

IBSAT Reading Comprehension

Sample Paper – 5

Duration: 26 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 30

Instructions

- This paper contains **30** Multiple Choice Questions (Single Correct Answer), modelled on the Reading Comprehension section of **IBSAT** (ICFAI Business School Aptitude Test).
- Each correct answer carries **+1 mark**. There is **no negative marking** for incorrect or unattempted answers, so attempt every question.
- The paper has **five passages**, each followed by **six** questions. Only **one** option is correct; choose the most appropriate answer based only on the passage.
- IBSAT is a computer-based test with no sectional time limit; attempt this practice paper in one timed sitting of about **26 minutes**.
- Use of mobile phones, calculators, dictionaries, or electronic gadgets is strictly prohibited.

Passage I

Directions (Q1–Q6): Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. Base your answers only on what is stated or implied in the passage.

When prices rise faster than incomes, the burden falls unevenly, and it becomes the task of a central bank to restore a sense of stability. Inflation, at its core, is a situation in which too much money chases too few goods: the general price level climbs and each unit of currency buys less than before. To counter it, a central bank relies chiefly on its control over the short-term interest rate. By raising the rate at which commercial banks borrow, it makes credit more expensive throughout the economy. Households postpone purchases funded by loans, firms defer expansion, and the pace of spending slows. As demand cools, the upward pressure on prices eases.

The mechanism is indirect, and its effects arrive with a lag, often a year or more, which makes the timing of any decision a matter of judgement rather than arithmetic. Tighten too little and inflation becomes entrenched; tighten too aggressively and the economy



may tip into recession, throwing people out of work. Central bankers therefore watch a wide array of indicators, from wage growth to the expectations that households and businesses hold about future prices. Expectations matter because they can be self-fulfilling: if workers believe prices will keep climbing, they demand higher wages, and firms, anticipating higher costs, raise prices again.

Credibility is thus the central bank's most valuable asset. An institution trusted to act decisively can anchor expectations with words alone, sometimes taming inflation before it takes hold. One that has squandered public confidence must resort to painful rate hikes to achieve the same result. In the end, the fight against inflation is as much about persuasion as it is about the cost of money.

- Q1.** The passage is primarily concerned with:
- (A) proving that inflation is caused solely by excessive government spending
 - (B) arguing that interest rates should never be raised during a recession
 - (C) explaining how a central bank uses interest rates and credibility to control inflation
 - (D) describing the daily routine of commercial bank managers
- Q2.** According to the passage, when a central bank raises the short-term interest rate, households are most likely to:
- (A) postpone purchases that depend on borrowing
 - (B) immediately demand higher wages from employers
 - (C) increase their spending on imported goods
 - (D) withdraw all their savings from commercial banks
- Q3.** It can be inferred from the passage that a central bank with strong credibility:
- (A) never needs to change interest rates at all
 - (B) can eliminate recessions permanently
 - (C) causes inflation to rise faster than a weaker institution does
 - (D) may curb inflation with statements before large rate hikes become necessary



- Q4.** As used in the passage, the word “anchor” most nearly means:
- (A) to physically weigh something down
 - (B) to hold steady or keep from drifting
 - (C) to broadcast something widely
 - (D) to abandon entirely
- Q5.** The author’s attitude toward the task of setting interest rates can best be described as:
- (A) appreciative of its difficulty and its reliance on judgement
 - (B) dismissive of its importance to ordinary people
 - (C) confident that a simple formula can solve it
 - (D) hostile toward central banks in general
- Q6.** The primary purpose of the third paragraph is to:
- (A) list the names of famous central bankers
 - (B) prove that rate hikes are always painless
 - (C) argue that expectations play no role in inflation
 - (D) emphasise that credibility lets a central bank influence prices through persuasion

Passage II

Directions (Q7–Q12): Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. Base your answers only on what is stated or implied in the passage.

