

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE

**Directions (81-90):** Read the following passage carefully and certain words in the passage are printed in bold letters to help you locate them easily while answering some of these questions.

Universal preschool is the next big thing in public education—or at least, in the politics of education. Hailed as a great equalizer by children’s advocates and **championed** as a **bipartisan** line item for conservatives and liberals. The only problem is that universal pre-K isn’t very universal in the communities that need it most.

The latest data crunch of the National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER) suggests that while universal pre-Kindergarten holds enormous promise, programs in many cities and states suffer from inconsistent funding, uneven standards and failure to develop workforces to meet widening social needs. NIEER’s report shows that in 2015 there was “continued improvement in state funded pre-K with larger increases in enrollment, spending, spending per child, and quality standards than the previous year. State funded pre-K served almost 1.4 million children in 2014-2015, an increase of 37,167 children from the previous year” (about 29 percent of 4 year olds and 5 percent of three year olds nationwide). Pre-K spending has risen to nearly \$4,500 per student, though this is still down from 2008 levels. Still, as with many nominally universal social programs, the rapid spread across states have also brought greater polarization—often along the same socioeconomic lines that universal pre-K was designed to help erase. The researchers noted that while some states are hitting new achievement benchmarks, “progress has been unequal and uneven with some states taking large steps forward and other states moving backward.”

Some substandard pre-K programs, according to the report, were concentrated in some of the largest, poorest communities: “California, Texas, and Florida have the highest numbers of children in poverty, serve the largest numbers of children, and have some of the lowest quality standards in the nation.” Meanwhile, volatile education budgets have **hampered** overall expansion: Pre-K programs in “13 states...reduced enrollment with Florida, Tennessee, Texas, and Wisconsin cutting enrollment by more than 2,000 children each.”

States are nonetheless getting more universal in terms of promoting uniform early-education standards: Nationwide, benchmarks for preschool programs have intensified, with more programs requiring, for example, that pre-K teachers have at least 15 hours of in-service training and a bachelor’s degree. But in some states like Texas and Pennsylvania, programs have failed to set parameters for decent class size and staff-student ratio standards. Reflecting the tension between access and quality, the pattern suggests that classes may grow at a rate that outpaces the growth and improvement of the teaching workforce.

The federal government can play a major part in shifting the country toward a universal preschool infrastructure.

Many programs have been boosted by the White House’s Preschool Development Grant program. But again, year-to-year grants come on a piecemeal basis, which won’t resolve generational challenges to systemically overhauling early education programs.

The research on early childhood development shows that, as a social investment, preschool is associated with long-term **cognitive** gains and saves states money down the line by reducing academic problems like grade repetition and special-education placement. But the early-childhood premium attached to precious young ones is hardly reflected in the treatment of early-childhood educators, which in turn undermines preschool’s potential as a social equalizer.

According to a 2014 report by University of California–Berkeley’s Center for the Study of Childcare Employment, childcare workers and preschool teachers are some of the lowest-paid sectors of the educational workforce. Today, the median hourly wage for regular preschool teachers is less than \$14, and many struggle to cover basic needs. In one survey of early-childhood teaching staff, nearly half of respondents “expressed worry about having enough food for their families,” and nearly two-thirds reported relying on public benefits like food stamps in the last three years. Those earning less than \$12.50 an hour and those working outside of public-school settings, in private facilities, experienced especially high rates of hardship. This suggests that it’s not just higher pay but the kind of stable working environment that a standard public-school system offers that leads to better job quality. That could include a union contract with long-term job security. (Collective-bargaining policies cover preschool teachers in just 13 states.)

Pre-K educators generally earn less than teachers of grades K-3. The gap is even greater for teachers in privately managed programs that have been contracted to provide new slots for rapidly expanding preschool initiatives. (A pre-K teacher at a community center, for example, typically earns nearly \$27,000 less than a K-3 public school teacher.) Though some states have narrowed the wage gap between in-school and out-of-school preschool staff, NIEER Director Steve Barnett says via e-mail, “Overall public programs offer better pay, better benefits, and better working conditions.”

