

PTE LISTENING PRACTICE PAPER

SUMMARIZE WRITTEN TEXT

QUESTION 1

You will hear a short lecture. Write a summary for a fellow student who was not present at the lecture. You should write 50-70 words. You have 10 minutes to finish this task. Your response will be judged on the Quality of Your writing and on how well your response presents the key points presented in the lecture.

Robert: Despite impressive GDP growth and oil money why the Middle East has a lower ranking in Human Development Index. Why has growth failed to translate into a better-living standard for the poor in the Middle East? David: Thanks Robert for inviting me to speak on the paradox of high growth and poverty in the Middle East. Middle East countries have failed to translate their impressive GDP growth into a better-living standard for the poor. A lower ranking in Human Development Index growth has punctured their claim of welfare states. Their comparatively low public expenditure on health and education has reflected on the quality of health outcome and education outcome. Human Development Index has exposed their weakness in governance, institutional structure and legal provisions. They are lacking implementation capacity to produce a desirable outcome. On the contrary countries (Bangladesh and Sri Lanka) with mild economic growth and limited resources have done extremely well in the health and primary education sector. Empowerment of women and gender equity in political and economic sphere lead these countries to achieve spectacular performance in social sectors. On the other hand, Middle East countries need to adopt functional democracy and empower their women apart from spending a much higher percentage of GDP on health and primary education to realise desirable outcome.

QUESTION 2

Couple with exponential rise of usage of smartphone that includes Apple's iPhone, iTouch, and iPad and substantial reduction in the cost of developing apps marketers opt for custom-made apps. Even though Apple's App Store for the iPhone, iTouch, and iPad provides huge numbers of apps, marketers prefer for a custom-made app to enhance employees' productivity and to provide customize services to customers. By hiring an independent iPhone/iPad app developer, companies can create innovative, proprietary, tailor-made apps for in-house usages. Due to increased competition among independent software developers price of iPhone app development has plummeted, making it more economical for individuals and businesses to have customizes apps. Custom iPhone app development provides apps (videos, demos) which can work as branding tools for marketers to raise brand awareness & provide product purchase support to customers. Custom iPhone /iPad app can be a potent weapon for marketers to raise loyal customer base with focused branding. Armed with push notifications and mobile analytic, custom iPhone app development enables marketers to reach their customers, identify their needs by tracking the data through the apps purchased and converting prospects into loyal customers. APPS can enable sales force to process an order at the real time while on the field as they have access to the online inventory database. By distributing apps to their customers and clients marketers can distribute marketing or promotional content, improve customer service, increase brand awareness, and build customer loyalty. Armed with GPS and map apps phone custom apps can specify the location of the customer and direct him/her to nearby dealer location. Customized apps enable customers to place an online order. By encrypting your mobile/tablet apps, custom iPhone apps can protect your customer's online transactions from hacking, phishing, and identity theft. Custom apps development provides scalability, security, User-experience, functionality flexibility and adaptability.

QUESTION 3

George: Despite impressive GDP growth, India has a lower ranking in Human Development Index. Why has growth failed to translate into a better-living standard for the poor in India? Robert: India's public expenditure on health and education is abysmally low which reflect on quality of health outcome and education outcome. We need to spend a much higher percentage of GDP on health and education to realise desirable outcome. But ,If we don't have higher

GDP growth, the pie doesn't get bigger and if the pie doesn't get bigger, how will we spend on the social sectors such as health and education? George: Despite some very good institutional and legal provisions why do we fail on the governance front? Robert: Actually, we should be proud of some of our legislations. But we miserably fail in execution at the ground level. The problem is not of lack of good legislation but the lack of implementation capacity to produce a desirable outcome. George: How have MDGs enriched the development of the human race particularly in south Asia? Robert: A very large percentage of the global population has actually come out of poverty trap. Our health indicators have improved but countries like Bangladesh and Sri Lanka have done extremely well and beaten India in the health sector. George: How can India deal with the challenge it faces in healthcare? Robert: If you look at the health burden, eighty per cent of India's health problems can be solved at the primary level itself. As a citizen, we keep our homes very clean but the streets outside our homes are very dirty. We need to apply hygienic practices in handling water and sanitation. India's 70% bed capacity in healthcare is occupied by water-borne diseases. If we keep our home, streets, surrounding and water bodies clean, we can reduce the pressure on India's public beds in hospitals by 70%. Per capita daily availability of water is not a problem but management of water is a problem. If we manage water well, our disease burden will go down.