A tropical rainforest is often praised as the planet’s lungs, yet the metaphor is only partly accurate. Mature forests do release oxygen, but their more consequential service lies in the vast quantities of carbon they hold and exchange. Through photosynthesis, trees draw carbon dioxide from the air and lock it into wood, leaves, and roots. Some of that carbon returns to the atmosphere when leaves fall and decompose, or when a tree dies and its trunk is broken down by fungi and insects. In an undisturbed forest, these flows of uptake and release tend to balance, so the ecosystem stores an enormous stock of carbon without steadily adding to or subtracting from the air. That equilibrium is fragile. When a forest is cleared or burned, the carbon accumulated



over centuries is released within years, and the living sink that once absorbed emissions is destroyed at the same time. A single hectare can hold hundreds of tonnes of carbon, so deforestation delivers a double blow to the climate. Even forests left standing can shift from sink to source. Prolonged drought, rising temperatures, and more frequent fires can cause trees to die faster than new growth replaces them, tipping the balance toward release.

Scientists studying these dynamics warn that the assumption of a permanent, self-correcting sink is dangerous. The capacity of rainforests to absorb human emissions is not fixed; it depends on rainfall, soil, and the stability of the climate itself. Protecting standing forests, then, is not merely a matter of preserving biodiversity. It is a way of keeping an immense and irreplaceable store of carbon out of the atmosphere, where it would otherwise accelerate the very warming that threatens the forest.

- Q7.** Which of the following best expresses the main idea of the passage?
- (A) Rainforests produce most of the oxygen that humans breathe.
 - (B) Rainforests store vast amounts of carbon in a balance that human disruption can reverse.
 - (C) Fungi and insects are the greatest threat to tropical trees.
 - (D) Deforestation has no measurable effect on the global climate.
- Q8.** It can be inferred that the phrase “the planet’s lungs” is called “only partly accurate” because:
- (A) rainforests release no oxygen at all
 - (B) lungs and forests are identical in function
 - (C) the forest’s carbon storage matters more than its oxygen output
 - (D) mature forests consume more oxygen than they produce
- Q9.** According to the passage, carbon returns to the atmosphere from a forest when:
- (A) leaves fall and decompose, or trees die and break down
 - (B) trees carry out photosynthesis during the day
 - (C) rainfall increases across the region
 - (D) new seedlings begin to grow



- Q10.** As used in the passage, the word “sink” most nearly means:
- (A) a basin for washing
 - (B) a sudden collapse
 - (C) a source of fresh emissions
 - (D) something that absorbs and stores carbon
- Q11.** Which of the following would be the most appropriate title for the passage?
- (A) The History of Tropical Exploration
 - (B) Fragile Reservoirs: Rainforests and the Carbon Balance
 - (C) How Fungi Decompose Fallen Leaves
 - (D) Oxygen Production in the Modern World
- Q12.** The passage suggests that a standing rainforest could become a source of carbon rather than a sink if:
- (A) rainfall and soil quality both improve
 - (B) humans stop clearing land entirely
 - (C) drought and heat cause trees to die faster than they regrow
 - (D) photosynthesis speeds up in every tree

Passage III

Directions (Q13–Q18): Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. Base your answers only on what is stated or implied in the passage.

The spread of the factory system in the nineteenth century drew women out of the household economy and into wage labour on a scale never seen before. In the textile mills of Britain and, later, of New England, young women tended spinning frames and power looms for long hours at low pay. Employers valued them precisely because their wages could be set below those of men, and because the repetitive tasks of the mill were thought to suit what the age called feminine patience. For many of these workers, the mill offered a first taste of an income they controlled, however meagre, and a life beyond the farm.

Yet the change was double-edged. The discipline of the factory clock replaced the older



rhythms of domestic and agricultural work. Overseers enforced strict rules, fined workers for lateness, and demanded output that left little room for rest. Housing was often crowded, and the moral anxieties of the period placed young working women under constant scrutiny. Reformers debated whether the mills liberated women or simply exploited them under a new master.

