

Grade-X

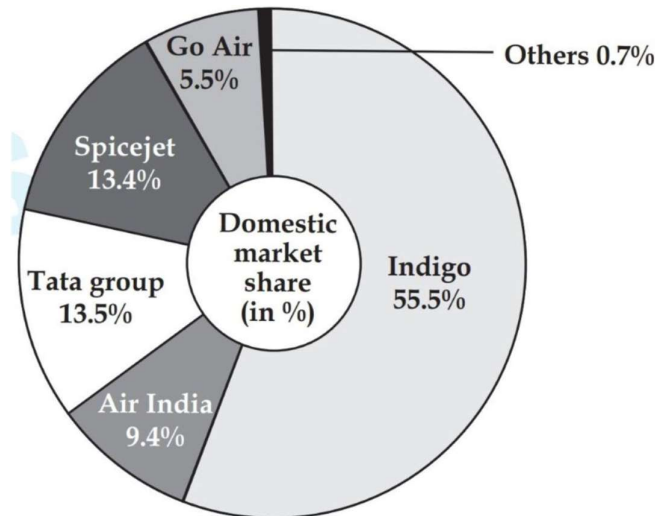
Time:-2hr

Sub.-English

Max.Marks-40

Q.1. Observe The Image And Read The Passage given below:

(1x10=10)



Why The government has finally managed to spark interest in the strategic disinvestment of Air India, having received multiple expressions of interest, according to the secretary of the department of investment and public asset management (DIPAM).

1. **Why is Air India seeing greater interest now?** The union government has sweetened the deal for investors as the Air India Ltd. sale evoked no response initially. This could have possibly encouraged interested buyers. For one, 100% of Air India is up for grabs, compared to just 76% earlier. The Government also made a change in the terms of bidding by allowing potential investors to bid on the basis of enterprise value, which is equity value plus net debt. As a result, investors can determine the amount of Air India's debt that they would want to take on, rather than being saddled with a fixed quantum of debt determined by the government.

2. **Who are the potential bidders for the airline?** The names of the bidders have not been officially disclosed. Reports have said the Tata Group and a Section of Air India's staff, along with the US-based

firm Interups Inc. are among the suitors for the airline. Some reports suggest that low-cost carrier

SpiceJet Ltd has also expressed interest. Getting hold of Air India will give the Tata Group and SpiceJet a strong domestic presence, with the second highest market share by far, after Indigo. Vistara can catch up on network coverage if it buys Air India's operations and can leverage its image of being an aspirational airline, said analysts at Kotak Institutional Equities.

3. **What all does debt-laden Air India bring to the table?** Air India's international operations and slots are the most coveted by potential acquirers, noted Kotak Institutional Equities analysts. The airline also has reasonable reach and network coverage in domestic market, which will help potential acquirers gain Considerable scale. The airline brings a lot of debt too but most of it is likely to be borne by the government.

4. **What will be the likely impact of AI-Tata deal?** If the Tata group bags Air India, it could pave way for consolidation in the aviation sector, say analysts Tata Sons holds a 51% stake in Vistara and a majority stake in AirAsia India. Air India, AirAsia and Vistara accounted for a combined domestic market share of 22.9% in October according to data of the DGCA. The deal could make Tatas the second largest player in the sector after Indigo, which enjoys a market share of 55.5%. However, the Tatas would have to first simplify structures with partners in existing airlines.

5. **Are there any hurdles for potential bidders?** Every asset is valuable only at a certain price. If the eventual bids are high relative to the asset value, turning the airline around could be challenging. In any case, the acquirer will need to make radical operational changes and cut costs to make the business viable. A group such as the Tatas, with deep pockets and a love for the aviation business, could well be willing to incur losses for longer than others. However, unless it streamlines its various aviation operations, it may only be setting up for a bigger failure with Air India acquisition. – *Pallavi Pengonda*

**On the basis of your understanding of the passage, Answer any ten questions from the twelve that are given below:**

(a) To evoke response in Air India Ltd.'s sale the government has:

- (i) given more incentives to investors. (ii) given investors more lucrative offers.
- (iii) further sweetened the deal. (iv) all the above

(b) The changed bidding terms:

- (i) offers 76% of Air India's shares.
- (ii) does not allow investors to bid on the basis of enterprise value.
- (iii) allows investors to decide the debt they want to take on. (iv) saddles the investors with a fixed amount of debt.

