

# Banking Daily Quiz Blog - January 4



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**1. The passage given below is followed by a Set of questions. Choose the most appropriate answer to each question.**

What is today's reader offered by the work of Kingsley Amis? This may not seem an especially pertinent question to ask of a writer who died only in 1995, but in art the recent past can sometimes appear more outmoded and inaccessible than distant history. The living writer is close to the common well of experience; once the writer has died, and can no longer articulate our contemporary world for us, he is exposed to the more brutal judgment of time. What in his work is timeless? What, if anything, makes it worth preserving?

Of course, definitive answers to these questions aren't always found: dead writers continue to go in and out of fashion, their work suddenly meaningful again in one era then failing to make sense in the next. It is often the most passionately contemporary writers — Kingsley Amis was one — whose reputation declines most steeply in their absence, for obvious reasons. Relevance becomes irrelevance; the same devotion to the here and now that brought them popularity and fame ensures their obscurity once here and now have become there and then. Yet the observation of ordinary life nearly always forms the cornerstone of great and lasting art. It is the quality of that observation that is put to the test over time, that will determine whether the work is trivial or lastingly true. Kingsley Amis made his name in the Fifties with his first novel, *Lucky Jim*; a work that seemed to define a new era not just in its portrayal of the evolving world of higher education that is its setting, but in literary values too. It advanced a more youthful and democratic conception of literary style and subject matter that reflected changing modes of social behaviour.

In *Lucky Jim*; Amis reprised the black comedy of Evelyn Waugh and re-clothed it in the-provincial workaday garb of the ordinary middle classes, and if in doing so he belied something of his artistic seriousness, he was rewarded for it with instant acclaim.

**A. Why does the author use the statement “what is today’s reader offered by the work of Kingsley Amis?” at the start of the passage?**

**A**

To highlight that though Kingsley Amis is dead his work should not be neglected.

**B**

To initiate the discussion on what the present generation of readers can gain from the works of Kingsley Amis.

**C**

To broach the issue of whether Kingsley Amis' writing is relevant today.

**D**

To make the reader understand Kingsley Amis' influence on contemporary literature.

**E**

None of the above

### **Solution**

The correct answer is option C i.e. To initiate the discussion on what the present generation of readers can gain from the works of Kingsley Amis.

By reading the passage, we can conclude that the author cover the main concern of the passage i.e. to reflect on whether Amis's works continue to be relevant,

The passage is not first and foremost concerned about what the present generation of readers can 'gain' from his works, but more on how relevant it is today.

Hence the chosen option is correct.

**B. With which of the following is the author most likely to agree with?**

**A**

As Amis was a contemporary writer, he would have been able to make a mark for himself in the field of literature in any other era as well.

**B**

Depicting contemporary reality in one's writing can prove to be a double-edged sword for a writer.

**C**

The works of art that involve observation of ordinary life have enduring appeal.

**D**

**Lucky Jim lacks the gravitas characteristic of Amis' artistic expression.**

**E**

None of the above

### **Solution**

The correct answer is option D i.e. Lucky Jim lacks the gravitas characteristic of Amis' artistic expression.

In the last paragraph of the passage, it is mentioned that 'he belied something of his artistic seriousness.' 'belied' in this context means 'contradicted' and 'Gravitas' means 'seriousness'.

Therefore, author most likely to agree with Lucky Jim lacks the gravitas characteristic of Amis' artistic expression.

Hence the chosen option is correct.

**C. Which of the following can be a suitable title to the passage?**

**A** Why Kingsley Amis is relevant even today?

**B** What makes for lasting art?

**C** Why Remember Kingsley Amis?

**D** Is Kingsley Amis relevant today?

**E** None of the above

### **Solution**

The correct answer is option D i.e. Is Kingsley Amis relevant today?

After reading the passage, it can be concluded that the main theme of the passage is on why Kingsley Amis is not relevant today.

Therefore, it is clear that Is Kingsley Amis relevant today? Is the theme of the passage.

Hence the chosen option is correct.

**D. Which of the following best describes the tone of the author?**

**A** Laudatory

**B** Descriptive

**C** Analytical

**D** Inquisitive

**E** Suggestive

### **Solution**

The correct answer is option C i.e. Analytical

a) Laudatory: How have you praised something or someone you admired? That's what laudatory tone sounds like. Often, descriptive passages adopt this kind of tone so as to discuss a particular subject along with certain justifications.

b) Descriptive: This tone is appropriate when the author has given a lot of figures, facts or data in the passage.

c) Analytical: The characteristic of an analytical tone is the presence of reasons or logic/ justifications to support something.

d) Inquisitive means too interested in finding out about what other people are doing.

e) Suggestive means the passage is conveying a hint (of something).