What is clear is that the presence of women in the industrial workforce unsettled long-held assumptions about a woman's proper place. Once women earned wages outside the home, arguments that confined them to domestic duty grew harder to sustain. The mill worker, poorly paid and closely watched, nonetheless became an unlikely figure in a longer transformation. Her labour helped build the industrial economy, and her example, multiplied across factories and decades, fed the slow, contested movement toward women's economic independence. The historian who studies these mills, therefore, is examining not only an early chapter of industry but also the origins of a profound social shift.

Q13. The passage is primarily concerned with:

- (A) how women's entry into factory work was both constraining and a step toward economic independence
- (B) the engineering behind nineteenth-century power looms
- (C) the superiority of farm life over mill life
- (D) the biographies of individual factory owners

Q14. It can be inferred from the passage that employers preferred to hire women mainly because:

- (A) women were more skilled at operating machines than men
- (B) women demanded much shorter working hours
- (C) the law required mills to employ women
- (D) women could be paid less than men for the same repetitive work

Q15. According to the passage, the discipline of the factory included:

- (A) generous rest breaks and flexible hours
- (B) fines for lateness and strict enforcement of output
- (C) free, spacious housing for all workers



(D) wages set above those of male workers

Q16. The author’s tone toward the mill worker can best be described as:

- (A) contemptuous and dismissive
- (B) nostalgic and sentimental
- (C) sympathetic yet clear-eyed about her hardship
- (D) indifferent and detached

Q17. The author notes that “arguments that confined them to domestic duty grew harder to sustain” in order to:

- (A) prove that factory work was physically easy
- (B) argue that women should have stayed at home
- (C) describe the mechanical design of the mills
- (D) show how wage-earning began to undermine old assumptions about women’s role

Q18. The most appropriate title for the passage would be:

- (A) The Mill Worker: Hardship and the Roots of Independence
- (B) The Decline of British Agriculture
- (C) A Technical Guide to the Spinning Frame
- (D) The Lives of Victorian Factory Owners

Passage IV

Directions (Q19–Q24): Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. Base your answers only on what is stated or implied in the passage.

Every satellite that has ever been launched, every spent rocket stage, and every fragment left behind by a collision continues to circle the Earth long after its usefulness has ended. Together these objects form a growing cloud of space debris, travelling at speeds so great that even a fleck of paint can damage a spacecraft. The most crowded region is low Earth orbit, the band a few hundred kilometres up where communication, weather, and imaging satellites operate. There, tens of thousands of tracked objects and many millions of smaller, untracked fragments share an increasingly congested space.



The danger is not merely that debris might strike a working satellite. It is that each collision creates thousands of new fragments, and each of those becomes a fresh hazard capable of causing further collisions. Scientists warn of a runaway process in which the density of debris grows on its own, cascading until certain orbits become too hazardous to use. Such a scenario would not fall from the sky in a dramatic way; it would quietly close off the orbits on which modern communication and navigation depend.

Cleaning up is far harder than launching. There is no simple way to sweep debris from orbit, and proposed solutions, from nets to harpoons to lasers, remain largely experimental and expensive. Prevention is more practical: designing rockets that steer themselves into the atmosphere to burn up, and reserving fuel so that dying satellites can be guided to safe disposal. Yet these measures require cooperation among many nations and private firms, few of whom wish to bear the cost alone. The orbits around Earth are a shared resource, and like other shared resources, they are easily spoiled when no one is responsible for keeping them clean.

Q19. The central idea of the passage is that:

- (A) space debris poses no real threat to modern satellites
- (B) accumulating space debris threatens to make key orbits unusable and is hard to clean up
- (C) low Earth orbit is largely empty and safe
- (D) harpoons are the proven solution to orbital debris

Q20. The passage implies that the “runaway process” is especially dangerous because:

- (A) it would destroy every satellite at once in a visible explosion
- (B) it can be easily reversed with existing technology
- (C) it feeds on itself, with each collision producing debris that causes more collisions
- (D) it affects only very old satellites

Q21. According to the passage, the most crowded region of space is:

- (A) low Earth orbit, a few hundred kilometres up
- (B) the surface of the Moon



- (C) the orbit of distant planets
- (D) the outer edge of the solar system

Q22. As used in the passage, the word “cascading” most nearly means:

- (A) slowing to a halt
- (B) spreading out evenly and thinly
- (C) freezing in place
- (D) multiplying in a chain reaction

Q23. The author’s attitude toward the problem of space debris is best described as:

- (A) unconcerned and casual
- (B) triumphant about existing solutions
- (C) concerned and cautionary
- (D) amused and light-hearted

Q24. Which title best captures the passage?

