Verbal Ability

Directions for questions 67 and 68: The following question has a paragraph from which the last sentence has been deleted. From the given options, choose the one that completes the paragraph in the most appropriate way.

67. The problem of unwarranted increase in the healthcare costs has arisen because the state has completely abdicated its responsibilities. If the government could get a functioning state-owned healthcare system going, competition would force the private sector to put its house in order. And the strength of the government network could be leveraged to procure drugs at negotiated price, obviating the need for any price controls. As a second line of defence, the state must invest in capacity-building to empower the consumer, which should include a framework for making the entire health care industry, including doctors and drug companies, more accountable. It could also reduce the information asymmetry by providing a list of alternatives to various branded drugs. And lastly, it must strive to make health insurance more pervasive.

______________

(1) This would put an end to the unethical industry-doctor nexus which may further lower the cost.
(2) This would make healthcare affordable and also bring upon healthcare providers pressure from insurance companies to lower costs.
(3) This would lead the big pharmaceutical companies to respond to price control.
(4) This would force the pharma companies to pressurize the insurance companies to reduce the premium on healthcare insurance.

68. We are obsessed with prices. We are particularly paranoid about rising prices. A charming exception is the stock price. We wish the price to go up and up, perpetually. Governments may fall if this price plunges sharply. It is a barometer, of the whole economy, present and future, not just of the stock market. It eclipses other developments in the stock market. ______________

(1) No diagnostic study or analysis of the stock market is complete without the use of this barometer.
(2) The stock index is a better barometer today in comparison to what it was a decade ago.
(3) A stock price index reveals the health of companies and the economy.
(4) A stock price index hides more than it reveals

Directions for questions 69 and 70: In each of the following questions, the word at the top is used in four different ways. Choose the option in which the usage of the word is INCORRECT or INAPPROPRIATE:

69. REACH
(1) Home loans have brought houses within the reach of the common man.
(2) The boat reached the island under the cover of darkness.
(3) The union and the management failed to reach an agreement.
(4) Modern psychology seeks to explore the deep reach of the human mind.

70. FILTER
(1) Most of the vehicles filtered to the left.
(2) The preliminary test filters out those students who are not good at mathematics.
(3) The new policies adopted by the management have not yet filtered down to the staff.
(4) As soon as the doors of the museum were opened the people started filtering through.

Directions for questions 71 and 72: Each question has a sentence with two blanks followed by four pairs of words as choices. From the choices, select the pair of words that can best complete the given sentence.

71. Satire is a marvellous reflection of the spirit of an age; the subtle ________ of Swift’s epistles mirrored the eighteenth century’s delight in elegant ________.

(1) profundity . . . ditties
(2) vitriol . . . disparagement
(3) contempt . . . anachronisms
(4) provinciality . . . rusticity

72. The fundamental ________ between dogs and cats is for the most part a myth; members of these species often coexist _
Directions for questions 73 to 75: Each question consists of a few sentences on a topic. Some sentences are grammatically incorrect or inappropriate. Select the option that indicates the grammatically CORRECT and APPROPRIATE sentence(s).

73. a. T.S. Eliot was a versatile writer.
b. In his long creative career, he wrote poetry, prose, drama and critical essays.
c. He worked also as a journalist and editor.
d. His writing can be divided into five periods.

(1) a and d  
(2) c and d  
(3) Only a  
(4) b and c

74. a. There is an ugly side of the noble gesture of organ donation.
b. Organ thefts of poor patients who come to the hospital for other treatments are frequently reported.
c. However, the success rate of such cases is very low.
d. This is due to the mismatch between the tissues of the donor and the recipient.

(1) a and b  
(2) Only d  
(3) b and d  
(4) c and d

75. a. A child’s baby teeth may be worth lots in medical research.
b. American scientists discovered that pulp inside baby teeth contains fast-growing stem cells.
c. These trigger bone and neural cell formation.
d. They also have potential to develop into different body cell types.