Therefore, the author scrutinize whether Kingsley Amis's works continue to be to the point or not.

To this end he talk about the length what makes a work of art 'lastingly true.' So, the tone is analytical as various facets of Amis's works and their reception are appraised.

Hence the chosen option is correct.

**2. The passage given below is followed by a set of four questions, Choose the best answer to each question.**

The recent 2011 Provisional Census figures for Rajasthan show an alarming drop in sex ratio in the 0-6 age group from 909 in 2001 to 883 in 2011. A decline of 26 points is indicative of a clear bias against the girl child in a cultural milieu mediated by a range of factors — a feudal history, stringent patriarchy, rigid gender norms and deep-rooted disadvantages which pervade all spheres of domestic and social life. The state has also witnessed considerable action from civil society beginning with media exposure to the more recent scaled up action against the unscrupulous ultrasound clinics. However, the insidious trend has not been reversed and unless strong action is taken, it will lead to disastrous consequences.

For the past decade several networks, coalitions and individual NGOs active in the field have been addressing the issue of declining sex ratio and female foeticide along with ensuring that the PCPNDT Act is implemented in all its seriousness. They have focused on campaigns community-based programmers and initiatives involving religious and caste leaders. Decoy operations carried out in various districts by NGOs have succeeded in identifying unscrupulous doctors. However, no action has been taken against them and district level authorities continue to shield those involved in this malpractice. Under the larger rubric of addressing issues of violence against women and girls, some groups have also tried to identify and create awareness on the various types of violence and discrimination women and girls in the state face throughout the life cycle.

Declining sex ratio is seen as a symptom of the discrimination meted out to women. Several risk factors have come to fore as a result of the campaign on the implementation of the PCPNDT Act launched in the last few years. These risk factors must be recognized and mitigated because they could compromise some of the gains of the women's rights movements. On its part the state has for long claimed promotion of women's empowerment beginning with the Women's Development Project (WDP) in 1984. However, the systematic dismantling of the WDP which had a network of change agents at the grass-roots level is indicative of the lackadaisical approach of the state towards issues of women's equality and dignity. The sathins (grass-roots workers, literally "companions") could have played a proactive role in creating an environment for empowering the girl child and acted as catalysts for monitoring the implementation of the act at the district level provided their activities



had not been curtailed. Today no alternative programme which addresses women's empowerment and issues of violence against them exists. The lack of coordination between different line departments working on women and child related issues also add to the woes. Despite the rhetoric, an obvious lack of political will to save the girl child shows that the development graph of the state is on the brink of disaster.

**A. According to the passage, which of the following governance-related problems can be viewed as the "last straw" that could compromise the gains in the women's rights movements?**

**A** Lack of political will to save the girl child.

**B** Lack of coordination between different line departments.

**C** No alternative programmed to address women's empowerment.

**D** The systematic dismantling or the WDP.

**E** The innovative ideas

### **Solution**

The correct answer is option A i.e. Lack of political will to save the girl child.

“Last straw” means the last in a series of bad things that happen to make someone very upset, angry, etc.

Ex: It had been a difficult week, so when the car broke down, it was the last straw.

As mentioned in the last paragraph of the passage, the author said the various governance-related failures/problems that could compromise some of the gains of the women's right movement. The last line of this paragraph states that the lack of political will to save the girl child shows that the development graph of the state is on the brink of disaster.

Option (B), (C) and (D) have been mentioned as risk factors but they cannot be taken in the sense of the "last straw" as option (A).

Therefore, it is clear that Option (A) is the answer.

Hence the chosen option is correct.

**B. It can be inferred that would have continued the passage with the following:**

**A** Discussion on how the PCPNDT Act. 1994 can be made more effective.

**B** Discussion on another institutional mechanism that is currently defunct.

**C** **Discussion on strategies the state can use to address the issue mentioned in the passage.**

**D** Discussion on strategies to ensure that the girl child is protected.

**E**

None of these

### **Solution**

The correct answer is option C i.e. Discussion on strategies the state can use to address the issue mentioned in the passage.

The passage starts by discussing the reducing sex -ratio in Rajasthan mentions addressing the larger issue of violence against women and girls and then ends by discussing the risk factors that could compromise some of the gains of the women's rights movements.

It ends by stating that the "development graph of the state is on the brink of disaster.

Once the author has made this point, option (B) will be a superfluity.

Option (A) is incorrect, as it cannot be inferred that the author is concerned with improving the implementation of the PCPNDT Act, 1994.

Option (D) is too narrow.

Option (C) is the best answer.

Therefore, it is clear that "Discussion on strategies the state can use to address the issue mentioned in the passage." can be inferred from the above passage.

Hence the chosen option is correct.