- (A) The Triumph of Satellite Technology
- (B) A Crowded Orbit: The Rising Threat of Space Debris
- (C) How Satellites Take Weather Photographs
- (D) The Exploration of Distant Planets

Passage V

Directions (Q25–Q30): Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. Base your answers only on what is stated or implied in the passage.

Professional sport occupies an unusual place in the economy. A football club or a cricket franchise sells not a physical product but a spectacle, an uncertain contest whose appeal depends precisely on no one knowing the outcome in advance. This uncertainty is the very thing the industry must protect, for a league in which one team wins everything soon loses its audience. That is why professional sports leagues, unlike most industries, deliberately restrain competition among their members. Salary caps, revenue sharing,



and drafts that give weaker teams first pick of new talent are all designed to keep contests close and interest high.

The economics of a club rest on several streams of income. Ticket sales, once dominant, now often matter less than the money paid by broadcasters for the right to televise matches, and less than the sponsorship and merchandise that flow from a loyal following. A successful club is as much a media brand as a sporting side. Star players, meanwhile, command enormous salaries because their talent is scarce and because they draw the audiences that broadcasters pay for. Their wages are not a reward for effort alone but a share of the revenue their presence generates.

Critics point out that the sums involved can distort the game. Wealthy owners may buy success, widening the gap between rich and poor clubs and undermining the very uncertainty the league depends on. Public money is sometimes spent on stadiums that benefit private owners more than taxpayers. Supporters, whose loyalty is rarely for sale, may find their clubs run as investment vehicles by distant owners. The business of sport, then, is caught in a tension between the logic of the market and the passions that give the game its value in the first place.

Q25. The passage is mainly about:

- (A) how professional sport balances market logic against the uncertainty and loyalty that give the game value
- (B) the rules for scoring goals in football
- (C) the training regimes of star athletes
- (D) the history of stadium architecture

Q26. It can be inferred that leagues restrain competition among their own teams because:

- (A) they want a single team to dominate every season
- (B) government regulations forbid strong teams
- (C) close contests reduce the total audience
- (D) unpredictable, closely matched contests keep audiences interested

Q27. According to the passage, which income stream now often matters more than ticket sales?

- (A) parking fees collected at the stadium



- (B) broadcasting rights paid to televise matches
- (C) fines collected from players
- (D) sales of food inside the stadium

Q28. As used in the passage, the word “distort” most nearly means:

- (A) to clarify and improve
- (B) to televise something widely
- (C) to twist out of a fair or normal shape
- (D) to celebrate openly

Q29. The author’s overall stance toward the business of professional sport is best described as:

- (A) analytical, noting both its economic logic and its tensions
- (B) wholly celebratory of wealthy owners
- (C) bitterly hostile to all professional sport
- (D) uninterested in the financial side of the game

Q30. The primary purpose of the final paragraph is to:

- (A) explain the rules of salary caps in detail
- (B) praise distant owners for their investment
- (C) describe how broadcasters film matches
- (D) present criticisms of how money can distort the game and strain fan loyalty



Detailed Solutions

Q1.

Solution

Concept — Main idea: identify the single thread that runs through every paragraph, not one detail from one paragraph.

Passage support: The passage opens with the central bank's task of restoring stability. It then explains the interest-rate tool and its lags and risks. It closes by naming credibility as the bank's most valuable asset. The unifying subject is how a central bank controls inflation using rates and credibility.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: the passage never claims government spending is the sole cause of inflation.
- Option B: it says the opposite risk exists, but never rules out rate rises during recession.
- Option D: the daily routine of bank managers is never discussed.

