

IBPS PO PRE MEMORY BASED SET (ENGLISH)

Direction (01-10): Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it. Certain words are given in bold to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.

The effects of the worst economic **downturn** since the Great Depression are forcing changes on state governments and the U.S. economy that could linger for decades. By one Federal Reserve estimate, the country lost almost an entire year's worth of economic activity – nearly \$14 trillion – during the recession from 2007 to 2009. The deep and **persistent** losses of the recession forced states to make broad cuts in spending and public workforces. For businesses, the recession led to changes in expansion plans and worker compensation. And for individual Americans, it has meant a future postponed, as fewer buy houses and start families. Five years after the financial crash, the country is still struggling to recover." In the aftermath of [previous] recessions there were strong recoveries. That is not true this time around," said Gary Burtless, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution. "This is more like the pace getting out of the Great Depression." For years, housing served as the backbone of economic growth and as an investment opportunity that propelled generations of Americans into the middle class.

But the financial crisis burst the housing bubble and devastated the real estate market, leaving millions facing **foreclosure**, millions more underwater, and generally stripping Americans of years' worth of accumulated wealth. Anthony B. Sanders, a professor of real estate finance at George Mason University, said even the nascent housing recovery can't escape the effects of the recession. Home values may have rebounded, he said, but the factors driving that recovery are very different than those that drove the growth in the market in the 1990s and 2000s. Sanders said more than half of recent home purchases have been made in cash, which signals investors and hedge funds are taking advantage of cheap properties. That could freeze out average buyers and also means little real economic growth

underpins those sales. Those effects are clear in homeownership rates, which continue to decline. In the second quarter of this year, the U.S. homeownership rate was 65.1%, according to Census Bureau data, the lowest since 1995. In the mid-2000s, it topped 69%, capping a steady pace of growth that began after the early 1990s recession. Reversing that will be a challenge, in part because credit has tightened and lending rules have been toughened in an effort to avoid the mistakes that inflated the housing bubble in the first place.

"Credit expanded, and now contracted, and it's going to be tight like this as far as the eye can see," Sanders said. "We so destroyed so many households when the bubble burst, there's just not the groundswell to fill the demand again." Some are **skeptical** that the tight credit market and now efforts to regulate the financial markets, like the Dodd-Frank law, will prove lasting. Americans have often responded with calls for regulation after financial sector-driven crises and accusations of mismanagement, according to Brookings' Burtless. "But eventually, those fires cool down," he said. "It's not as though this memory of what can go wrong sticks with us very long." That can be seen in the intense efforts to water down Dodd-Frank's regulations, Burtless said. Federal regulators have already made moves to relax requirements for some potential homeowners who were victims of the recent housing crisis. Even those steps and an unlikely return to easy credit might not fuel a full housing recovery without economic growth to back it up. As Sanders, referring to the growth in low-wage and part-time employment, put it: "At those wages, it's tough to scramble together down payments and mortgages."

Turmoil in the housing market has already reshaped the makeup of households nationwide. Homeownership rates among people with children under 18 fell sharply during the recession, declining 15% between 2005 and 2011, according to Census Bureau data. In some states it was far worse. For Michigan, the decline in homeownership was 23%, and in Arizona and California it was 22%. Lackluster job growth has outlived the downturn. A study by the Economic Policy Institute showed wages for all workers, when adjusted for inflation, grew just 1.5% between 2000 and 2007. But the last five years wiped out even those modest gains—the study found wages declined for the bottom 70% of all workers since the recession began. However, some areas have seen manufacturing jobs climb back from recessionary lows, and the energy sector has been a boon for some Midwestern states. One hopeful sign for workers is the shift away from manufacturing growth in the typically low-wage South back toward the Rust Belt states, reversing a movement that was taking hold before the downturn. That trend is documented in a 2012 report from the Brookings Institution, "Locating American Manufacturing: Trends in the Geography of Production."

