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MBA Entrance
English
February, 2010

Passage 1

One phase of the business cycle is the expansion phase. This phase is a two-fold one, including recovery and prosperity. During the recovery period there is an ever-growing expansion of existing facilities and new facilities for production are created. More businesses are created and older ones expanded. Improvements of various kinds are made. There is an ever increasing optimism about the future of economic growth. Much capital is invested in machinery or "heavy" industry. More labour is employed. More raw material are required. As one part of the economy develops, other parts are affected. For example, a great expansion in automobiles results in an expansion of the steel, glass and rubber industries. Roads are required; thus the cement and machinery industries are stimulated. Demand for labour and materials results in greater prosperity for workers and suppliers of raw materials, including farmers. This increases purchasing power and the volume of goods bought and sold. Thus prosperity is diffused among the various segments of the population. This prosperity period may continue to rise and rise without an apparent end. However, a time comes when this phase reaches a peak and stops spiraling upwards. This is the end of the expansion phase.

Q.1. The title that best expresses the idea of the this passage is:

- 1) The Business cycle
- 2) The Recovery Stage
- 3) Attaining Prosperity
- 4) The Period of Good Times

Ans. 3) Attaining Prosperity

Q.2. Prosperity in one industry:

- 1) Will spiral upwards
- 2) Will help all segments of the society except the farmers
- 3) Will end abruptly
- 4) Reflects itself in many other industries

Ans. 4) reflects itself in many other industries

Q.3. Which of the following industries will probably be a good indicator of a period of expansion?

- 1) Toys
- 2) Machine tools
- 3) Cosmetics
- 4) Farming

Ans. 2) Machine Tools

Q.4. During the period of prosperity, people regard the future:

- 1) Cautiously

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- 2) Opportunely
 - 3) In a confident manner
 - 4) Indifferently
- Ans. 2) opportunely

Q.5. It can be assumed that in the next paragraph the writer will discuss:

- 1) The recession period
- 2) The higher cost of living
- 3) Cyclical industries
- 4) The status of the farmer

Ans. 1) the recession period

Q.6. The reference to heavy industry in the passage most likely is to:

- 1) Labour intensive industry
- 2) Service industry
- 3) Machinery and capital intensive industry
- 4) State owned industry

Ans. 1) labour intensive industry

Passage 2

A weather map is an important tool for geographers. A succession of three or four maps presents a continuous picture of weather changes. Weather forecasters are able to determine the speed of air masses and fronts; to determine whether an individual pressure area is deepening or becoming shallow or whether a front is increasing or decreasing in intensity. They are also able to determine whether an air mass is retaining its original characteristics or taking on those of the surface over which it is moving. Thus, a most significant function of the map is to reveal a synoptic picture of conditions in the atmosphere at a given time.

All students of geography should be able to interpret a weather map accurately. Weather maps contain an enormous amount of information about weather conditions existing at the time of observation over a large geographical area. They reveal in a few minutes what otherwise would take hours to describe. The World Weather Bureau issues information about approaching storms, floods, frosts, draughts, and all climactic conditions in general.

Twice a month it issues a 30 day "outlook" which is a rough guide to whether conditions likely to occur over broad areas of the world. These 30 day outlooks are based upon an analysis of the upper air levels which often set the stage for the development of air masses, fronts and storms. Considerable effort is being exerted today to achieve more accurate weather predictions. With the use of electronic instruments and earth satellites, enormous gains have taken place recently in identifying and tracking

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storms over regions which have but few meteorological stations. Extensive experiments are also in progress for weather modification studies. But the limitations of weather modification have prevented meteorological results except in the seeding of super-cooled upslope mountainous winds which have produced additional precipitation on the windward side of mountain ranges. Nevertheless, they have provided a clearer understanding of the fundamentals of weather elements.