(c) The word 'potential' in Para 1 DOES NOT mean the same as:

- (i) possible (ii) impractical (iii) prospective (iv) likely

(d) The suitors for Air India does not include:

- (i) Tata group (ii) US-based firm (iii) Spice jet (iv) Indigo

(e) On the basis of the pie chart the highest market share in domestic business is of: (i) Tata Group (ii) Go Air (iii) Air India (iv) Indigo

(f) The word 'suitors' in Para 2 means the same as:

- (i) suppliant (ii) opponent (iii) benefactor (iv) donor

(g) Air India debt is likely to be borne by:

- (i) Tata Group (ii) The government (iii) Indigo (iv) Vistara

- (h) By bagging the Air India deal Tata Sons will:
- (i) get consolidation in the aviation sector.
  - (ii) get reasonable reach and network leverage in the domestic market.
  - (iii) get of being an aspirational airline leverage.
  - (iv) all the above
- (i) To make business viable the acquirer will need to:
- (i) cut costs. (ii) increase asset value.
  - (iii) make radical operational changes. (iv) both (i) and (iii).
- (j) Choose the option that lists statements that is NOT TRUE.
- (i) The investors are not allowed to bid on the basis of enterprise value.
  - (ii) Air India has reasonable reach in the domestic market.
  - (iii) Tata Sons holds 51% stake in Vistara.
  - (iv) Every asset is valuable at a certain price.
- (k) The word 'coveted' in Para 3 means the same as:
- (i) Sought after (ii) Unenviable (iii) Unwanted (iv) Ineligible
- (l) Tatas will set up for bigger failure with Air India acquisition if:
- (i) it does not simplify structures. (ii) it does not streamline its aviation operations. (iii) its assets are not valuable. (iv) they agree to incur losses.

**Q.2.A Choose the correct options to fill in the blanks and complete Mike and Liz's dialogue.(1x3=3)**



Mike asked Liz **(a)** ..... and said he hadn't seen her since June.  
 Liz explained that **(b)** ..... in Ireland. Mike wondered if she had enjoyed it. Liz told him that **(c)** ..... very friendly.

- (a)** (i) what was he doing there  
 (ii) what she was doing here  
 (iii) what was she doing there  
 (iv) what are you doing here
- (b)** (i) I have just come back from my holiday  
 (ii) she had just come back from her holiday  
 (iii) she had returned from her holiday  
 (iv) she have just come back from her holiday

- (c) (i) she loved Ireland and the Irish people were  
 (ii) I love Ireland and the Irish people are  
 (iii) she loves Ireland and the Irish people are  
 (iv) she had loved Ireland and the Irish people were

**Q.2.B. Choose the correct options to fill in the blanks to complete the note about the Wangala Festival of Meghalaya. (1x3=3)**

The Wangala **(a)** ..... festival for the Garo in Meghalaya, Assam and Nagaland. It is a post-harvest festival **(b)** ..... the end of the agricultural year. It is popularly known as 'The Hundred Drums' festival. During the signature dance, the leading warrior **(c)** ..... with synchronised dance steps and specific hand-head movements.

- (a)** (i) is important  
 (ii) are an important  
 (iii) was the important  
 (iv) is an important
- (b)** (i) being celebrated for marking  
 (ii) celebrated to mark  
 (iii) celebrated to marking  
 (iv) being celebrated for mark
- (c)** (i) leads the youngsters  
 (ii) is lead the youngsters  
 (iii) was leading the youngsters  
 (iv) had leads the youngsters

**Q.2.C Fill in the blanks by choosing the correct options for ANY FOUR of the six sentences given below. (1x4=4)**

- (a)** Some people feel that the best way to take a vacation is to go ..... a cruise. (i) on (ii) in (iii) at (iv) into
- (b)** Communication ..... become very effective due to smart phones. (i) is (ii) had (iii) has (iv) have
- (c)** Today a good ..... varieties of tea brands are available in the market. (i) very (ii) many (iii) more (iv) much
- (d)** At this time tomorrow we ..... for Mumbai.  
 (i) are leaving (ii) have been leaving (iii) shall be leaving (iv) will have left
- (e)** Cacti flowers are big ..... some of them bloom at night. (i) yet (ii) and (iii) but (iv) so

(f) A man's manners ..... a mirror in which he shows his portrait.