81. Which of the following options is NOT TRUE according to the given passage?
- (a) Pre-k Teaching is not a lucrative profession.
  - (b) Pre-k Teachers are having a tough time.
  - (c) There is a great gap between the condition of living of the teachers of privately and publicly managed K schools
  - (d) There has been a fall in the number of students enrolled in 2015 as compared to that of 201
  - (e) The median hourly wage for regular preschool teachers is less than \$14.
82. Which of the following are the revelations of the National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER)?

- (a) Universal pre-Kindergarten holds enormous promise throughout the country.  
 (b) There exist great disparities in the primary education systems of various states.  
 (c) Pre-k schools do not have sufficient funds to pay salaries to the teachers.  
 (d) The quality of education of the country is not at par with that of rest of the world.  
 (e) All of these

83. According to the given passage, how are pre-schools beneficial in long run? (choose the most apt option)  
 (a) It strengthens the base of a student and reduces various academic problems.  
 (b) It provides competent workforce to the country.  
 (c) It creates employment opportunity to the people.  
 (d) It attaches early-childhood premium to the precious young ones.  
 (e) All of these
84. Which of the following options describes the main concern of the author of the above passage?  
 (a) Poor living conditions of Pre-school teachers.  
 (b) Various problems that arise due to poor infrastructure of pre-schools.  
 (c) Problems and solutions arising out of lack of proper facilities to the pre-schools  
 (d) Failure to develop workforces to meet widening social needs.  
 (e) Various complications faced by pre-schools arising mainly due to lack of proper funds.
85. According to the given passage, which of the following is the reason for the better job quality in public pre-K schools?  
 (a) Good working conditions.  
 (b) Higher pay  
 (c) Stable working environment  
 (d) Both (b) and (c)  
 (e) All (a), (b) and (c)
86. According to the given passage, why is the premium attached to precious young ones not reflected in the treatment of the early-childhood educators?  
 (a) Because they are not acknowledged for the hardwork they put.  
 (b) Because they are not given with proper respect and treatment.  
 (c) Because they are not given proper remuneration as a result they have to suffer in order to make their ends meet  
 (d) Because they have to work for long hours which affects their health a lot.  
 (e) All of these

**Directions (87-88):** Choose the word/group of words which is MOST SIMILAR in meaning to the word/group of words printed in bold as used in the passage.

87. **CHAMPIONED**  
 (a) Defend (b) Forsake (c) Offend  
 (d) Change (e) Challenged
88. **BIPARTISAN**  
 (a) Amphibian (b) Dichotomic (c) Dual  
 (d) Bilateral (e) Diatomic

**Directions (89-90):** Choose the word/group of words which is MOST OPPOSITE in meaning of the word/group of words printed in bold as used in the passage.

89. **COGNITIVE**

- (a) Imaginary (b) Physical (c) Planned  
 (d) Conceal (e) Deepen

90. **HAMPERED**

- (a) Disturbed (b) Facilitate (c) Selected  
 (d) Praised (e) Bought

**Directions (91 – 95):** Which of the phrases (a), (b), (c) and (d) given below should replace the phrase given in bold in the following sentences to make the sentence grammatically correct? If the sentence is correct as it is and there is no correction required mark (e) i.e. 'No correction required' as the answer.

91. When the police officer asked you your salary, you provided wrong information, **haven't you?**  
 (a) have you not (b) aren't you  
 (c) didn't you (d) don't you  
 (e) No correction required
92. As soon as I **will reach** Bangalore, I will repay the loan.  
 (a) shall reach (b) should reach  
 (c) would reach (d) reach  
 (e) No correction required
93. The nation-wide survey **has brought up** an interesting finding which is published.  
 (a) had brought up (b) has brought out  
 (c) has been brought up (d) will bring up  
 (e) No correction required
94. Any policy of social welfare **will be likely to face** resistance from vested interests.  
 (a) would be like facing (b) will be likely facing  
 (c) is likely to face  
 (d) is likely to be facing with  
 (e) No correction required
95. Our foreign exchange reserves **have increased substantial.**  
 (a) have been increased substantially  
 (b) have increased substantially  
 (c) have substantially increasing  
 (d) have been substantial in increase  
 (e) No correction required

**Directions (96-100):** Read each sentence to find out whether there is any grammatical error in it. The error, if any, will be one part of the sentence. The number of that part is the answer. If there is no error, the answer is (e). (ignore the errors of punctuation, if any.)