Final Answer: The passage explains inflation control through rates and credibility ⇒ C

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q1](#)

Q2.

Solution

Concept — Detail retrieval: match the option to a directly stated consequence in the text.

Passage support: The first paragraph states that raising the rate makes credit more expensive. It then says households postpone purchases funded by loans. This is an exact restatement of option A.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: demanding higher wages is tied to expectations, not to an immediate reaction to a rate rise.
- Option C: increased spending on imports contradicts the point that spending slows.
- Option D: withdrawing all savings is never mentioned.

Final Answer: Households postpone loan-funded purchases ⇒ A



Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q2](#)

Q3.

Solution

Concept — Inference: draw the conclusion the text supports without overreaching.

Passage support: The last paragraph says a trusted bank can anchor expectations with words alone. It adds that such a bank can sometimes tame inflation before it takes hold. This implies statements may work before large rate hikes are needed.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: the text never claims a credible bank never changes rates.
- Option B: eliminating recessions permanently is far beyond anything stated.
- Option C: a weaker bank, not a stronger one, has to use painful hikes; credibility does not raise inflation.

Final Answer: Credibility can curb inflation through words before big hikes ⇒

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q3](#)

Q4.

Solution

Concept — Vocabulary in context: substitute each choice into the sentence and keep the one that preserves the meaning.

Passage support: The text says a trusted bank can “anchor expectations with words alone.” Here expectations are being held steady so they do not drift upward. The sense is to keep steady, which matches option B.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: physically weighing down is literal and does not fit expectations.
- Option C: to broadcast widely confuses anchoring with announcing.
- Option D: to abandon is the opposite of holding steady.

Final Answer: “anchor” means to hold steady ⇒

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q4](#)



Q5.

Solution

Concept — Tone / attitude: weigh the author's word choices about the task.

Passage support: The author calls the timing “a matter of judgement rather than arithmetic.” The text lays out the twin dangers of tightening too little or too much. This treatment shows respect for the difficulty and the judgement involved, matching option A.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: the author stresses that the burden falls on ordinary people, not that they are unimportant.
- Option C: the author explicitly denies a simple formula by contrasting judgement with arithmetic.
- Option D: nothing in the tone is hostile to central banks.

Final Answer: The author appreciates the task's difficulty ⇒

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q5](#)

Q6.

Solution

Concept — Author's purpose: ask why the paragraph exists in the argument.

Passage support: The third paragraph declares credibility the most valuable asset. It contrasts a trusted bank that acts with words against one that must use painful hikes. It ends by calling the fight against inflation “as much about persuasion as the cost of money,” which is option D.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: no central bankers are named anywhere.
- Option B: the passage calls hikes painful, not painless.
- Option C: the paragraph relies on expectations, so it cannot argue they play no role.

Final Answer: The paragraph stresses persuasion through credibility ⇒

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q6](#)



Q7.

Solution

Concept — Main idea: find the claim the whole passage is built to support.

Passage support: The passage says the forest's key service is holding and exchanging carbon. It stresses that the balance is fragile and can be reversed by clearing, burning, drought, and heat. Option B captures both the large store and the reversible balance.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: the text calls the “lungs” oxygen metaphor only partly accurate.
- Option C: fungi and insects are part of the natural cycle, not named as the greatest threat.
- Option D: the passage says deforestation delivers a double blow to the climate.

Final Answer: Rainforests store carbon in a reversible balance ⇒ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q7](#)

Q8.

Solution

Concept — Inference: read what the qualifier “only partly accurate” is meant to signal.

Passage support: The text grants that mature forests do release oxygen. It then says their more consequential service lies in carbon. So the metaphor is only partly right because carbon storage matters more than oxygen, which is option C.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: the passage says forests do release oxygen.
- Option B: if they were identical the metaphor would be fully accurate, not partly.
- Option D: nothing says mature forests consume more oxygen than they produce.

Final Answer: Carbon storage outweighs oxygen output ⇒ **C**

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q8](#)



Q9.