Q.7. One characteristic of weather maps not mentioned by the author in this passage is:

- 1) Barometric pressure
- 2) Fronts
- 3) Thermal changes
- 4) Frost

Ans. 1) Barometric pressure

Q.8. The 30 day forecast is determined by examining:

- 1) Daily weather maps
- 2) Upper air levels
- 3) Satellite reports
- 4) Synoptic pictures

Ans. 2) upper air levels

Q.9. The observation of weather conditions by satellite is advantageous because it:

- 1) Is modern
- 2) Uses electronic instruments
- 3) Makes weather predictions easier
- 4) Gives the scientific information not obtained readily otherwise

Ans. 4) Gives the scientific information not obtained readily otherwise

Q.10. A weather map is synoptic because it:

- 1) Summarizes a great deal of information
- 2) Can be interpreted accurately
- 3) Appears daily
- 4) Is prepared by the weather bureau

Ans. 1) summarizes a great deal of information

Q.11. At the present time, experiments are being conducted in:

- 1) Determining density of pressure
- 2) Manipulating weather
- 3) 30 day outlook
- 4) Controlling storms

Ans. 2) manipulating weather

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Q.12. Artificial rainmaking has been more successful in the:

- 1) Lake areas
- 2) Eastern slope of mountains
- 3) Western slope of mountains
- 4) Windward side of mountains

Ans. 3) western slope of mountains

Q.13. The “additional precipitation” referred to in the passage has been produced by:

- 1) Super cooled winds
- 2) Environmental changes
- 3) Weather modification experiments
- 4) Limitations of weather modification

Ans. 1) super cooled winds

Q.14. A continuous picture of weather changes can be had by:

- 1) Looking at a weather map
- 2) Studying the 30 day outlook
- 3) Through a synoptic picture of atmosphere at a given point of time
- 4) Looking at a succession of 3 or 4 weather maps

Ans. 3) through a synoptic picture of atmosphere at a given point of time

Q.15. According to the passage, weather modification experiments have:

- 1) Produced enormous gains
- 2) Been successful in many areas
- 3) Had limited success
- 4) Resulted in accurate prediction of storms

Ans. 2) been successful in many areas

Q.16-20: Choose the word most nearly *similar* in meaning to the word in capital letters in each case.

Q.16. PARLOUS

- 1) Accepted
- 2) Difficult
- 3) Inherent
- 4) Excessive

Ans. 1) accepted

Q.17. ACERBITY

- 1) Sweetness
- 2) Bitterness

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- 3) Speed
4) Shock
Ans. 2) bitterness

Q.18. AMAZON

- 1) Native
2) Gigantic warrior
3) Labyrinth
4) Female warrior
Ans. 4) female warrior

Q.19. EXPIATED

- 1) Assumed
2) Eroded
3) Disinclined
4) Atoned
Ans. 3) disinclined

Q.20. FORTUITOUS

- 1) Lucky
2) Accidental
3) Concerted
4) Rich
Ans. 1) lucky

From 21-25: Choose the word most nearly *opposite* in meaning to the word in capital letters in each case.

Q.21. PRODIGIOUS

- 1) Wealthy
2) Mitigated
3) Inconsiderable
4) Garrulous
Ans. 3) inconsiderable

Q.22. FALLOW

- 1) Cultivated
2) Colourful
3) Healthy
4) Mature
Ans. 4) mature

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Q.23. WIZENED

- 1) Foolish
- 2) Educated
- 3) Destroyed
- 4) Fresh

Ans. 1) foolish

Q.24. INCHOATE

- 1) Sturdy
 - 2) Impoverished
 - 3) Complete
 - 4) Cosmetic
- Ans. 2) impoverished

Q.25. IGNOMINIOUS

- 1) Ignoble
 - 2) Resplendent
 - 3) Honourable
 - 4) Invited
- Ans. 3) honourable

From 26 to 30: Choose the word or set of words for each blank that best fits the meaning of the sentence as a whole:

Q.26. Something that is notis not.....

- 1) Trite.....boring
- 2) Violent.....vivid
- 3) Common.....a cliché
- 4) Hackneyed.....original

Ans. 2) violent.....vivid

Q.27. An individual who isis incapable of.....

- 1) Fettered.....flight
- 2) Modest.....shame
- 3) Penurious.....thought
- 4) Ambitious.....failure

Ans.1) fettered.....flight

Q.28. When he recited the passage by....., he revealed that he was reproducing without understanding their meaning.

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- 1) Sounds.....words
2) Effects.....cause
3) Rote.....sounds
4) Sounds.....message
Ans. 4) sounds.....message

Q.29. As a.....head of the organization, he attended social functions and civic meetings but had no.....in the formulation of company policy.

- 1) Sole.....vote
2) Titular.....voice
3) Real.....competition
4) Actual.....superior
Ans. 2) titular.....voice

Q.30. When I listened to his cogent arguments, all mywere.....and I was forced to agree to his point of view.