QUESTION 4

Hello, Professor Robert, what is your topic of discussion on this forum today? Thank you, George, today I would like to talk about the performance of India in achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). One of the striking feature of MDGs (Millennium Development Goals) is that the global community came together to address the development agenda and created eight indicators which were measurable in terms of their outcomes. In absolute numbers, some fantastic work has been accomplished by MDGs. MDGs have not only pulled a large number of people out of extreme poverty but also addressed many of the health issues like child mortality and infant mortality. In spite of all the achievements, we still need do more. Hunger to my mind is violence against humanity and must be eliminated urgently. It is undignified for a nation like India to let mothers die while they give birth to a child or let our citizens defecate in the open. George: Do you think that India has neglected education at the basic level? Robert: We have not been able to achieve a desirable outcome with respect to investment in primary education. There is an urgent need to think about improving the quality of education at the primary level and merely achieving 100 percent primary school enrollment is not sufficient. George: How are girls and women integral to India's development? Robert: I am a very strong proponent of rights and well-being of the girl child and women. It's a very harsh reality that women carry out 60% of work burden but only own 1% of the property. If you educate a girl child, she will educate her entire family. Educating girl child has a multiplier effect on society.

QUESTION 5

The complete environment is polluted, the major types are air, water, noise, thermal, soil and light pollution. Even deforestation and gaseous emissions also lead to pollution. The earth is the only planet known for having air and water which can sustain life. Without these, the earth would be similar to other planets with no life. The most intelligent animal, the man, was never inquisitive, nor he was content with fruits of nature. There are baffling mysteries because of man's quest in search of knowledge and security to vast horizons. This led to many inventions, which made us to be prisoners of our own creations. This led to environmental pollution. This had a negative effect on both animal and man's life. All the inventions are in the cost of our health. This makes us think if all the invention is a worth. The pollution is not just caused by nuclear tests or industries alone. They are also the results of the vehicular traffic, synthetic detergents, nitrogen fertilizers and much more. This cannot the way it is going. This will ruin our basic premise of life. We need to take proper steps to make our environment pleasant. The government must strict actions on the culprits responsible for bad effects. We as citizens need to work unitedly to have a clean and healthy environment.

MULTIPLE CHOICE, CHOOSE MULTIPLE ANSWERS

QUESTION 6

Hello, Professor Robert, what is your topic of discussion on this forum today? Thank you George, today I would like to talk about the history of mining in the world economy. In fact, mining has been so crucial because of the materials it

produces and technologies and tools that it enables that we even define the timelines of human history. Before agriculture began, we have the so-called, Paleolithic or Old Stone Age era. Stone was the main mining object for human activity. After the end of the last Ice Age and at the beginning of agriculture, about 10,000 years ago, we have the Neolithic era, the new Stone Age era. But then, over time, humanity living near mineral rich regions mastered the process of smelting metals. About 3000 B.C human race entered the Bronze Age, a massive leapfrog in human civilization with the smelting of copper, tin and the alloys that were produced creating new technologies, to make armaments and many other human tools. About 1000 B.C., homosepieans enter into Iron Age. Yet another crucial mineral, iron ore was smelted to production and small amounts of steel at least. And again, massive changes of civilization and technology which came with this new mining industry, with this new mineral deposit. I would like to emphasize that the modern era which we usually date to the industrial revolution directly related the mining sector. The entire modern world, the modern world economy that came roughly around 1800 A.D onward is the fossil fuel age the age of coal, oil, and gas.

