is responsible

**Conclusion II:**

- D. but that doesn't safeguard from all possible hurdles in your journey
- E. only a few people shoulder most responsibilities
- F. for the image and value of a celebrity

1. B - D
2. A - E and C - F
3. C - E
4. A - E, B - F and C - D
5. C - D and A - F

**Answer:** 1 (You may be well equipped to go for an excursion but that doesn't safeguard from all possible hurdles in your journey.)

**Q. (9) Conclusion I:**

- A. Determining and planning your staff needs
- B. The study documents the impacts of corruption
- C. Acquiring quality certificates and patents is

**Conclusion II:**

- D. is crucial for run the department effectively
- E. a must for business in order for them to safeguard their products
- F. for both smaller and larger sized firms

1. B - F and C - E
2. A - D and C - D
3. C - D and A - F
4. C - E
5. B - D

**Answer:** 4 (Acquiring quality certificates and patents is a must for business in order for them to safeguard their products.)

**Q. (10) Conclusion I:**

- A. A skilled supervisor is an effective communicator
- B. The fundamental right to asylum for
- C. They had long suspected the existence of a neutral atomic

**Conclusion II:**

- D. particles, the neutron, which James Chadwick found in 1932
- E. problem- solving and employee motivating
- F. for the politically persecuted knows no upper limit

1. A - E and B - D
2. A - F, A - E and B - D
3. B - F
4. C - D
5. C - D and B - F

**Answer:** 3 (The fundamental right to asylum for the politically persecuted knows no upper limit.)

**Directions Q. (11 - 16):** The given sentences, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labelled with a letter. Choose the most logical order of the sentences from among the five given choices to construct a coherent paragraph keeping 1 as the first statement.

**Q. (11)**

1. Worthless currency is not necessarily useless.
  - A. It can be a pointed way of shaming someone who asks for a bribe.
  - B. The members of the 5th pillar, the group which founded the anti-bribery campaign that launched the notes, calls them a non-violent weapon of non-co-operation.
  - C. They look roughly like 50 rupee notes and people are encouraged to hand them to corrupt officials, signalling resistance to sleaze.
  - D. That is the thinking behind zero rupee notes, an anti-corruption Indian gimmick now attracting worldwide interest.
  
1. BDAC
2. ADCB
3. CDAB
4. DABC
5. ACDB

**Answer:** 2 (Worthless currency is not necessarily useless. It can be a pointed way of shaming someone who asks for a bribe. That is the thinking behind zero rupee notes, an anti-corruption Indian gimmick now attracting worldwide interest. They look roughly like 50 rupee notes and people are encouraged to hand them to corrupt officials, signalling resistance to sleaze. The members of the 5th pillar, the group which founded the anti-bribery campaign that launched the notes, calls them a non-violent weapon of non-co-operation.)

**Q. (12)**

1. Besides the loss of life, infrastructure destruction is by far the most obvious type of damage that comes to mind when we think about natural disasters.
  - A. Reuters reported that after a series of earthquakes hit Japan, factories for manufacturers like Sony, Honda, and Toyota were closed.
  - B. Thus, one of the biggest problems for areas affected by natural disasters is business disruption.

- C. In today's increasingly interconnected economy, the economic fallout from a natural disaster is rarely relegated to the geographic area that it hits; in fact, even natural disasters that take place thousands of miles away can shake up your portfolio here at home.
- D. With road, communication infrastructure, and building damage common after sizable disasters, it's not uncommon for local businesses to be shut down for some time after the aftershocks settle.

- 1. ABDC
- 2. BDAC
- 3. ACDB
- 4. DBAC
- 5. BACD

**Answer:** 4 (Besides the loss of life, infrastructure destruction is by far the most obvious type of damage that comes to mind when we think about natural disasters. With road, communication infrastructure, and building damage common after sizable disasters, it's not uncommon for local businesses to be shut down for some time after the aftershocks settle. Thus, one of the biggest problems for areas affected by natural disasters is business disruption. Reuters reported that after a series of earthquakes hit Japan, factories for manufacturers like Sony, Honda, and Toyota were closed. In today's increasingly interconnected economy, the economic fallout from a natural disaster is rarely relegated to the geographic area that it hits; in fact, even natural disasters that take place thousands of miles away can shake up your portfolio here at home.)

**Q. (13)**

- 1. One of the traditional arguments for a free market economy is that it provides businesses with a tangible incentive to offer goods and services that people want.
  - A. Such a system, they say, necessarily creates clear winners and loser.
  - B. That is, firms that successfully respond to the needs of the consumer get rewarded with higher profits.



- C. This is because the means of production are in private hands and those who own them not only accumulate a disproportionate share of wealth but have the power to suppress the rights of those they employ.
- D. Nevertheless, some economists and political philosophers have contended that the capitalist model is inherently flawed.