Solution

Concept — Detail retrieval: locate the sentence that lists when carbon is released.

Passage support: The first paragraph says carbon returns to the atmosphere when leaves fall and decompose. It also says this happens when a tree dies and its trunk is broken down. Option A restates both of these events.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: photosynthesis draws carbon in, it does not release it.
- Option C: rainfall is linked to the forest's capacity, not to release.
- Option D: new seedlings represent growth and uptake, not release.

Final Answer: Carbon is released as leaves decompose and trees break down ⇒

A

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q9](#)

Q10.

Solution

Concept — Vocabulary in context: use the surrounding sentence to fix the intended sense.

Passage support: The text calls the forest “the living sink that once absorbed emissions.” A sink here is contrasted with a source of carbon. So a sink is something that absorbs and stores carbon, which is option D.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: a washing basin is the everyday meaning, not the scientific one used here.
- Option B: a sudden collapse ignores the absorbing role.
- Option C: a source is the exact opposite of a sink.

Final Answer: “sink” means a carbon absorber and store ⇒ D

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q10](#)



Q11.

Solution

Concept — Best title: choose the phrase that covers the whole passage, not one detail.

Passage support: The passage is about how much carbon forests store and how easily that store can be lost. It repeatedly stresses that the equilibrium is fragile. Option B, “Fragile Reservoirs,” names both the store and its fragility.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: exploration is never discussed.
- Option C: fungi decomposing leaves is a single detail, too narrow for a title.
- Option D: oxygen production is the metaphor the passage downplays.

Final Answer: “Fragile Reservoirs” fits the whole passage ⇒ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q11](#)

Q12.

Solution

Concept — Inference: identify the condition the passage ties to the shift from sink to source.

Passage support: The second paragraph says even standing forests can shift from sink to source. It names prolonged drought, rising temperatures, and fires as causes. These make trees die faster than new growth replaces them, which is option C.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: better rainfall and soil support the sink, not its loss.
- Option B: ending land clearing protects the forest rather than turning it into a source.
- Option D: faster photosynthesis increases uptake, not release.

Final Answer: Drought and heat killing trees faster than regrowth ⇒ **C**

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q12](#)



Q13.

Solution

Concept — Main idea: capture the double character the passage assigns to factory work.

Passage support: The passage says the mill offered a first controlled income yet imposed harsh discipline. It calls the change double-edged. It closes by linking the mill worker to the movement toward women's economic independence, which is option A.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: the engineering of looms is not the subject.
- Option C: the passage does not argue farm life was superior.
- Option D: owners' biographies are never discussed.

Final Answer: Factory work was constraining yet a step toward independence ⇒

A

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q13](#)

Q14.

Solution

Concept — Inference: read the stated reason employers valued women.

Passage support: The first paragraph says employers valued women precisely because their wages could be set below those of men. It adds that repetitive mill tasks were thought to suit them. The main driver stated is lower pay for the same work, which is option D.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: the text does not claim women were more skilled than men.
- Option B: workers had long hours, and shorter hours are not mentioned as a preference.
- Option C: no law requiring women's employment is mentioned.

Final Answer: Women could be paid less than men ⇒ D

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q14](#)



Q15.

Solution

Concept — Detail retrieval: find the sentence describing factory discipline.

Passage support: The second paragraph says overseers enforced strict rules. It states they fined workers for lateness and demanded heavy output. Option B restates the fines and the enforcement of output.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: the text says output left little room for rest, not generous breaks.
- Option C: housing was often crowded, not spacious and free.
- Option D: women's wages were set below men's, not above.

Final Answer: Fines for lateness and strict output enforcement ⇒

[Go Back to Q15](#)

Q16.

Solution

Concept — Tone / attitude: balance the author's sympathy against the honest account of hardship.

Passage support: The author records the low pay, strict rules, and constant scrutiny the workers faced. Yet the author also credits their labour and their role in a larger transformation. This mix of sympathy and honesty about hardship matches option C.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: nothing in the tone is contemptuous.
- Option B: the account is unsentimental about the harsh conditions.
- Option D: the author is engaged, not indifferent.