Which of the following statements are correct?

- A. According to the passage Old Stone Age, New Stone Age, Bronze Age, Iron Age and Fossil Fuel Age is in correct chronological order.
- B. According to the passage Stone Age, Old Stone Age, Bronze age ,Iron Age and Coal Age is in correct chronological order.
- C. According to the passage Bronze Age, Coal Age Stone Age, Iron Age and Old Stone Age is in correct chronological order.
- D. According to the passage Paleolithic Age, Neolithic old Age, Bronze Age, Iron Age and Fossil Fuel Age is in correct chronological order.
- E. According to the passage IT Age, Fossil Fuel, Bronze Age, Iron Age and Coal Age is in correct chronological order.

QUESTION 7

According to an agriculture expert a significant drop in fertiliser sales (urea, di-ammonium phosphate (DAP) and complexes fertiliser) during this year is attributed to 30% jump in pulses acreage, mandatory 100 per cent neem coating for both domestically manufactured and imported urea, and inadequate credit availability for farmers this season. Being leguminous plants, pulses can naturally fix atmospheric nitrogen, obviate any need for urea. By Preventing nitrogen losses due to leaching and volatilisation neem-coated urea ensures a slow release of nitrogen to the plant and enable crop to retain its greenness for a longer time .Crops need the fewer frequency of application of neem-coated urea compare to non-coated urea. The introduction of compulsory neem-coated urea has stopped illegal diversion of urea in plywood and melamine manufacturing sector. The diminished creditworthiness of farmer due to last two years' droughts and higher non-performing assets of public sector banks has led to lower credit flow to agriculture this year.

According to text drop in consumption of fertilizers is due to:

- A. Deficient monsoon.
- B. Lack of availability of credit.
- C. More acreage of pulses.
- D. Compulsory usage of neem coated urea.
- E. Diversion of urea to other industry.
- F. Use of organic manure by farmers.

QUESTION 8

Jumping from a height of 31,000 feet from the plane can sound like lunatic for common person but for a jumper, it is thrilled and adventure. Today proliferation of extreme sports such as skydiving, mountaineering expeditions, river rafting, snorkeling, and jumping from the plane have created an unprecedented craze among youth. On the, on hand, extreme sports provide a thrill, excitement, adventure, and enable a person to break the monotony of routine life But on the other hand many people have suffered serious injuries or lost their life due to accidents or negligence during such expeditions. One thing is absolutely clear that extreme sports are not for all. Extreme sports are risky and must be conducted with adequate training under strict expert observation. Many times young impressible youth come under such influence and undertake such activities without proper preparation and expert guidance may lose their life. Chances are higher where sportspersons, who have undertaken these activities once, go the even higher level of the extreme sports such trend is dangerous for them. Thus, governments should make stringent laws regarding extreme sports, places of extreme sports, quality of equipment used in sports, eligibility of trainer and sports persons. Government must allow adventurous sports only after ensuring proper physical fitness, training under expert and with full proof security at extreme sports site.

According to the text following statements are true:

- (A) Sport person must have proper physical fitness.
- (B) Sport person must be trained under expert.
- (C) Government must provide full-proof security to extreme sport site.
- (D) Anyone can venture extreme sports.
- (E) Only male sports person should be allowed to participate in adventurous sports.
- (F) Only female sport person should be allowed to participate in adventurous sports.

QUESTION 9

If we look at the lives of successful people, they have overcome poverty and location related barriers in their lives through their strong willpower, sheer hard work, ethics, dedication and perseverance. It is clear from history that location is not stumbling block for successful people. Successful people attribute their success to immediate family, school, college, university, extended family, native village, native region, native state and homeland. Their sense of belonging to their roots drives them to share the fruits of success among their fellow citizen. During their journey to success, they face many difficulties in terms of the access road, primary education, primary healthcare, scholarship, drinking water and sanitation facility. When they reached their pinnacle of glory in their career, they realise how their own people are struggling with basic services and infrastructure. Out of empathy for their fellow citizens, they provide basic services such as community hall, schools building, water tank, libraries, colleges, primary and emergency health care, scholarship and skill building and Internet facility to their community. Such successful people are really blessing for their native land.