- C. Which of the following issue(s) have also got covered by the larger issue of Violence against women and girls?**

**A**

Declining sex ratio and female foeticide

**B** Various types of discrimination against women and girls

**C** Identification of unscrupulous doctors

**D** Women's equality and dignity

**E** Women's financial condition

### **Solution**

The correct answer is option B i.e. Various types of discrimination against women and girls

The last lines of the second paragraph talks about the other issues that have been addressed due to the larger issue of violence against women and girls.

It is indicated that the various types of violence and discrimination that women and girls face in their life cycle are also being addressed due to this larger issue.

Option (A) is an issue that is being addressed, however, it does not answer the context of the question.

Option (C) has been mentioned in the paragraph as an issue on which no action has been taken.

Option (D) is also mentioned as an issue on which no action is being taken by the state.

Therefore, it is clear that the answer is option (B).

Hence the chosen option is correct.

**D. Which of the following is a factor(s) for the bias against the girl child?**

**I. Feudal lords**

**II. Patriarchal culture**

**III. Fixed gender rules**

**IV. Discordial domestic and social life**

**A** 1, II and III

**B** Both I and IV

**C** Both II and III

**D** Only III

**E** Only II

**Solution**

The correct answer is option C i.e. Both II and III

From the first paragraph of the passage, it is clear that first paragraph lists out the factors that have contributed to the bias against the girl child. A feudal history has been mentioned as one factor — however, this cannot be taken as a synonym for Statement (I).

The feudal lords themselves may not have contributed to the bias — the passage indicates it was the entire feudal system.

Statement (II) and (III) have both been mentioned.

Statement (IV) cannot be inferred on the basis of the information in the passage.

The answer is option (C).

Therefore, it is clear that ‘Both II and III’ are correct as per the passage.

Hence the chosen option is correct.

**Rearrange the following six sentences (A), (B), (C), (D), (E) and (F) in proper sequences and form a meaningful paragraph; then answer the questions given below:**

**3. A. It was further revived by a Boston publishing firm, and from that time Mother Goose continued and grew in fame and interest till date.**

**B. The first collection of verses under her name was published in London in book form by John Newbery.**

**C. These were known long before they were designated as Mother Goose rhymes.**

**D. Some rhymes can be traced to popular ballads, folk songs, and games, political satire, ancient proverbs, cries of street vendors, real or legendary events.**

**E. About 25 years later, the book was reprinted in the United States in Worecester, Massachusetts.**

**F. In fact, until the eighteenth-century Mother Goose did not have a name in print in English Literature.**

**What is the correct sequence of the paragraph?**

**A D C F B E A**

**B A E B C D F**

**C D F E B A C**

**D**

A C E B D F

**E**

D E C A F B

### **Solution**

The correct answer is option A i.e. D C F B E A

While arranging sentences in a paragraph, it is important to understand the central theme of the paragraph so that the series of events can be well adjusted.

Here, first sentence is sentence D as it introduce the title of the paragraph i.e. rhymes.

Second sentence is sentence C as it further explains sentence D i.e. about the origin and existence of rhymes.

Third sentence is sentence F as it further tells about the fact of the eighteenth-century.

Fourth sentence is sentence B, as it further explains the consequence after the fact i.e. The first collection of verses under her name was published in London in book form by John Newbery.

Therefore CF comes together.

Fifth sentence is sentence E.

Sixth and last sentence is sentence A as it tells about the reanimation of it and used the phrase “till date” in the last of the sentence.

The correct sequence to make a meaningful paragraph is: D C F B E A

The paragraph formed after rearrangement is:



Some rhymes can be traced to popular ballads, folk songs, and games, political satire, ancient proverbs, cries of street vendors, real or legendary events. These were known long before they were designated as Mother Goose rhymes. In fact, until the eighteenth-century Mother Goose did not have a name in print in English Literature. The first collection of verses under her name was published in London in book form by John Newbery. About 25 years later, the book was reprinted in the United States in Worecester, Massachusetts. It was further revived by a Boston publishing firm, and from that time Mother Goose continued and grew in fame and interest till date.

Hence the chosen option is correct.

**The question has a sentence/ sentences with two blanks. Given below the questions are four pairs of words. Choose the pair that best completes the sentence/sentences.**

4. **On examining the \_ of pottery gathered from the site of the \_, the archaeologist announced that they belonged to the 10th century.**

**A shards, excavation**

**B fragments, tomb**

**C variety, experiment**

**D smithereens, landscape**

**E none of these**

### **Solution**

The correct answer is option A i.e. shards, excavation

The word ‘excavation’ means ‘carefully remove mud to find buried remains’ is closely related with archaeology.

Shards means sharp pieces of broken ceramic, metal, glass etc.

Therefore, “shards, excavation” best fits the given blank.

Hence the chosen option is correct.



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