From 2000 to 2010, both the Midwest and South lost manufacturing jobs at about the national rate of 34%. But the Midwest has seen nearly half of all manufacturing jobs gained since 2010, almost double the increase in the South. For Michigan, the growth was 19%; in Indiana, 12%. Even with that growth, there are caveats. Autoworker unions have ceded ground with companies on wages and benefits, for example, allowing new hires to work for lower pay and fewer benefits than those who've held their jobs longer. Unemployment remains stubbornly high in some states, and the jobs

created have leaned heavily toward part-time and low-pay work. A study from the San Francisco Federal Reserve found the proportion of U.S. jobs that are part-time is high, as many of the jobs lost during the recession have not returned.

- Q1. How, according to the passage, plunge in the economy devastated the life of the Americans?
- (a) it has led to huge loss of revenues amounting almost \$14 trillion
 - (b) due to degrading economy there has been voluminous cuts in spending
 - (c) it has led to a wide scale increase in the number of people buying homes.
 - (d) both (a) and (b)
 - (e) All of the above
- Q2. What can be sighted as the prime cause of this economic slump?
- (a) changes in expansion plans and worker compensation.
 - (b) the expansion in the Credit which has upheld the investment in manufacturing sector
 - (c) the tight credit market which has resulted in the decline of real estate business
 - (d) deregulation of the financial markets which has slowed down the economy
 - (e) mismanagement of funds has led to huge confusion among the citizens
- Q3. Why have been the employers preferring part time jobs to regular full time jobs since the downfall in economy?
- (I) to downslide the debt curtailed over the organizations
 - (II) so that more number of jobs can be raised from a single job
 - (III) because lots of jobs lost during the recession have not returned yet
- (a) Only (I)
 - (b) Only (III)
 - (c) Both (II) and (III)
 - (d) Both (I) and (III)
 - (e) None is true
- Q4. Home ownership has drastically decreased since the economic downturn. Explain.
- (a) because of the changes made in the Credit laws
 - (b) due to the sudden shift in the nature of the federal towards the middle class Americans
 - (c) due to sudden losses incurred in the real estate business of a large number of people
 - (d) because people are making broad cuts in their spending
 - (e) None of these
- Q5. Which of the following statements is/are NOT TRUE in the context of the passage?
- (a) federals are tightening the lending rules to avoid mistakes which inflated housing bubble lately
 - (b) the U.S. economy could linger for decades due to this economic recession
 - (c) there has been steep increase in low pay work to reduce unemployment slowly but steadily
 - (d) even after a decade of the financial crash, the country is still struggling to recover
 - (e) None of these
- Q6. Which of the following is the most suitable title for the passage?
- (a) The economic downturn
 - (b) The economic paralysis
 - (c) 2008 financial crisis impact still hurting states
 - (d) The upsurge in unemployment
 - (e) The declining economy

Directions (07-08): Choose the word/group of words which is most similar in meaning to the word/group of words printed in bold as used in passage.

- Q7. **Downturn**
- (a) operose
 - (b) aeonian
 - (c) abetment
 - (d) descent
 - (e) procurement
- Q8. **Persistent**
- (a) merciful
 - (b) tenacious
 - (c) intermittent
 - (d) relenting
 - (e) yielding

Directions (09-10): Choose the word/group of words which is most opposite in meaning to the word/group of words printed in bold as used in passage.

Q9. **Foreclosure**

- (a) preclude
- (b) legalize
- (c) deprive
- (d) allow
- (e) prevent

Q10. **Skeptical**

- (a) dubious
- (b) dissenting
- (c) convinced
- (d) cynical
- (e) doubted

Direction (11-20): Which of the following phrases (I), (II), and (III) given below each sentence should replace the phrase printed in bold letters to make the sentence grammatically correct? Choose the best option among the five given alternatives that reflect the correct use of phrase in the context of the grammatically correct sentence. If the sentence is correct as it is, mark (e) i.e., "No correction required" as the answer.