96. (a) If Rajeshwari would have come/(b) to me I would have/(c) given her the/(d) help she needed./ (e) No error.
97. (a) I bade him /(b) to submit all the important documents/ (c) before he left /(d) for the meeting./ (e) No error.
98. (a) When we reached/(b) the station we found /(c) that there was /(d) no place to stand./ (e) No error.
99. (a) All the evidence/(b) were against Himesh/(c) and he was held guilty./ (d) said Anish to Amisha./ (e) No error.
100. (a) All the pupils /(b) stood up respectively/(c) as soon as the /(d) guru entered the room/ (e) No error.

**Directions (101-110):** In the following passage there are blanks, each of which has been numbered. These numbers are printed below the passage and against each, five words are suggested, one of which fits the blank appropriately. Find out the appropriate word in each case.

Without doubt, there is one thing ...(101)... to all of us. We have played a game at some time in our lives. Most of us play to relax or have fun, but for many playing a game or a

sport is a way to ...(102)... poverty behind, In fact, in many African countries, playing professionally can ...(103)... the lives of a person's entire family.

For example, in the small town of Bekoji, in Ethiopia ...(104)... than a hundred boys and girls can be seen running at dawn everyday. Each of these youth is ...(105)... and serious and their coach is ...(106)... that one of them will be a world champion. This seems like an idle ...(107)... but it is virtually a gurantee in this small community ...(108)... mainly farmers. Many of the fastest male and female distance runners in the world hail from this small town.

A small hand-painted sign which greets visitors outside bekoji ...(109)... "Welcome to the village of Athletes". Children here start running at an early age, ...(110)... great distances to fetch water and firewood or to reach school. At the Olympics, runners from this small town are likely to win more medals than those from developed countries. It will give their families a way out of poverty.

101. (a) accepted (b) common (c) alike  
(d) similar (e) popular
102. (a) alleviate (b) forgot (c) prevent  
(d) reduce (e) leave
103. (a) changes (b) arrange (c) control  
(d) transform (e) shift
104. (a) further (b) more (c) greater  
(d) over (e) larger
105. (a) concentrated (b) rival (c) focused  
(d) playful (e) performed
106. (a) convince (b) optimist (c) intended  
(d) privilege (e) confident
107. (a) boast (b) suspicion (c) risk  
(d) worship (e) precaution
108. (a) existing (b) that (c) comprising  
(d) consisting (e) for
109. (a) warn (b) inform (c) notices  
(d) reads (e) wish
110. (a) covering (b) driving (c) measuring  
(d) following (e) competing

**Directions (111-115):** Rearrange the following eight sentences (A), (B), (C), (D), (E), (F), (G) and (H) in the proper sequence to form a meaningful paragraph and then answer the questions given below.

**Solutions:**

81. (d); It is given in the second paragraph that 'State funded pre-K served almost 1.4 million children in 2014-2015, an increase of 37,167 children from the previous year'. Hence, (d) is not true. and is the correct option.
82. (b); It is given in the second paragraph that 'progress has been unequal and uneven with some states taking large steps forward and other states moving backward.' From this statement, we can conclude that (b) is the correct option.
83. (a); It is given in the sixth paragraph 'preschool is associated with long-term cognitive gains and saves states money down the line by reducing academic problems.'. Hence, we can conclude that (a) is the correct option.
84. (e); All the problems described in the passage roots down to the lack of proper funds. Hence, (e) is the most appropriate option.
85. (e); it's not just higher pay but the kind of stable working environment that a standard public-school