- 1. BDAC
- 2. BCAD
- 3. DCAB
- 4. DBCA
- 5. BCDA

**Answer:** 1 (One of the traditional arguments for a free market economy is that it provides businesses with a tangible incentive to offer goods and services that people want. That is, firms that successfully respond to the needs of the consumer get rewarded with higher profits. Nevertheless, some economists and political philosophers have contended that the capitalist model is inherently flawed. Such a system, they say, necessarily creates clear winners and loser. This is because the means of production are in private hands and those who own them not only accumulate a disproportionate share of wealth but have the power to suppress the rights of those they employ.)

**Q. (14)**

- 1. Science merely reflects the social forces by which it is surrounded and hence it is war and not science which is considered as the enemy of mankind.
- A. Our main problem, therefore, is not to curb science, but to stop war, to substitute law for force and international governments for anarchy in the relations between nations.
- B. It is found that there is peace, science is constructive; when there is war science is perverted to destructive ends.
- C. Until now, they have brought us to the doorstep of doom.
- D. The weapon which science gives us do not necessarily create war, these make war increasingly more terrible.

1. ADBC
2. BADC
3. CDAB
4. DABC
5. BDCA

**Answer:** 5 (Science merely reflects the social forces by which it is surrounded and hence it is war and not science which is considered as the enemy of mankind. It is found that there is peace, science is constructive; when there is war science is perverted to destructive ends. The weapon which science gives us do not necessarily create war, these make war increasingly more terrible. Until now, they have brought us to the doorstep of doom. Our main problem, therefore, is not to curb science, but to stop war, to substitute law for force and international governments for anarchy in the relations between nations.)

**Q. (15)**

1. In the long run, national recognition of same-gender marriage is inevitable.
- A. It is only a matter of time before all state laws reflect that view.
- B. Prudence counsels that marriage equality should be allowed to continue gaining support in the states and that a federal resolution should be left for another day.
- C. Same-gender marriage rights, at first imposed by courts, have now been recognized by state legislatures and prevailed in all four states where they were on the ballot in last year's election.
- D. Young people overwhelmingly support it, and public opinion has shifted on this issue faster than on almost any other social issue in history.

1. CDAB
2. ACBD
3. BACD
4. DCBA
5. CDBA

**Answer: 1** (In the long run, national recognition of same-gender marriage is inevitable. Same-gender marriage rights, at first imposed by courts, have now been recognized by state legislatures and prevailed in all four states where they were on the ballot in last year's election. Young people overwhelmingly support it, and public opinion has shifted on this issue faster than on almost any other social issue in history. It is only a matter of time before all state laws reflect that view. Prudence counsels that marriage equality should be allowed to continue gaining support in the states and that a federal resolution should be left for another day.)

**Q. (16)**

1. The Ganges is a trans-boundary river of Asia which flows through the actions of India and Bangladesh.
  
  - A. It is the third-largest river in the world by discharge, draining a large and a fertile basin with an area of about one million square kilometres.
  - B. The 2,525 km (1,569 miles) river rises in the eastern Himalayas in the Indian state of Uttarakhand and flows south and east through the Gangetic Plain of North India into Bangladesh, where it empties into the Bay of Bengal.
  - C. The Ganges is the most sacred river to Hindus Ganga along with being a symbol of divinity, spirituality, purity, and moksha.
  - D. It is also a lifeline to millions of Indians who live along its course and depend on it for their daily needs.
- 
1. BCAD
  2. BACD
  3. ABCD
  4. ABDC
  5. CBAD

**Answer: 2** (The Ganges is a trans-boundary river of Asia which flows through the actions of India and Bangladesh. The 2,525 km (1,569 miles) river rises in the eastern Himalayas in the Indian state of Uttarakhand and flows south and east through the Gangetic Plain of North India into Bangladesh, where it empties into the Bay of Bengal. It is the third-largest river in the world by discharge, draining a large and fertile basin with an area of about one million square kilometres. The Ganges is the most

sacred river to Hindus Ganga along with being a symbol of divinity, spirituality, purity, and moksha. It is also a lifeline to millions of Indians who live along its course and depend on it for their daily needs.)

**Directions Q. (17 - 21):** In the following questions, there are two statements which can be combined into a single statement in a number of ways without changing their meaning. Below them, three probable starters A, B, C are given, which may combine these sentences. One, two or three of them may be correct. Decide upon which is/are correct, if any mark the option which denotes your answer. If none of the three options is suitable, mark 'None' as your answer.

**Q. (17)** Discuss the matter objectively with other people who are well-informed. If it is proved that you are about to take a step in the wrong direction, accept the reality and admit your mistake.

- I. As soon as they take it into consideration
- II. Before taking a decision
- III. Yet another example is that

1. Only I
2. Only II
3. Both II and III
4. Both I and II
5. None

**Answer:**

**Q. (18)** A wealth of evidence has accumulated to suggest that a lack of sleep is bad for mind and body. Working memory is important for keeping things in mind for briefer periods of time, which thereby facilitates reasoning and planning.