(1) a and d  
(2) c and d
76. a. It is humanly impossible to read the hundreds of books which come out every month.
b. By going through book covers, reviews and gossips about authors anyone can take part in any literary discussion.
c. All of us like to be, or pretend to be well read, take part in literary proceedings and pepper our conversations with quotes.
d. The trick is to understand that even a slight familiarity with books and authors is enough to put on a show of enlightenment.
e. No one is obliged to read all the books, yet we can talk and argue about them.
f. We can even have passionate literary exchanges on books we have not read at all.

(1) cdefab
(2) cefdba
(3) efdcba
(4) caefbd

77. a. There are additional benefits in the form of reduced travel time, fuel use and pollution.
b. This is not surprising given the unsustainable levels of peak hour vehicle use particularly in big cities, and the rise in the price of fuel.
c. But with the support of the local government and the public sector it can become a part of public transport.
d. Informal car-sharing has always been popular with the middle class but a more organized and a formal system of sharing vehicles is taking shape.
e. What it can do is improve the efficiency of unavoidable car use by distributing the cost of travel and easing congestion.
f. Yet, according to many, car-sharing cannot totally replace the reliable, comfortable, safe, and affordable public transport.

(1) defbac
Directions for questions 78 to 80: Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow it.

The sociological imagination is a special way to engage the world. To think sociologically is to realize that what we experience as personal problems are often widely shared by others like ourselves. Thus, many personal problems are actually social issues. For Mills, one of sociology's most outspoken activists, the sociological imagination encouraged collective action to change the world in some way.

Nowadays men often feel that their private lives are a series of traps. They sense that within their everyday worlds, they cannot overcome their troubles and in this feeling they are often quite correct: what ordinary men are directly aware of and what they try to do are bounded by the private orbits in which they live; their visions and their powers are limited to the close-up scenes of job, family, neighbourhood: in other milieu, they move vicariously and remain spectators. And the more aware they become, however vaguely, of ambitions and of threats which transcend their immediate locales, the more trapped they seem to feel.

Underlying this sense of being trapped are seemingly impersonal changes in the very structure of continent-wide societies. The facts of contemporary history are also facts about the success and the failure of individual men and women. When a society is industrialized, a peasant becomes a worker; a feudal lord is liquidated or becomes a businessman. When classes rise or fall, a man is employed or unemployed: when the rate of investment goes up or down, a man takes new heart or goes broke. When wars happen, an insurance salesman becomes a rocket launcher; a store clerk, a radar man; a wife lives alone; a child grows up without a father. Neither the life of an individual nor the history of a society can be understood without understanding both.

Yet men do not usually define the troubles they endure in terms of historical change and institutional contradiction. The well-being they enjoy, they do not usually impute to the big ups and downs of the societies in which they live. Seldom aware of the intricate connection between the patterns of their own lives and the course of world history, ordinary men do not usually know what this connection means for the kinds of men they are becoming and for the kinds of history-making in which they might take part. They do not possess the quality of mind essential to grasp the interplay of man and society, of biography and history, of self and world.
They cannot cope with their personal troubles in such ways as to control the structural transformations that usually lie behind them.

Surely it is no wonder. In what period have so many men been so totally exposed at so fast a pace to such earthquakes of change? That Americans have not known such catastrophic changes as have the men and women of other societies is due to historical facts that are now quickly becoming "merely history." The history that now affects every man is world history. Within this scene and this period, in the course of a single generation, one-sixth of mankind is transformed from all that is feudal and backward into all that is modern, advanced, and fearful. Political colonies are freed; new and less visible forms of imperialism installed. Revolutions occur; men feel the intimate grip of new kinds of authority. Totalitarian societies rise, and are smashed to bits - or succeed fabulously. After two centuries of ascendency, capitalism is shown up as only one way to make society into an industrial apparatus. After two centuries of hope, even formal democracy is restricted to a quite small portion of mankind. Everywhere in the underdeveloped world, ancient ways of life are broken up and vague expectations become urgent demands. Everywhere in the overdeveloped world, the means of authority and of violence become total in scope and bureaucratic in form. Humanity itself now lies before us, the super-nation at either pole concentrating its most coordinated and massive efforts upon the preparation of World War III.