Q11. Every Open House we held since 2013 reaffirmed our belief that there is a need for human intervention **to retain its trust and credibility over the age of** anonymous communication.

- (I) to retain trust and credibility in this age of
- (II) to retaining trust and credibility ageing
- (III) for retention of trust and credible age of
- (a) Only (I) is correct

(b) Only (III) is correct

(c) Both (I) and (II) are correct

(d) Both (II) and (III) are correct

(e) No correction required

Q12. **How it is possible for** a multi-edition newspaper to produce completely different newspapers for various cities?

(I) Is it possible for

(II) Does it possible to

(III) How is it possible for

(a) Only (I) is correct

(b) Only (II) is correct

(c) Only (III) is correct

(d) Both (I) and (III) are correct

(e) No correction required

Q13. It is a process where continuity and change **are in consonance with each other**, where the introduction of a new segment does not subsume the importance of the existing segments.

(I) is in consonance with one another

(II) are in consonant to one another

(III) is in consonance at each other

(a) Only (I) is correct

(b) Only (II) is correct

(c) Both (I) and (III) are correct

(d) Both (II) and (III) are correct

(e) No correction required

Q14. **With cyberspace giving** an opportunity to many to express themselves, the question that remains unanswered is whether their voices are heard?

(I) As cyberspace might be giving

(II) While cyberspace may have given

(III) Although cyberspace has given

(a) Only (I) is correct

(b) Only (II) is correct

(c) Both (I) and (III) are correct

(d) Both (II) and (III) are correct

(e) No correction required

- Q15. The “Hermit Kingdom” is increasingly **isolating itself because of its** nuclear ambition that threatens its neighbourhood and the world at large.
(I) isolated because of
(II) isolating themselves because of
(III) isolated themselves because of their
(a) Only (I) is correct
(b) Only (II) is correct
(c) Only (III) is correct
(d) Both (I) and (II) are correct
(e) No correction required
- Q16. Pointing out the benefits of the GST within a month of its implementation, Modi said that goods are being transported much faster, highways have become clutter-free and pollution levels **had gone down and increased** speed of trucks.
(I) are being lowered with the decreased
(II) have come down with the increased
(III) have been lowered because of decreasing
(a) Only (I) is correct
(b) Only (II) is correct
(c) Only (III) is correct
(d) Both (I) and (II) are correct
(e) No correction required
- Q17. Washing your hands at regular intervals **could be the most effective method to staying** healthy and protecting yourself from various ailments.
(I) is the most effective way of staying
(II) can be the most effective way to stay
(III) has the effective effect to stay
(a) Only (I) is correct
(b) Only (II) is correct
(c) Both (I) and (III) are correct
(d) All are correct
(e) No correction required
- Q18. Quite a few research institutes **are growing in free India bearing the names of** scientists winning recognition of Western countries, mainly Europe.
(I) has grown in free India which bears the names of
(II) have grown up in free India that bears the names of
(III) grew up in free India bearing the names of
(a) Only (I) is correct
(b) Only (II) is correct
(c) Only (III) is correct
(d) Both (II) and (III) are correct
(e) No correction required
- Q19. Southeast Asian countries today are far more integrated than they have ever been in the modern history of the region, **but ASEAN has some way to go** before it can call itself a real community.
(I) though ASEAN has something to do
(II) as ASEAN has some places to go
(III) while ASEAN has to go some other way
(a) Only (I) is correct
(b) Both (I) and (II) are correct
(c) Both (II) and (III) are correct
(d) All are correct
(e) No correction required
- Q20. The success of Mithali’s squad has generated fresh interest in the women’s game in India, and **as various goodies have been dangled** many are calling for a female equivalent of the IPL.
(I) besides various goodies being dangled
(II) various goodies are being dangled
(III) apart from various goodies being dangled
(a) Only (I) is correct
(b) Both (I) and (II) are correct

- (c) Both (I) and (III) are correct
- (d) All are correct
- (e) No correction required

Direction (21-30): Below in each questions some sentences are given, find the sentence which is not really contributing to the main theme and the of the passage or find the odd sentence out and rearrange the remaining sentences to make a coherent paragraph. If the given sentence is correct as it is then choose option (e). If the sequence is the one which is not given then choose option (d) as your choice.