- A. It feels like an excuse to bring the X-Men, who as we saw in the last movie blend into society, back into action.
- B. Its central antagonist — the ancient mutant who rises from the pyramids — is an archetypal villain that has no organic connection with the first two movies.
- C. As bodies are buried under what seems like a catastrophe, we are left confused about what exactly happened.
- D. The film's opening is telling. It begins in 3000 BC Egypt. We see a supernatural force shaking up a pyramid.
- E. It unsettles the steady rhythm of Professor Xaviers' school brimming with the youthful energy of new students.
- F. A dazzling time travel through the birth of Christ and other political and cultural signposts bring us to the 1980s.
- G. The problem with Apocalypse is that it doesn't feel as much a natural progression from its predecessors as a third part of a blockbuster franchisee.
- H. When the ancient mutant (En Sabah Nur/Apocalypse played by an unrecognizable Oscar Isaac) wakes up thousands of years later sending vibrations across the earth, it changes the lives of X-Men, who are living in peace.
111. Which of the following should be the **FOURTH** sentence after the rearrangement?  
(a) A (b) B (c) E (d) F (e)D
112. Which of the following should be the **SECOND** sentence after the rearrangement?  
(a) C (b) B (c) F (d) D (e)A
113. Which of the following should be the **FIFTH** sentence after the rearrangement?  
(a)E (b) G (c) B (d) C (e) H
114. Which of the following should be the **SEVENTH** sentence after the rearrangement?  
(a)D (b) G (c) B (d) C (e) H
115. Which of the following should be the **LAST (EIGHTH)** sentence  
(a) E (b)G (c)B  
(d)H (e) A

system offers that leads to better job quality. Here 'kind of' suggests that the public pre-K schools have 'good' kind of working conditions, hence, (e) is the correct option.

86. (c) ; Clearly, (c) is the correct option.
87. (a); 'Championed' means 'vigorously support or defend the cause of something'. Hence, 'Defend' is the word which is most similar in meaning to it.
88. (d); 'Bipartisan' means 'involving the agreement or cooperation of two political parties that usually oppose each other's policies.'. Hence, 'Bilateral' is the word which is most similar in meaning to it.
89. (b); 'Cognitive' means 'perception'. Hence, 'Physical' is the word which is most opposite in meaning to it.
90. (b); 'Hampered' means 'hinder or impede the movement or progress of something'. Hence, 'Facilitate' is the word which is most opposite in meaning to it.

91. (c); As per the rules of tag; the tag will be negative if statement is positive. Also, tense will be according to statement.
92. (d); To show a condition that is of future, we use simple present in one clause and simple future in the other. So 'will reach' is to be written as 'reach' only.
93. (b); 'To bring out' is a phrase that means 'to reveal something'. So, 'has brought out' is the correct choice.
94. (c); What is evident in present should be written in simple present tense. So, 'is likely' is the correct usage.
95. (b); An adverb should be used to qualify the verb 'increased'. So, 'substantially' is correct to be used.
96. (a); Change 'if Rajeshwari would have' into 'If Rajeshwari had'.
97. (b); 'bade' takes 'plain infinitive' (V1) after it and not 'infinitive' (to + infinitive). So, change 'to submit' into 'submit'.
98. (d); Use 'no room' in place of 'no place'. Room means 'enough empty space for people or things to be fitted in.'
99. (e); No error
100. (b); Change 'respectively' into 'respectfully'.  
**Respectively:** in the order already mentioned

**Respectfully:** Marked by respect

101. (b); 'Similar' takes preposition 'in'. And alike is used as, 'We all are alike in one thing'. So, common is correct.
102. (e); Since 'behind' is there, unquestioningly 'leave' is the correct option.
103. (d); Option (a) is wrong since, no 's' or 'es' is suffixed to a verb when using with 'can'. Hence 'transform' is correct.
104. (b); 'Greater than' is used with numbers and 'larger than' is used with areas, etc. So, "name" is suitable.
105. (c);
106. (e); convince is in present tense so it is wrong. One may also get confused with option (b) but 'confident' goes well with the meaning of the passage.
107. (a);
108. (c); 'Comprise something' or 'consist of something' mean the same.
109. (d);
110. (a);  
The correct sequence to form a meaningful paragraph is **GBADCFHE**.
111. (e); D
112. (b); B
113. (d); C
114. (e); H
115. (a); E