Final Answer: Sympathetic yet clear-eyed about hardship ⇒

[Go Back to Q16](#)



Q17.

Solution

Concept — Author’s purpose: ask what point the quoted line is used to make.

Passage support: The third paragraph says women’s presence unsettled assumptions about a woman’s place. The quoted line follows the point that once women earned wages, the old confining arguments weakened. So the line shows wage-earning undermining old assumptions, which is option D.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: the passage stresses hardship, not that the work was easy.
- Option B: the author does not argue women should have stayed home.
- Option C: the line is about social attitudes, not mill design.

Final Answer: Wage-earning weakened old assumptions about women ⇒

[Go Back to Q17](#)

Q18.

Solution

Concept — Best title: pick the title that unites hardship and the larger significance.

Passage support: The passage joins the mill worker’s hardship to the roots of women’s independence. Both themes run through every paragraph. Option A names both the hardship and the roots of independence.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: the decline of agriculture is not the focus.
- Option C: a technical guide ignores the social theme entirely.
- Option D: owners’ lives are never the subject.

Final Answer: “Hardship and the Roots of Independence” fits best ⇒

[Go Back to Q18](#)



Q19.

Solution

Concept — Main idea: state the overall warning the passage delivers.

Passage support: The passage describes a growing cloud of debris crowding low Earth orbit. It warns that collisions could make certain orbits too hazardous to use. It stresses that cleaning up is far harder than launching, which together is option B.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: the text says even a fleck of paint can damage a spacecraft, so the threat is real.
- Option C: low Earth orbit is called the most crowded region, not empty.
- Option D: harpoons are described as experimental, not proven.

Final Answer: Debris threatens key orbits and is hard to clean ⇒

[Go Back to Q19](#)

Q20.

Solution

Concept — Inference: read why the runaway process is singled out as dangerous.

Passage support: The second paragraph says each collision creates thousands of new fragments. Each fragment becomes a fresh hazard causing further collisions. This self-feeding cascade is the danger, which is option C.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: the text says the scenario would not be a dramatic visible event.
- Option B: the passage says there is no simple way to reverse it.
- Option D: the hazard is not limited to old satellites.

Final Answer: It feeds on itself through chain collisions ⇒

[Go Back to Q20](#)



Q21.

Solution

Concept — Detail retrieval: find the exact phrase naming the most crowded region.

Passage support: The first paragraph names low Earth orbit as the most crowded region. It describes it as the band a few hundred kilometres up. Option A repeats this description directly.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: the Moon’s surface is not discussed as a debris region.
- Option C: distant planets’ orbits are not the crowded zone.
- Option D: the outer solar system is never mentioned.

Final Answer: Low Earth orbit, a few hundred kilometres up ⇒ **A**

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q21](#)

Q22.

Solution

Concept — Vocabulary in context: test each meaning against the runaway image.

Passage support: The text says debris density grows on its own, “cascading” until orbits become unusable. This describes a self-multiplying chain, not a slowing or spreading. So cascading means multiplying in a chain reaction, which is option D.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: slowing to a halt contradicts a runaway process.
- Option B: spreading thinly misses the growth in density.
- Option C: freezing in place is the opposite of growing on its own.

Final Answer: “cascading” means multiplying in a chain reaction ⇒ **D**

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q22](#)



Q23.

Solution

Concept — Tone / attitude: judge the author's stance from the warnings and framing.

Passage support: The author reports scientists' warnings of orbits closing off. The text says cleanup is far harder than launching and that solutions remain experimental. This careful, warning tone is concerned and cautionary, which is option C.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: the detailed warnings show the author is not casual.
- Option B: the author calls existing solutions experimental, not a triumph.
- Option D: the subject is treated seriously, not light-heartedly.

Final Answer: The tone is concerned and cautionary ⇒ C

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q23](#)

Q24.

Solution

Concept — Best title: select the phrase that names the crowding and the threat.