The very shaping of history now outpaces the ability of men to orient themselves in accordance with cherished values. And which values? Even when they do not panic, men often sense that older ways of feeling and thinking have collapsed and that newer beginnings are ambiguous to the point of moral stasis. Is it any wonder that ordinary men feel they cannot cope with the larger worlds with which they are so suddenly confronted? That they cannot understand the meaning of their epoch for their own lives? That - in defense of selfhood - they become morally insensible, trying to remain altogether private men?

It is not only information that they need - in this Age of Fact, information often dominates their attention and overwhelms their capacities to assimilate it. It is not only the skills of reason that they need - although their struggles to acquire these often exhaust their limited moral energy. What they need, and what they feel they need, is a quality of mind that will help them to use information and to develop reason in order to achieve lucid summations of what is going on in the world and of what may be happening within themselves. It is this quality, I am going to contend, that journalists and scholars, artists and publics, scientists and editors are coming to expect of what may be called the sociological imagination.

78.'Men feel that their private lives are a series of traps' because (1) they tend to compare their own goals, achievements etc. with those of men occupying different strata of society.
they fail to connect the dots of society, self and history.
they have no control over the structural changes that take place in their society.
the values they have nurtured since childhood are no longer able to help them cope with their personal worlds.

79. Which of the following can qualify as an example/examples of the tension between private options and public issues, where changes in society play an important role?

(1) Women trying to play the roles of cultural stereotype and satisfying their own career goals.
(2) Man caught between the roles of a bread winner and an active participant in child rearing.
(3) The increasing trend of grandparents being forced to play the role of parents to their grandchildren.
(4) All the above three qualify as examples.

80. The benefit of sociological imagination, according to a well-known sociologist, is that it can

(1) help us empathise more with the personal problems of others.
(2) force us to look at the larger picture thereby identifying the roots of a problem.
(3) pave way for a cooperative effort to tackle societal problems.
(4) help man come to terms with the pace of changes in his society and his personal life.

Directions for questions 81 to 83: Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow it.

A person's religion need not be his or her all-encompassing and exclusive identity. In particular, Islam, as a religion, does not obliterate responsible choice for Muslims in many spheres of life. Indeed, it is possible for one Muslim to take a confrontational view and another to be thoroughly tolerant of heterodoxy without either of them ceasing to be a Muslim for that reason alone.

The response to Islamic fundamentalism and to the terrorism linked with it also becomes particularly confused when there is a general failure to distinguish between Islamic history and the history of Muslim people. Muslims, like all other people in the world, have many different pursuits, and not all of their priorities and
values need be placed within their singular identity of being Islamic. It is, of course, 
not surprising at all that the champions of Islamic fundamentalism would like to 
suppress all other identities of Muslims in favour of being only Islamic. But it is 
extremely odd that those who want to overcome the tensions and conflicts linked 
with Islamic fundamentalism also seem unable to see Muslim people in any form 
other than their being just Islamic, which is combined with attempts to redefine 
Islam, rather than seeing the many-dimensional nature of diverse human beings 
who happen to be Muslim.

People see themselves - and have reason to see themselves - in many different ways. 
For example, a Bangladeshi Muslim is not only a Muslim but also a Bengali and a 
Bangladeshi, typically quite proud of the Bengali language, literature, and music, not 
to mention the other identities he or she may have connected with class, gender, 
occupation, politics, aesthetic taste, and so on. Bangladesh's separation from 
Pakistan was not based on religion at all, since a Muslim identity was shared by the 
bulk of the population in the two wings of undivided Pakistan. The separatist issues 
related to language, literature, and politics.

Similarly, there is no empirical reason at all why champions of the Muslim past, or 
for that matter of the Arab heritage, have to concentrate specifically on religious 
beliefs only, and not also on science and mathematics, to which Arab and Muslim 
societies have contributed so much, and which can also be part of a Muslim or an 
Arab identity. Despite the importance of this heritage, crude classifications have 
tended to put science and mathematics in the basket of "Western science," leaving 
other people to mine their pride in religious depths. If the disaffected Arab activist 
today can take pride only in the purity of Islam, rather than in the many-sided 
richness of Arab history, the unique prioritization of religion, shared by warriors on 
both sides, plays a major part in incarcerating people within the enclosure of a 
singular identity.