- 1) Senses.....stimulated
2) Doubts.....confirmed
3) Friends.....present
4) Doubts.....dispelled
Ans. 4) doubts.....dispelled

From Q.31-40: Each of these questions consists of a sentence with some portions underlined. Identify in each case, the underlined part that is not correct as per standard written English. Mark 0 if the sentence contains no error.

Q.31. Because fuel supplies are finite(1) and many people are (2)wasteful, we will be forced (3) to install some type of a (4) solar heating device in our homes by the middle of the next decade.

Ans. type of a (4)

Q.32. Although he was anywhere near (1) the finish line, the aging but (2) famous athlete stopped in exhaustion (3), smiling and nodding while his young friend passed him and raced to (4) victory.

Ans. was anywhere near (1)

Q.33. Whether (1) the leaders can pass a tax reduction bill, the citizens will continue (2) to demonstrate (3) their anger at the rising cost of (4) government.

Ans. Whether (1)

Q.34. Both opinions are respectable (1), but the one which (2) is supported by a specific plan should impress (3) everyone as the most (4) admirable.

Ans. one which (2)

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Q.35. A flock of (1) pigeons are unexpected (2) this time of the year and it is (3) especially surprising to see them flying through the city amidst traffic. (4)

Ans. A flock of (1)

Q.36. Neither my (1) uncle nor my (2) brother ever refuse to share their leisure time (3) with me, and so I was never short of (4) companions.

Ans. short of (4)

Q.37. I'm sure that I can vault (1) higher than him (2) today, because in yesterday's warm up my performance was better (3) than his (4) on three occasions.

Ans. then him (2)

Q.38. Rohan is always more (1) talkative than any student (2) in his class (3) because he is (4) not afraid of the teacher.

Ans. always more (1)

Q.39. Between he and his wife (1) there have been nothing but (2) arguments; this is a situation which is (3) strikingly typical of (4) most modern marriages.

Ans. Zero error

Q.40. Only one of the dozen (1) apartment units (2) I inspected show any neglect (3) on the part of the manager (4).

Ans. units (2)

From Q.41 to 45: Each of these questions consists of a related pair of words in capital letters, followed by four alternative pairs of words. Select the pair that best expresses a relationship similar to that expressed by the pair in the capitalized letters.

Q.41. RELAPSE: ILLNESS: :

- 1) Demolish: Building
- 2) Landslide: Mountain
- 3) Melt: Snow
- 4) Regress : Behaviour

Ans. 3) Melt: Snow

Q.42. WANDERER: HOME: :

- 1) Hiker: Mountain
- 2) Invalid: Health
- 3) Maestro: Orchestra
- 4) Student: School

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Ans. 1) Hiker: Mountain

Q.43. DISQUIT: FEARS: :

- 1) Dampen: Spirit
- 2) Mitigate: Pain
- 3) Imprison: Criminal
- 4) Agitate: Mob

Ans. 4) Agitate: mob

Q.44. EVASION: SUBTERFUGE: :

- 1) Hit : Slug
- 2) Incinerate: Furnace
- 3) Cut: Incision
- 4) Stand: Erect

Ans. 2) Incinerate: Furnace

Q.45. MEMORANDUM: COMPANY: :

- 1) Oath: Allegiance
- 2) Patent: Monopoly
- 3) Copyright: Song
- 4) Contract: Liability

Ans. 1) Oath : Allegiance

From 46 to 50: Each of these questions consists of an idiom followed by four alternatives. Select, in each case the alternative that gives the most appropriate meaning of the idiom.

Q.46. Like water off a duck's back.

- 1) Having no credibility
- 2) Surviving in difficult times
- 3) Having no effect
- 4) Spent without any planning

Ans. 4) spent without any planning

Q.47. Throw his weight around.

- 1) Work with weights
- 2) Try to lose weight with exercise
- 3) Display authority in an annoying manner
- 4) Challenge people for a fight

Ans. 4) challenge people for a fight

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Q.48. Keeping our heads above water.

- 1) Becoming good swimmers
- 2) Just surviving financially
- 3) Managing to be together in difficult times
- 4) Surviving a flood situation

Ans. 2) just surviving financially

Q.49. Having the gift of the gab.

- 1) Being lucky in life
- 2) Being a gifted singer
- 3) Being acquisitive
- 4) Being an easy, interesting talker

Ans. 4) being any easy, interesting talker

Q.50. Like a house on fire.

- 1) Extremely hot
- 2) Very dangerous
- 3) Extremely well
- 4) Complete loss

Ans. 4) complete loss

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