Passage support: The passage centres on a crowded orbit and the rising danger of debris. It warns that the threat grows and is hard to reverse. Option B, "A Crowded Orbit: The Rising Threat of Space Debris," fits the whole passage.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: the passage is a warning, not a story of triumph.
- Option C: weather photography is a passing detail.
- Option D: exploration of distant planets is not the subject.

Final Answer: "A Crowded Orbit" captures the passage ⇒ B

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q24](#)



Q25.

Solution

Concept — Main idea: name the central tension the passage develops.

Passage support: The passage says sport sells an uncertain spectacle that leagues must protect. It shows how money can distort that uncertainty and strain fan loyalty. It closes on a tension between market logic and the passions that give the game value, which is option A.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: the rules for scoring goals are never explained.
- Option C: players' training regimes are not discussed.
- Option D: stadium architecture is only mentioned in passing.

Final Answer: Sport balances market logic against uncertainty and loyalty ⇒ **A**

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q25](#)

Q26.

Solution

Concept — Inference: connect the restraint on competition to its stated aim.

Passage support: The first paragraph says a league where one team wins everything loses its audience. It says salary caps, revenue sharing, and drafts keep contests close. So leagues restrain competition to keep matches unpredictable and audiences interested, which is option D.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: a single dominant team is what leagues try to avoid.
- Option B: no government ban on strong teams is mentioned.
- Option C: close contests raise interest, they do not reduce the audience.

Final Answer: Close, unpredictable contests keep audiences interested ⇒ **D**

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q26](#)



Q27.

Solution

Concept — Detail retrieval: find the income stream that has overtaken ticket sales.

Passage support: The second paragraph says ticket sales were once dominant. It says they now often matter less than the money broadcasters pay to televise matches. Option B names broadcasting rights, exactly as stated.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: parking fees are never mentioned.
- Option C: fines from players are not an income stream in the text.
- Option D: food sales inside the stadium are not discussed.

Final Answer: Broadcasting rights now often exceed ticket sales ⇒ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q27](#)

Q28.

Solution

Concept — Vocabulary in context: match the word to the critics' complaint.

Passage support: Critics say the large sums involved can “distort” the game. The next lines describe wealthy owners buying success and undermining fair uncertainty. So distort means to twist out of a fair or normal shape, which is option C.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: to clarify and improve is the opposite of the critics' point.
- Option B: to televise widely is unrelated to distortion.
- Option D: to celebrate openly does not fit a criticism.

Final Answer: “distort” means to twist out of fair shape ⇒ **C**

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q28](#)



Q29.

Solution

Concept — Tone / attitude: weigh how the author presents both sides.

Passage support: The author explains the economic logic of caps, broadcasting, and star wages. The author then lays out the critics' concerns about distortion and loyalty. Presenting both the logic and the tensions is analytical, which is option A.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: the author reports criticism of wealthy owners rather than celebrating them.
- Option C: the tone is measured, not bitterly hostile.
- Option D: the whole passage is about the financial side, so the author is not uninterested.

Final Answer: The stance is analytical about logic and tensions ⇒ **A**

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q29](#)

Q30.

Solution

Concept — Author's purpose: ask what the final paragraph is built to do.

Passage support: The last paragraph opens with "Critics point out." It lists distortion, public money on stadiums, and clubs run as investment vehicles. Its function is to present criticisms of how money distorts the game and strains loyalty, which is option D.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: salary-cap rules are not explained in detail here.
- Option B: the paragraph criticises distant owners rather than praising them.
- Option C: how broadcasters film matches is never described.

Final Answer: The paragraph presents criticisms of money in sport ⇒ **D**

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q30](#)



Answer Key

Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans
1	C	2	A	3	D	4	B	5	A
6	D	7	B	8	C	9	A	10	D
11	B	12	C	13	A	14	D	15	B
16	C	17	D	18	A	19	B	20	C
21	A	22	D	23	C	24	B	25	A
26	D	27	B	28	C	29	A	30	D