According to the author successful people contribute to their native land due to:

- A. Pecuniary reasons drive them to share their wealth for their brethrens.
- B. Their empathy for their community motivates them to share success among their fellow citizens.
- C. Their sense of belonging to their roots drives them to share the fruits of success among fellow citizen.
- D. Their lust of fame drives them to share their wealth among fellow citizen.
- E. To avoid income tax they contribute their wealth to their fellow citizens
- F. To comply with corporate social responsibility act they donate their wealth to the community.

QUESTION 10

Do you know what happens during a heart attack? The plaque which has been accumulating for many years obstructs the blood flow. You may notice it initially because coronary arteries expand to help in the blood flow. If the plaque in your coronary arteries gets ruptured its fatty portion become exposed. Blood clot happens because Platelets rush to plaque, the same process when we have a cut on our body. There is an obstruction in the blood flow which leads to the blood clot. The heart does not receive oxygen-rich blood flow, and the brain receives a signal about what's going on. You sweat, heart rate increases, and you feel weak. Our body starts to ache. There is immense chest pain which slowly crawls to other parts of the body. Heart patients have told the pain is like your heart is crushed between clamps.

What is correct during a heart attack?

- A. Plaque is suddenly formed in the blood vessels.
- B. There is an obstruction in the blood flow.
- C. Only our heart aches.
- D. The brain does not receive any signal.

FILL IN THE BLANKS

QUESTION 11

According to the Roman Catholic Church individuals of the purest faith remain in a lifelike state after deaths; their bodies resist decomposition for centuries. Numerous cases were found in which people have been exhumed years after their deaths and were found preserved. The church viewed this as a measure of sanctity and incorruptible people whose bodies miraculously resist decay were canonized by the church. Incorruptibility became a component of canonization the process of becoming sainted. This process of canonization included the prospective saint appearing in visions to people after death, performing miracles, either after or during life and incorruptibility of their dead bodies.

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QUESTION 12

A recent World Bank research revealed that automation will disrupt the pattern of the traditional economic path (from productive agriculture stage to light manufacturing stage and then to full-

scale industrialisation stage) and increase job losses in developing countries particularly in India and China and part of Africa.

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QUESTION 13

In an effort to send a strong signal to the world and Israeli society that the Palestinians are for peace and appreciate the efforts of statesmen like Shimon Peres, Mr Mohamed Abbas the prime minister of Palestine has decided to attend the funeral of Mr Shimon Peres. Mr. Shimon Peres was buried at Mount Herzl, Israel's national cemetery according to his own funeral plan in the presence of large numbers of foreign dignitaries and under unprecedented security arrangement.

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QUESTION 14

The Pre-Cyclone Exercise for ensuing cyclone season was conducted at Chennai during 20-24 April 2016. All stakeholders including National Disaster Management Authority, Non-government organisations(NGOs) Indian Air Force, Navy, National Disaster Response Force, National Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasting and experts from IMD(Indian Meteorological Department) were participated in the exercise.

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HIGHLIGHT CORRECT SUMMARY

QUESTION 15

Hello, Professor Steve, would you elaborate how economic growth is location specific? Thank you, Allen, today I would like to talk about relationship between natural resources and economic development of the country. The world's also been defined by the basic fact that the location of these vital minerals and energy deposits is highly variable around the world. You're looking here at a map depicting the coal deposits in the world, lots of coal in North America, in Russia, China, India, Australia, South Africa. But look at the rest of Africa, almost devoid of coal, almost impossible for Africa to industrialize in the 19th Century until, indeed, until very recently. A lot of South America with very limited coal deposits. In the next picture, you're looking at oil reserves, where they're located. Of course, the

Middle East is the centre of about 70% of the proven reserves of oil around the world. Again, much of Africa, devoid of oil. Again, another great limitation to Africa's economic development until recently. The United States, blessed with oil just as it was blessed with coal, blessed with almost everything. A continent of vast mineral resources. The next map shows you where natural gas is produced. Again, in parts of Russia, the former Soviet Union, the Middle East, the United States, of course. Sad, again, for Africa, not many major natural gas producers. Well, a short history really requires days, months to discuss this core subject of how mineral resources and energy resources transformed the world time and again and shaped geopolitics. Where there's been oil, coal, and gas, there's been a competition that's intense.