(i) is (ii) was (iii) are (iv) were

**Q.3.A Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow. (2x5=10)**

He discovered the joys of being bowled over, tramped on and squashed every few minutes. He became an accepted member of the gang, an unlikely, silky little object among the shaggy crew, fighting like a tiger for his share at mealtimes and hunting rats in the old henhouse at night. He had never had such a time in his life. All the while, Mrs Pumphrey hovered anxiously in the background, ringing a dozen times a day for the latest bulletins.

(a) Select the option that captures the essence of the extract correctly.

**Statement I.** It highlights the kind of comforts and luxuries that Tricki was used to at home.

**Statement II.** It brings out a contrast between Tricki and Mrs. Pumphrey's state of being.

**Statement III.** It reflects that Tricki was happier at the surgery, and loved being with other dogs.

**Statement IV.** It shows Tricki's journey with his peers at the surgery, and documents his recovery.

(i) Statements I and II (ii) Statements III and IV

(iii) Statements I and III (iv) Statements II and IV

(b) What does the reference to Tricki as a "silky little object" signify?

(i) Tricki was a very small and rather pampered dog.

(ii) Tricki was comfortably attired in fine silks and warm coats.

(iii) Unlike the other dogs, Tricki had lived in the lap of luxury with care and grooming.

(iv) The narrator's mockery of Tricki's life and treatment with Mrs. Pumphrey.

(c) Why does the narrator describe being "tramped on and squashed" as joys?

(i) To suggest the irony about the strange ways of dogs.

(ii) To mention the simple pleasures of canine life.

(iii) To compare it to Tricki's earlier play-time at the house.

(iv) To direct attention towards Tricki's successful recovery.

(d) "All the while, Mrs Pumphrey hovered anxiously in the background".

Given below are different types of pet parenting styles described in Country Living, an e-magazine.

Choose the option that best reflects the kind of pet owner Mrs. Pumphrey was.

**I.** Traffic Light pet owners have a healthy balance of rules and freedom and give clear and consistent signals for 'yes' and 'no'.

**II.** Entranced pet owners have the best intentions, but as soon as their pet locks eyes with them and gives their command, they are at their pet's beck and call.

**III.** The Goose pet owners go all-out in protecting their pet. They often limit their time away from their pet, especially puppies.

**IV.** The Baggage Handler pet owners love being close to their pets and going on adventures together.

They are always mindful of the pet's comfort and security .

(i) Option I (ii) Option II (iii) Option III (iv) Option IV

**(e)** Pick the option that reveals Tricky's characteristics in the context of 'fighting like a tiger for his share at mealtimes and hunting rats in the old henhouse at night.'

1. selfish 2. happy 3. greedy 4. confident  
5. sturdy 6. cruel

(i) 2, 4 and 5 (ii) Only 2 (iii) 1 and 5 (iv) 3, 4 and 6

**Q.3.B Read the extract given below and answer the questions that are given below.  
(2x5=10)**

The way a crow  
Shook down on me  
The dust of snow  
From a hemlock tree  
Has given my heart A  
change of mood  
And saved some part  
Of a day I had rued

**(a)** Of the many symbols the hemlock tree represents, choose the one that Frost drew upon in all likelihood, for this poem.

Symbol of

(i) longevity. (ii) togetherness. (iii) healing. (iv) protection.

**(b)** Choose the option that lists the possible feelings of the poet prior to the experience shared in the poem.

1. reassured 2. disappointed 3. curious 4. demotivated 5. thankful 6. disheartened 7. impulsive (i) 1, 3 & 7 (ii) 2, 4 & 6 (iii) 5 & 7 (iv) 1 & 3

**(c)** Identify the option that DOES NOT use the word 'rue' correctly.

(i) The film was a disaster and he rued his decision to act in it.

(ii) I am sure she rued the day she listened to a fortune-teller.

(iii) It wasn't long before I rued my disobedience and my deceit. (iv) Others finally rue the one who is dishonest and heartless.

**(d)** Synecdoche is a poetic device that uses a part to represent the whole. e.g., That's a great set of wheels! (Set of wheels has been used for car.)

Pick an example of synecdoche from the poem.

(i) Has given my heart/A change of mood (ii) The way a crow/ Shook down on me

(iii) The dust of snow / From a hemlock tree (iv) And saved some part / Of a day I had rued

**(e)** Choose the option showing the reason NOT corresponding with "... a crow / Shook down on me / The dust of snow".

(i) The crow's landing on the branch of the tree.