

**SECTIONWISE: ENGLISH LANGUAGE PRACTICE SET**

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**Directions (81-90):** Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it. Certain words/phrases are in bold to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.

Scientists have found **irrefutable** evidence that Mars once had the ingredients for life. This confirmation comes seven months after NASA's rover Curiosity landed on Mars.

Analysis of powdered samples drilled out from inside an ancient and once water-soaked rock at the rover's Gale Crater landing site shows clays, sulphates and other minerals that are all key to life, scientists told reporters at NASA headquarters in Washington on March 12.

The water that once flowed through the area known as Yellowknife Bay, was likely drinkable, said Curiosity's lead scientist John Grotzinger, who is with the California Institute of Technology.

The analysis stopped short of a confirmation of organics, which are key to most Earth-like life. But with 17 months left in the rover's primary mission, scientists said they expect to delve further into that question. Science operations currently are suspended because of a computer glitch, which is expected to be resolved shortly.

Whether or not Mars has or ever had life, it should have at one time at least had organic compounds delivered to its surface by organic-rich comets and asteroids.

Finding places where the organics could have been preserved, however, is a much trickier prospect than finding the environmental niches and chemistry needed to support life, scientists said.

In May, following a one-month interruption of radio communication caused by the positions of Earth and Mars, scientists plan to drill a second hole into the Gale Crater rock to look for organic compounds.

"If there was organic material there, it could have been preserved," said David Blake, principal investigator for Curiosity's Chemistry and Mineralogy, or CheMin, experiment.

A lack of organics, however, would not rule out the Yellowknife Bay site as suitable for life, scientists added.

"You don't have to have carbon present in a geological environment that's habitable in order to have microbial metabolism occur," Grotzinger said. Some micro-organisms on Earth, for example, can feed on inorganic compounds, such as what are found inside rocks.

"There does need to be sources of carbon somewhere, but if it's just CO<sub>2</sub>, you can have chemoautotrophic organic compounds based on that carbon," Grotzinger said.

Analysis shows the Gale Crater rock contains carbon dioxide, in addition to hydrogen, oxygen, phosphorus, sulphur and nitrogen.

Carbon dioxide provides a key ingredient in the building blocks for life, all of which have now been found in the Mars rock sample, Grotzinger said.

The \$2.5-billion, nuclear-powered Curiosity rover landed inside the giant Gale Crater impact basin, located near the Martian equator, on August 6 for a two-year mission. Scientists were drawn to the area because of a five-km mountain of sediment, called Mount Sharp, rising from the crater floor.

But shortly after the rover's landing, the team decided to first explore the Yellowknife Bay area, located in the opposite direction from Mount Sharp.

Observations from Mars orbiters showed three different types of terrain coming together in Yellowknife Bay, plus a low elevation, all hints that water could have once flowed and pooled on the surface.

- 81.** Which of the following is not necessarily correct in the context of the passage?
- 1) On the basis of evidence found on Mars scientists have confirmed that ingredients for life once existed on Mars.
  - 2) NASA's rover Curiosity landed on Mars near Gale Crater.
  - 3) Drinkable water flowed through Yellowknife Bay once.
  - 4) Scientists are not sure if organic compounds existed on Mars.
  - 5) None of these
- 82.** What do clays, sulphates and other minerals found near the rover's landing site suggest?
- (A) Clays, sulphates and other minerals found near the rover's landing site suggest that huge volcanic eruptions might have taken place in the remote past.
- (B) Clays, sulphates and other minerals found at the rover's landing site revealed that Mars once had favourable conditions for life.
- (C) The evidence of clay found near the rover's landing site suggests that once water flowed through the area.
- 1) All (A), (B) and (C)
  - 2) Only (B)
  - 3) Only (C)
  - 4) Only (A) and (B)
  - 5) Only (B) and (C)
- 83.** Find the correct statement according to the passage.
- 1) Though there is no evidence of organics at Yellowknife Bay site yet the possibility of life over there cannot be ruled out.
  - 2) There can be no life without carbon or organic compound.
  - 3) Even micro-organisms cannot exist in geological environment where there is complete lack of organics.
  - 4) The presence of water confirms the existence of life on Mars.
  - 5) Mars is made of only geological materials and there is no possibility of life there.
- 84.** Which of the following conclusions can be drawn on the basis of facts mentioned in the given passage?