Even the frantic Western search for "the moderate Muslim" confounds moderation 
in political beliefs with moderateness of religious faith. A person can have strong 
religious faith - Islamic or any other - along with tolerant politics. Emperor Saladin, 
who fought valiantly for Islam in the Crusades in the twelfth century, could offer, 
without any contradiction, an honoured place in his Egyptian royal court to 
Maimondies as that distinguished Jewish philosopher fled an intolerant Europe. 
When, at the turn of the sixteenth century, the heretic Giordano Bruno was burned 
at the stake in Campo dei Fiori in Rome, the Great Mughal emperor Akbar (who was 
born a Muslim and died a Muslim) had just finished, in Agra, his large project of 
legally codifying minority rights, including religious freedom for all.

The insistence, if only implicitly, on a choiceless singularity of human identity not 
only diminishes us all, it also makes the world much more flammable. The 
alternative to the divisiveness of one pre-eminent categorization is not any
unreal claim that we are all much the same. That we are not. Rather, the main hope of harmony in our troubled world lies in the plurality of our identities, which cut across each other and work against sharp divisions around one single hardened line of vehement division that allegedly cannot be resisted. Our shared humanity gets savagely challenged when our differences are narrowed into one devised system of uniquely powerful categorization.

Perhaps the worst impairment comes from the neglect - and denial - of the role of reasoning and choice, which follows from the recognition of our plural identities. The illusion of unique identity is much more divisive than the universe of plural and diverse classifications that characterize the world in which we actually live. The descriptive weakness of choiceless singularity has the effect of momentously impoverishing the power and reach of our social and political reasoning. The illusion of destiny exacts a remarkably heavy price.

81. A mistake made by the West in relation to the Muslim is

(1) ignoring the fact that, historically, some Christians have been as fanatical as some Muslims.
(2) the belief that no famous Muslim ruler has given due recognition to people of other faiths.
(3) the assumption that the strength of political belief and religious faith go hand in hand.
(4) the tendency to believe that Islam ordains its followers to persecute non-Muslims.

82. Identify the statements that are true, according to the passage.

a. If the Muslims were to focus on their other achievements, tensions and wars involving them would be greatly diminished.
b. Religious conflicts tend to imprison people within the confines of religion.
c. Education is the only way to overcome religious extremism.
d. There are a lot of things, apart from religion, of which the Muslims can rightly be proud of.
e. The West is guilty of appropriating to itself progress in science and mathematics in other part of the world.

(1) Only a and e
(2) Only b, d and e
(3) Only c, d and e
(4) Only a, b and c
83. The author firmly believes that

(1) our recognition of our multiple identities will help us to be more reasonable.
(2) the West is at least partially responsible for the fanaticism of the Muslims.
(3) prioritizing any of our other identities will solve the problem of religious terrorism.
(4) a deeply religious person is incapable of moderation in political or social life.

Directions: Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow it.

Imagine trying to live in a world dominated by dehydrogen oxide, a compound that has no taste or smell and is so variable in its properties that it is generally benign but at other times swiftly lethal. Depending on its state, it can scald you or freeze you. In the presence of certain organic molecules it can form carbonic acids so nasty that they can strip the leaves from trees and eat the faces of statuary. In bulk, when agitated, it can strike with a fury that no human edifice could withstand. Even for those who have learned to live with it, it is an often murderous substance. We call it water.

Water is everywhere. A potato is 80 per cent water, a cow 74 per cent, a bacterium 75 per cent. A tomato, at 95 per cent, is little but water. Even humans are 65 per cent water, making us more liquid than solid by a margin of almost two to one. Water is a strange stuff. It is formless and transparent and yet we long to be beside it. It has no taste and yet we love the taste of it. We will travel great distances and pay small fortunes to see it in sunshine. And even though we know it is dangerous and drowns tens of thousands of people every year, we can't wait to frolic in it.

