

ENGLISH COMPREHENSION

Q1. Direction: Select the option that is most nearly **opposite** in meaning to the given word.

VANITY (OPPOSITE)

- a. Pride
- b. Humility
- c. Conceit
- d. Indifference

Q2. Direction: Select the option that is most nearly **opposite** in meaning to the given word.

ECONOMICAL (OPPOSITE)

- a. Frugal
- b. Wasteful
- c. Efficient
- d. Plain

Q3. Direction: Select the correct option that fills the blank(s) to make the sentence meaningfully complete.

She _____ most of her time to music.

- a. spent
- b. lent
- c. devoted
- d. made

Q4. Direction: In the question, a part of the sentence is given in *italics*. Select the correct alternative that is similar in meaning to the word in *italics*.

Surprisingly, Alaska received *scanty* rainfall this year.

- a. rare
- b. heavy
- c. little
- d. scattered

Q5. Direction: Read the sentence to determine if there is any grammatical error in it. Choose the letter corresponding to the part that contains the error. Ignore errors of punctuation, if any.

(A) The meeting adjourned abruptly / (B) by the CEO after / (C) about three hours of deliberation.
/ (D) No error

- a. (A)
- b. (B)
- c. (C)
- d. (D)

Q6. Direction: In the question, a part of the sentence is *italicized*. Select the correct alternative to the *italicized* part that may improve the sentence construction.

Please remind me *of posting* these letters to my relatives.

- a. byposting
- b. topost
- c. forposting
- d. no improvement needed

Q7. Direction: Select the correct option that fills the blank(s) to make the sentence grammatically correct.

The success that he has gained, though striking enough, does not, however, commensurate _____ the efforts made by him.

- a. about
- b. from
- c. with
- d. beside
- e. over

Read the passage and answer the questions.

Management is a set of processes that can keep a complicated system of people and technology to run smoothly. The most important aspects of management include planning, budgeting, organizing, staffing, controlling and problem-solving.

Leadership is a set of processes that creates organizations in the first place or adapts them to significantly changing circumstances. Leadership defines what the future should look like, aligns people with that vision and inspires them to make it happen despite the obstacles. This distinction is absolutely crucial for our purposes here: Successful transformation is 70 to 90 per cent leadership and only 10 to 30 percent management. Yet for historical reasons, many organizations today don't have much leadership. And almost everyone thinks about the problem here as one of managing change. For most of this country, as we created thousands and thousands of large organizations for the first time in human history, we didn't have enough good managers to keep all those bureaucracies functioning. Many companies and universities developed management programs and hundreds and thousands of people were encouraged to learn management on the job. And they did. But, people were taught little about leadership. To some degree, management was emphasized because it's easier to preach than leadership. But even more so, management was the main item on the twentieth century agenda because that's what was needed. For every entrepreneur or business builder who was a leader, we needed hundreds of managers to run their ever-growing enterprises. Unfortunately for us today, this emphasis on management has often been institutionalized in corporate cultures that discourage employees from learning how to lead. Ironically, past success is usually the key ingredient in producing this outcome. The syndrome, as I have observed it on many occasions, goes like this: Success creates some degree of marked dominance which in turn produces much growth. After a while keeping the ever-larger organization under control becomes the primary challenge. So, attention turns inward and managerial competencies are nurtured. With a strong emphasis on management but not leadership, bureaucracy and an inward focus takeover. But with continued success, the result mostly of market dominance, the problem often goes unaddressed and an unhealthy arrogance begins to evolve. All of these characteristics then make any transformation effort much more difficult. Arrogant managers can over-evaluate their current performance and competitive position, listen poorly and learn slowly. Inwardly focused employees can have difficulty seeing the very forces that

present threats and opportunities. Bureaucratic cultures can smother those who want to respond to shifting conditions. And the lack of leadership leaves no force inside these organizations to break out of the morass.

Q8. Why did companies and universities develop programs to prepare managers in such large numbers?

- a. Companies and universities wanted to generate funds through these programs.
- b. The large number of organizations were created as they needed managers in good number.
- c. Organizations did not want to spend their scarce resources in training managers.
- d. Organizations wanted to create communication network through trained managers.

Q9. Which of the following characteristics helps an organization in its efforts to transform?

- a. Emphasis on leadership and not management
- b. Strong and dogmatic culture
- c. Bureaucratic and inward-looking approach
- d. Failing to acknowledge the value of customers and shareholders

Q10. Find the word that most closely means the same as the word 'smother'.

- a. Suppress
- b. Encourage
- c. Instigate
- d. Criticize

Aspiring Minds