- 1) Chemoautotrophic organisms with the help of CO<sub>2</sub> generate organic compounds.  
 2) Life is not possible without CO<sub>2</sub>.  
 3) Some of the micro-organisms on Earth can feed on inorganic compounds.  
 4) Gale Crater contains not only hydrogen, oxygen and phosphorus but also carbon dioxide.  
 5) All the above
85. What is the meaning of the word 'irrefutable' as used in the given passage?  
 1) indefinite      2) dubious      3) questionable  
 4) indisputable      5) inaccurate
- Directions (86-90):** Read each sentence to find out whether there is any grammatical or idiomatic error in it. The error, if any, will be in one part of the sentence. The number of the part is the answer. If there is 'No error', the answer is 5). (Ignore errors of punctuation, if any.)
86. 1) Harsh Vardhan said he was looking forward / 2) to serve his roots, as he had spent / 3) the first 15 days of his life / 4) in the streets of old Delhi. / 5) No error  
 87. 1) A family office has to / 2) execute all tasks related to / 3) manage the wealth of / 4) the super-rich family. / 5) No error  
 88. 1) Service providers in the financial industry, specially private banks / 2) and wealth management firms, are increasing / 3) forced to standardise their / 4) products to optimise profits. / 5) No error  
 89. 1) Social or impact funds are private equity-like funds / 2) that pool money from investors / 3) and put it to work in a portfolio of ventures / 4) that meet the funds' objective. / 5) No error  
 90. 1) While residential land purchases / 2) have benefited many investors / 3) buying land can be risky, / 4) especially for a NRI. / 5) No error
- Directions (91-95):** Rearrange the following five sentences (A), (B), (C), (D) and (E) in the proper sequence to form a meaningful paragraph and answer the questions given below.
- (A) The working group had examined fair-practice codes adopted by bankers in other domains like UK, Canada, Hong Kong, Singapore and Australia and prepared a draft Banker's Fair Practice Code, duly incorporating some of the finer points from those documents.  
 (B) The RBI, while announcing the formation of the Banking Codes and Standards Board of India (BCSBI) in the annual Policy Statement, had requested the IBA to set up a working group to draft a comprehensive fair practice code, covering all the areas of customer service for uniform adoption by banks.  
 (C) BCSBI made further refinements to the code and the Code of Bank's Commitment to Customers was brought out.  
 (D) Accordingly, the IBA had set up a working group to study the international practices and review the existing codes.  
 (E) It further refined the draft code, incorporating the suggestions from the member banks and submitted it to the BCSBI.
91. Which of the following should be the **FIRST** sentence after rearrangement?  
 1) A      2) E      3) C      4) B      5) D
92. Which of the following should be the **SECOND** sentence after rearrangement?  
 1) D      2) A      3) B      4) E      5) C
93. Which of the following should be the **THIRD** sentence after rearrangement?  
 1) C      2) D      3) B      4) E      5) A
94. Which of the following should be the **LAST (FIFTH)** sentence after rearrangement?  
 1) B      2) C      3) A      4) D      5) E
95. Which of the following should be the **FOURTH** sentence after rearrangement?  
 1) A      2) B      3) E      4) C      5) D
- Directions:** (blanks, each blank indicating that something has been omitted. Choose the set of words for each blank that best fits the meaning of the sentence as a whole.)
96. Manmohan Singh's inability to visit Nagaland "even once in 10 years" has \_\_\_\_\_ three-time state CM Neiphieu Rio, leader of the Naga People's Front, to jump into the \_\_\_\_\_ for the state's lone Lok Sabha seat.  
 1) promoted, field      2) dissuaded, battle  
 3) stopped, fight      4) prompted, fray  
 5) prevented contest
97. In Indian politics, \_\_\_\_\_ one's cake and eating it too \_\_\_\_\_ a completely different meaning.  
 1) making, sends      2) having, takes  
 3) preparing, has      4) cooking, takes  
 5) cutting, had
98. The \_\_\_\_\_ went so far that in 1993, within two years after the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Soviet Union, their very Parliament had to be bombed by Russian tanks to get the MPs to come out and surrender.  
 1) anarchy, dissolution      2) turmoil, beginning  
 3) unrest, construction      4) disorder, solution  
 5) confusion, division
99. The day after Arvind Kejriwal took a holy dip into the Ganges and \_\_\_\_\_ his intention of contesting against Narendra Modi here, the PM candidate finally \_\_\_\_\_ to acknowledge the existence of the AAP leader.  
 1) released, acquiesced  
 2) disclosed, accorded  
 3) issued, accommodated  
 4) publicised, descended  
 5) announced, condescended
100. The re-incarnation and revival of Uttarakhand in the \_\_\_\_\_ of one of the worst carnages in the history of humanity is one marked by perseverance, patience, \_\_\_\_\_ courage, and a never-say-die spirit.  
 1) repercussion, efficient      2) last, foolproof  
 3) aftermath, infallible      4) consequence, faulty  
 5) end, acceptable
- Directions (101-105):** In the following questions, a sentence has been given with some of its parts in bold. To make the sentence grammatically correct, you have to replace the bold part with the correct alternative given below. If the sentence is correct as it is, give 5) as you answer (ie No correction required).
101. The controversy **of regulating of** e-rickshaws in the capital may soon come to an end.  
 1) regarding regulation on  
 2) about regulating the  
 3) to regulate  
 4) over regulation of  
 5) No correction required