- Q21. (A) keep their inner life (B)/ Tightly under control (C)/ Educational institutions seldom serve as precise mirrors (D)/Of historical change because pedagogic and administrative rituals (E)/ That have nicely preserved an empty shell of a special inherited identity
- (a) CEDB
 - (b) CDEB
 - (c) CDAB
 - (d) None of these
 - (e) No correction required
- Q22. (A)Most importantly the labour market'(B)/We can expect to see continued spillovers (C)/Into other areas of the economy, (D)/Combined with a 'broader unravelling of credit markets, (E)Parliament should act quickly to keep the economy from stalling
- (a) DECA
 - (b) DEAC
 - (c) ECBD
 - (d) None of these
 - (e) No correction required
- Q23. (A) And act judiciously to bring the economy back on track(B)/The start-up ecosystem cannot progress in a disturbed business cycle(C)/The economy appears to be in a shambles(D)/ Leaders in the government are failing to recognise the pessimism(E)/ And despite the gloomy forecasts for the future,
- (a) DAEB
 - (b) BEDA
 - (c) CEDA
 - (d) None of these
 - (e) No correction required
- Q24. (A)Even at the risk of reducing an appraisal(B)/ It strove to make this evident, (C)/Of a great writer such as Ishiguro to a trite high school essay (D)/While announcing the name, (E)/ That came its way last year
- (a) DBAC
 - (b) ACBE
 - (c) DCBE
 - (d) None of these
 - (e) No correction required
- Q25. (A) But laws do have the utility value (B) To heed the line between religious traditions and superstitious practices (C) Of curbing the prevalence of inhuman rituals and practices (D) To eradicate superstition from society,(E) Mere legislation is not enough
- (a) EBAC
 - (b) DEBA
 - (c) EDAC
 - (d) None of these
 - (e) No correction required
- Q26. (A) As the LTTE displaced the other Tamil militias and became dominant, (B) To its ambition of a separate state (C)The abuses perpetrated by the warring actors (D) They boldly challenged its political choices, (E) Which, they felt, subordinated the well-being of the Tamil people
- (a) CEDB
 - (b) DABE
 - (c) ADEB
 - (d) None of these
 - (e) No correction required

- Q27. (A) Are expected to bring their regional expertise (B)/ Are in the exclusive domain of the Union government, (C)/ The successful outcome of a request made by the Kerala Chief Minister (D)/ Has been widely applauded (E)/ Although traditionalists may argue that foreign affairs
- (a) EBCD
 - (b) CDEA
 - (c) EACD
 - (d) None of these
 - (e) No correction required
- Q28. (A) It is this crucial human health angle (B)/ That has spawned a mushrooming body of science centred (C)/ On understanding the linkages between sleep and normal metabolic activity, (D)/ And the potentially deleterious effect of sleep deprivation (E)/ That helped complete the jigsaw puzzle
- (a) CABD
 - (b) ABCE
 - (c) AEBC
 - (d) None of these
 - (e) No correction required
- Q29. (A) Has to give way to (B)/ Avert accidents (C)/ At the cost of maintenance and safety (D)/ The present system of running trains on a congested network (E)/ Safety consciousness in operations
- (a) DCAE
 - (b) EABC
 - (c) DCAB
 - (d) None of these
 - (e) No correction required
- Q30. (A) It is increasingly manifested in their converging interests (B)/ To invest in greater coordination security cooperation (C)/ to ensure Eurasian connectivity plans (D) that are truly multilateral, (E) and also financially and environmentally sustainable.
- (a) ACDE
 - (b) ADCE
 - (c) BACE
 - (d) None of these
 - (e) No correction required