Because water is so ubiquitous we tend to overlook what an extraordinary substance it is. Almost nothing about it can be used to make reliable predictions about the properties of other liquids, and vice versa. If you knew nothing of water and based your assumptions on the behaviour of compounds most chemically akin to it - hydrogen selenide or hydrogen sulphide, notably - you would expect it to boil at minus 93 degree Celsius and to be a gas at room temperature.

Most liquids when chilled contract by about 10 per cent. Water does too, but only down to a point. Once it is within whispering distance of freezing, it begins - perversely, beguilingly, extremely improbably - to expand. By the time it is solid, it is almost a tenth more voluminous than it was before. Because it expands, ice floats on water - 'an utterly bizarre property', according to John Gribbin. If it lacked this splendid waywardness, ice would sink, and lakes and oceans would freeze from the
bottom up. Without surface ice to hold heat in, the water's warmth would radiate away, leaving it even chillier and creating yet more ice. Soon, even the oceans would freeze and almost certainly stay that way for a very long time, probably forever - hardly the conditions to nurture life. Thankfully for us, water seems unaware of the rules of chemistry or laws of physics.

Everyone know that water's chemical formula in H₂O, which means that it consists of one largish oxygen atom with two smaller hydrogen atoms attached to it. The hydrogen atoms cling fiercely to their oxygen host, but also make casual bonds with other water molecules. The nature of a water molecule means that it engages in a kind of dance with other water molecules, briefly pairing and then moving on, like the ever-changing partners in a quadrille, to use Robert Kunzing's nice phrase. A glass of water may not appear terribly lively, but every molecule in it is changing partners billions of times a second. That's why water molecules stick together to form bodies like puddles and lakes, but not so tightly that they can't be easily separated as when, for instance, you drive into a pool of them. At any given moment only 15 per cent of them are actually touching.

In one sense the bond is very strong - it is why water molecules can flow uphill when siphoned and why water droplets on a car bonnet show such a singular determination to bead with their partners. It is also why water has surface tension. The molecules at the surface are attracted more powerfully to the like molecules beneath and beside them than to the air molecules above. This creates a sort of membrane strong enough to support insects and skipping stones. It is what gives the sting to a belly-flop.

I hardly need point out that we would be lost without it. Deprived of water, the human body rapidly falls apart. Within days, the lips vanish 'as if amputated, the gums blacken, the nose withers to half its length, and the skin so contracts around the eyes as to prevent blinking', according to one account. Water is so vital to us that it is easy to overlook that all but the smallest fraction of the water on Earth is poisonous to us - deadly poisonous - because of the salts within it.

84. The author is thankful that water is unaware of 'the rules of chemistry or the laws of physics' because

(1) that is what makes it so interesting.
(2) that helps in distinguishing it from the other chemicals akin to it.
(3) had it been otherwise, all aquatic life would have been threatened.
(4) it defies all the laws in blissful ignorance.

85. How is water an extraordinary substance?
It is found nearly everywhere on planet earth. It can be both life giving and life threatening. It attracts people even though it is known to be dangerous, even fatal. It has unique properties that benefit life on the planet.

86. How does the author talk about water in the passage?

(1) In a deeply involved and passionate manner
(2) In an analytical and dispassionate manner
(3) Through a series of mutually contradictory phrases and clauses
(4) By building up to a climax and then crashing to an anti-climax

87. In each of the following questions find out the alternative which will replace the question mark

Paw: Cat :: Hoof : ?

(1)Lamb
(2)Elephant
(3)Lion
(4)Horse

88. Read the each sentence to find out whether there is any grammatical error in it. The error, if any will be in one part of the sentence. The letter of that part is the answer. If there is no error, the answer is '4'. (Ignore the errors of punctuation, if any).

(1) We discussed about the problem so thoroughly
(2) on the eve of the examination
(3) that I found it very easy to work it out
(4) No error.

Directions for questions 89 to 93: In each of the questions, four different ways of presenting an idea are given. Choose the one that conforms most closely to standard English usage.