- (A) According to the passage, Africa's economic backwardness is linked to its demography.
- (B) According to the passage, Africa's economic backwardness is linked to its political and cultural backwardness.
- (C) According to the passage, Africa's economic backwardness is linked to its colonial past.
- (D) According to the passage lack of natural resources is the main reason for Africa's backwardness.

QUESTION 16

In India, 50% of the workforce is engaged in agriculture and about 85 % farmers are small and marginal having less than two hectares land. Unlike China and Vietnam, India has experienced slow structural and rural transformation. Compared to China and Vietnam poverty reduction in India was at a slower rate during 1988-2014. During the first phase from 1988-2005, India's poverty reduction was slow but accelerated three times during 2005-12. Research revealed that unprecedented rising in global prices of agriculture commodity boosted private investments in agriculture by more than 50 percent. Remunerative prices for agricultural produce coupled with investments in agriculture, lead to the increase in productivity, agri-trade and real farm wages which have reduced extreme poverty in rural areas. By raising productivity in agriculture through higher R&D, irrigation and building value chains for high-value agri-products like livestock and horticulture, rural transformation can be more inclusive. Building value chains through farmer producer companies India can create off-farm gainful employment opportunity in rural areas. Along with efficiency and participatory mode in the agriculture, India needs huge investment in agriculture (both by the private and public sector) to eliminate extreme poverty and malnutrition by 2030.

- (A) Investment in R&D, irrigation and building high value chain for agricultural products.
- (B) Investment in industry and services.
- (C) Providing subsidy in agricultural input to farmers.
- (D) Providing free water and irrigation facility to farmers.
- (E) Encouraging farmers to grow water intensive crops in rain-fed land.

QUESTION 17

The term rust is used for the corrosion or the oxidation of iron and steel in presence of water (moisture) and oxygen. When an iron or alloys of iron come into contact with water and oxygen, an oxidation reaction takes place and iron oxide (Fe_2O_3) formed as reddish-brown flaky coat on the metal surface. Depending on the intensity of iron /steel's exposure to water and oxygen, corrosion takes place within days, weeks, months, or even years. Rust can knock down bridges, can cause nuclear reactor melt downs, can damage oil pipelines with collateral damage in terms of precious human life. The average cost of dealing with corrosion is between 3.4% and 4.5% of GDP in industrial nations. Repairs and replacement parts needed due to rust and corrosion are

costly. By reducing its mass and causing brittleness in steel structure (bridge) rust can thus endanger the safety of users. If unmaintained, rusted structures and tools can damage the reputation of a company or brand.

- (A) Corrosion occurs to platinum and gold metal during oxidation process.
- (B) Corrosion occurs to copper and its alloys during oxidation process.
- (C) Corrosion occurs to aluminum and its alloys during oxidation process.
- (D) Corrosion occurs to iron and steel during oxidation process.
- (E) Corrosion occurs to silver and gold metal during oxidation process.