- I. Over the last few years
- II. As soon as
- III. In contrast

1. Only I
2. Only II

3. Only III
4. Both I and II
5. None

**Q. (19)** The regulator also spoke of two on-going investigations in the matter of NSE and Rs. 5,548 crore National Spot Exchange Ltd (NSEL) scam. This was a departure from the regular practice and norms of SEBI.

- I. The two ongoing investigations
- II. In a departure from
- III. Speaking of

1. Only I
2. Only II
3. Only III
4. Both I and III
5. None

**Q. (20)** Even if the violations are technically against the rules. It can actually serve to strengthen the classroom culture and increase trust with some students.

- I. Ignoring certain minor misbehaviours,
- II. Going with undisruptive behaviour,
- III. Considering which behaviour of children to address and which to ignore,

1. Only I
2. Both I and II
3. Both I and III
4. Both II and III
5. None

**Directions Q. (21 - 30):** In the following questions, a part of the sentence is printed in bold. Below the sentence alternatives to the bold part are given at (1), (2), (3) and (4) which may help improve the sentence. Choose the correct alternative. In case the given sentence is correct, your answer is (5) i.e. No correction required.

**Q. (21)** While welcoming all moves **to addresses India's core** concerns on terror, New Delhi must ensure it doesn't get ensnared or triangulated in the equation between Washington and Islamabad.

1. for address India's core
2. to address India's cores
3. to address India's core
4. to address Indian core
5. No correction required

**Answer:** 3 (While welcoming all moves **to address India's core** concerns on terror, New Delhi must ensure it doesn't get ensnared or triangulated in the equation between Washington and Islamabad.)

**Q. (22)** Massive protests by the Indian Medical Association and poor execution derailed the Chhattisgarh experiment, but the **ideas wasn't without merit**.

1. idea wasn't without merit
2. idea weren't without merit
3. idea hadn't without merit
4. idea haven't without merit
5. No correction required

**Answer:** 1 ( Massive protests by the Indian Medical Association and poor execution derailed the Chhattisgarh experiment, but the **idea wasn't without merit**.)

**Q. (23)** The empire-builders benefited from impeccable timing: the characteristic warm, wet and stable weather was conducive to economic **productivity at an agrarian** society.

1. productivity at an agrarian
2. productivity in an agrarian

3. productivity at the agrarian society
4. productive at an agrarian
5. No correction required

**Answer:** 2 (The empire-builders benefited from impeccable timing: the characteristic warm, wet and stable weather was conducive to economic **productivity in an agrarian** society.)

**Q. (24)** An Australian man, long thought **to being associated of the** digital currency Bitcoin, has publicly identified himself as its creator.

1. to be associate with that
2. to be associates from the
3. to be associate within the
4. to be associated with the
5. No correction required

**Answer:** 4 (An Australian man, long thought **to be associated with the** digital currency Bitcoin, has publicly identified himself as its creator.)

**Q. (25)** What drove its initial development was its purely digital existence, **away from the control** of government regulators.

1. away to the control of
2. away with control of the
3. away from control of the
4. away with the control for
5. No correction required

**Answer:** 5

**Q. (26)** Bitcoin **could let transacting party remain** anonymous, keep transactions very secure, and eliminate middlemen fees.

1. would letting transactions parties remains
2. should lets transacting party remain
3. would let transacting parties remain
4. would have transacting parties remain
5. No correction required

**Answer:** 3 (Bitcoin **would let transacting party remain** anonymous, keep transactions very secure, and eliminate middlemen fees.)

**Q. (27)** The mid-day meal scheme has helped but **should it have been linked less** with the schooling system and more with the hunger pattern.

1. should had been linked less
2. should it not have been linked less
3. it should been linked lesser
4. it should have been linked less
5. No correction required

**Answer:** 4 (The mid-day meal scheme has helped but **it should have been linked less** with the schooling system and more with the hunger pattern.)

**Q. (28)** A true leader's life is a saga **of dedicating to** the cause of welfare of human beings.

1. of dedicated
2. of having dedication in
3. of dedication to
4. for dedication at
5. No correction required

**Answer:** 3 (A true leader's life is a saga **of dedication to** the cause of welfare of human beings.)



**Q. (29)** The building had been under construction for a long time until a series of unprecedented events **led it to a halt**.

1. leads it to a halt
2. bringing it to a stop
3. brought it to a halt
4. led it to a stop
5. No correction required

**Answer:** 3 (The building had been under construction for a long time until a series of unprecedented events brought **it to a halt**.)

**Q. (30)** At work, if you are unable to follow the rules, you will find yourself **running out of disagreement** with many people.

1. running in disagreements
2. running out of disagreements
3. running into disagreements
4. running within disagreement
5. No correction required

**Answer:** 3 (At work, if you are unable to follow the rules, you will find yourself **running into disagreements** with many people.)