89. A. We are forced to fall back on fatalism as an explanation of irrational events.
   B. We are forced to falling back on the fatalism as an explanation of irrational events.
   C. We are forced to fall back on fatalism as explanations of irrational events.
   D. We are forced to fall back to fatalism as an explanation of irrational events.

   (1)A
   (2)B
   (3)C
90. A. Creativity in any field is regarded not only as valuable for itself but also as a service to the nation.
   B. Creativity in any field is not regarded only as valuable on its own, but also as a service to the nation.
   C. Creativity, in any field, is not only regarded as valuable, but also as a service to the nation.
   D. Creativity in any field is regarded not only as valuable in itself but also as a service to the nation.

   (1) A  
   (2) B  
   (3) C  
   (4) D

91. A. The running of large businesses consist of getting somebody to make something that somebody else sold to somebody else for more than its cost.
   B. The running of a large business consists of getting somebody to make something that somebody else will sell to somebody else for more than it costs.
   C. The running of a large business consists of getting somebody to sell something that somebody else made for more than it cost.
   D. The running of large businesses consist of getting somebody to make something else that somebody else will sell to somebody else for more than it costs.

   (1) A  
   (2) B  
   (3) C  
   (4) D

92. A. From the sixteenth century onwards, people started feeling disdainful and self-conscious about their body and its products that led to a heightened focus on emotional and bodily regulations.
   B. The heightened focus on controlling the body and emotions comes from disdain and self-consciousness about the body and its products, found in the sixteenth century.
   C. From the sixteenth century onwards, a growing disdain for and self-consciousness about the body and its products took hold, leading to a heightened focus on emotional and bodily regulation.
   D. The heightened focus on emotional and bodily regulations started from the sixteenth century onwards, when people felt disdain and self-consciousness about the body and its products.

   (1) A  
   (2) B  
   (3) C  
   (4) D
93. A. If precision of thought had facilitated precision of behaviour, and if reflection had preceded action, it would be ideal for humans.

B. It would be ideal for humans if reflection preceded action and precision of thought facilitated precision of behaviour.

C. It would be ideal for humans if precedence of reflection was followed by action and precision of thought, by precise behaviour.

D. It would have been ideal for humans, if precise action and behaviour preceded precise reflection.

(1)A  
(2)B  
(3)C  
(4) D

Directions for 94 & 95: Fill in the blanks with appropriate answer

94. “You can have _ the chicken dish __ the fish dish for dinner tonight.”
   (1) whether, or  
   (2) as, as  
   (3) either, or  
   (4) nor, not

95. She led the team __ in statistics __ by virtue of her enthusiasm.”
   (1) neither, nor  
   (2) not only, but also  
   (3) Both, and  
   (4) either, or

Directions for 96 and 97: Fill in the blanks with the appropriate options

96. North Korea has angrily denied ____ that it ____ some of its citizens for inadquently mourning the death of its late leader Kim Jong Il
   (1) allegations, punished  
   (2) avowals, hanged  
   (3) asservations, chastised  
   (4) tales, corrected

97. The ______ about transparency is that it works best in an ______ that is fundamentally honest. Honesty, in a system depends on its prior existence
   (1) anamoly, aura  
   (2) oddity, domain  
   (3) enigma, milieu  
   (4) paradox, environment
Directions for Questions 98 to 100: In each question, the word at the top of the table is used in four different ways, numbered 1 to 4. Choose the option in which the usage of the word is INCORRECT or INAPPROPRIATE

98. Bundle

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>The newborn baby was a bundle of joy for the family.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Mobile operators are offering a bundle of additional benefits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>He made a bundle in the share market.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>It was sheer luck that brought a bundle of boy scouts to where I was lying wounded.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

99. Host

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>If you host the party, who will foot the bill?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Kerala’s forests are host to a range of snakes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Ranchi will play the host to the next national film festival.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>A virus has infected the host computer.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

100. Distinct

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>He is distinct about what is right and what is wrong.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Mars became distinct on the horizon in the month of August.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>The distinct strains of Ravi’s violin could be heard above the general din.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Ghoshbabu’s is a distinct case of water rising above its own level.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>