MULTIPLE CHOICE, CHOOSE SINGLE ANSWER

QUESTION 18

Rapid urbanisation, globalisation, and supply chain efficiency have created the concept of shopping malls where people can buy both consumer durables and consumer non-durables items at one place. As shopping at a shopping mall has transformed shopping experience from drudgery to fun, all major urban landscapes are dotted with shopping malls. From consumer's perspective shopping malls are beneficial as they provide a wider variety of high-valued products at cheaper rates than from nearby shops. Farmers get remunerative prices for their produce as they can directly sell their produce to malls without any intermediaries. Producers get bulk orders of their products circumventing trade channels. As the reduction in intermediaries will improve the supply chain efficiency, the role of middlemen and small shops will diminish. From consumers' and producers' perspective, shopping mall phenomenon is a win-win situation, but from small shops owners' perspective it is a direct threat to their livelihood. Small shop owners can survive in the market, but they need to reinvent their strategies to serve their local clientele with better services. Shopping malls boost a local economy as supply chain efficiency brings down inflation, increases consumption, and creates new jobs.

According to the text which statement is true?

- (A) shopping malls are beneficial to consumers and local economy.
- (B) shopping malls are beneficial to small shop owners.
- (c) shopping malls are beneficial to middlemen.
- (d) Shopping malls are beneficial to multinational companies.

QUESTION 19

The raging debate whether employees should be involved in the decision-making process or not is not new. In today's age of start-up, productive employees are assets for any company. Often, the management of start-ups and technology companies involves their employees in the decision-making process. The ultimate aim of any company is to satisfy his/her customers profitably through their highly motivated and productive employees. A company should involve their employees in the decision-making process. From management's perspective involvement of employees in decision-making process enables management to get right feedback from the ground level, and tune the policy accordingly. Involving employees into decision-making

process builds trust among management and employees, produces synergy in operation and reduces friction among management and employees. The company should restrict this exercise at an operational level where employees are direct stakeholders. The company should never involve employees into certain policy level, strategy level, financial or confidential matter where employees do not have any expertise or any stake. Involvement of employees in decision-making process enables and empowers employees to perform better, to improve productivity, to serve customer excellently, and to improve the bottom line of the company. Involvement of employees in decision-making process gives the company a leading edge in the market and creates a win-win situation for both employers and employees.

According to text which statement is true

- (A) Involving employees into decision-making process at operation level is beneficial to both company and employees
- (B) companies prefer to involve employees in strategic matter.
- (C) Companies prefer to involve employees in financial matter.
- (D) Involving employees into decision making process at operation may lost in productivity.

SELECT MISSING WORD

QUESTION 20

Carbon-based life forms here on this planet are eventually going to destroy. Regardless of where one's soul goes, one thing is guaranteed, a vessel we call a body is going to undergo some unpleasant metamorphosis after the death of the human. Without life-sustaining processes like blood circulation and metabolism human body begins to degrade. Skin falls away, eyeballs disintegrate, and hair and bones turn to dust. Worms and bacteria that live in soil love to feast on decaying material like

- a. dead body.
- b. plastic.
- c. vegetation.
- d. garbage.

QUESTION 21

In the wake of surgical strikes conducted by Special Forces of Indian Army in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir (PoK), Gujarat state has warned the coastal districts of the state and asked fishermen not to venture out in

- a. lakes
- b. mountains
- c. farms
- d. deep sea.
- e. factories

HIGHLIGHT INCORRECT WORDS

QUESTION 22

Only three Arab countries: Jordan, Egypt and Palestine which had signed the Peace Accords with Israel have sent their guards to attend the funeral of Mr. Shimon Peres – a former president and prime minister of Israel. Dozens of foreign dignitaries including USA president Barack Obama and Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General, United Nations are reaching in Israel to attend the swearing in ceremony of Shimon Peres, one of the country's founding fathers and Nobel Peace Prize winner who had resigned the Oslo Peace Accord in 1993, along with Yasser Arafat and Yitzhak Rabin for lasting war between Israel and Palestine.

QUESTION 23

A slowing global economy hit by stagnating global trade and falling commodity prices needs more cooperation, greater economic integration and stronger partnerships to return to higher rates of inclusive, sustainable growth to eliminate extreme poverty.

WRITE FROM DICTATION

QUESTION 24

Flavanol-rich cocoa is beneficial to health.

QUESTION 25

Green tea, wild blueberry, and red wine contain antioxidants.