102. Healthy nursery **raise most** crucial step in vegetable production, Which determines the productivity and profitability in vegetable cultivation.

- 1) raises the most                      2) raises most  
3) raising is the most                4) has risen the most  
5) No correction required

103. **A little has been known** about the greatest poet in classical Sanskrit literature and one of the greatest in world literature.

- 1) The little is known                2) Little is known  
3) A little is being known        4) Little knows  
5) No correction required

104. She is one of the best singers **who has ever lived.**

- 1) that would ever live  
2) that would have ever lived  
3) that have ever lived            4) that has never lived  
5) No correction required

105. The government is considering a ban **on the sale of** electronic cigarettes, a vapour device that delivers a nicotine hit minus the smoke.

- 1) to sell the                            2) on selling the  
3) on sales of                           4) over the selling of  
5) No correction required

**Directions (106-110):** Read each sentence to find out whether there is any grammatical or idiomatic error in it. The error, if any, will be in one part of the sentence. The number of that part is the answer. If there is 'No error', the answer is 5). (Ignore errors of punctuation, if any.)

106. 1) The Superintendent of Dasna Jail in Ghaziabad said/ 2) that Koli had been transferred from Dasna to Meerut Jail / 3) as the first had not facilities / 4) to carry out the execution. / 5) No error

107. 1) Once the demand draft will be deposited / 2) the individual will be eligible / 3) to participate in / 4) the online bidding process. / 5) No error

108. 1) The woman killed the child because she wanted / 2) to take revenge from her daughter-in-law, / 3) whom she blamed from taking away / 4) her son from her. / 5) No error

109. 1) The Delhi government has issued a notification / 2) allowing the opening of new wholesale markets / 3) in the capital, which will be outside / 4) the purview of the three existing AMPC marked. / 5) No error

110. 1) My resignation was a spontaneous action / 2) since I have always believed / 3) that life unless / 4) honour is no living at all. / 5) No error

**Directions (111-120):** In the following passage, some of the words have been left out, each of which is indicated by a number. Find the suitable word from the options given against each number and fill up the blanks with appropriate words to each number and fill up the blanks with appropriate words to make the paragraph meaningfully complete.

The **(111)** of clean drinking water is a duty that has been **(112)** in the Constitution of India. Article 47 **(113)** this duty, along with **(114)** public health standards, on the State. But due to the **(115)** in the quality of both surface and groundwater sources, **(116)** to good-quality water continues to **(117)** a challenge.

The Planning Commission has said that in the 12<sup>th</sup> Five-Year Plan, ending in 2017, an investment of \$ 26.5 billion is required to **(118)** safe water to all Indians. But the growing **(119)** of pollutants – iron, arsenic, fluoride – is **(120)** the problem difficult to solve.

111. 1) furnishing                      2) stock                      3) provision  
4) plan                                5) storage

112. 1) enshrined                      2) cherished                3) preserved  
4) exalted                            5) dedicated

113. 1) talks                              2) discusses                3) converses  
4) confers                            5) argues

114. 1) elaborating                  2) improving  
3) developing                      4) correcting                5) fixing

115. 1) slope                              2) lapse                      3) cut  
4) plunge                            5) fall

116. 1) connection                  2) entrance                3) access  
4) approach                        5) passage

117. 1) remain                          2) endure                    3) prevail  
4) survive                            5) dwell

118. 1) contribute                    2) afford                      3) add  
4) provide                            5) equip

119. 1) height                            2) layer 3) stratum  
4) altitude 5) levels

120. 1) executing                      2) making                    3) building  
4) composing                      5) producing