

NAVODAYA VIDYALYA EXAM 2026

IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

UNSEEN PASSAGES

Read the passage carefully and answer questions from 1 to 5.

Street food in Kolkata, from puchkas to kathi rolls, is undergoing a renaissance, blending tradition with innovation. Vendors like Sunil have modernized stalls with hygienic practices and fusion flavors, attracting foodies and tourists. This evolution enhances the city's culinary identity but faces challenges like regulatory hurdles and competition from restaurants. Food festivals, showcasing street vendors, have bolstered their visibility, while social media amplifies their reach. Sunil's stall, once obscure, now thrives, symbolizing how street food can transcend its humble origins to become a cultural hallmark.

1. What is contributing to the street food renaissance in Kolkata?
 - (A) Decline in restaurant competition
 - (B) Modernization of stalls with hygiene and fusion flavors
 - (C) Reduction in food festivals
 - (D) Lack of social media presence

2. How have food festivals impacted street food vendors?
 - (A) Reduced their visibility
 - (B) Increased their competition
 - (C) Bolstered their visibility
 - (D) Limited their innovation
3. What challenge do street food vendors face?
 - (A) Lack of tourist interest
 - (B) Regulatory hurdles
 - (C) Absence of fusion flavors
 - (D) Decline in culinary identity
4. What is the antonym of "obscure" as used in the passage?
 - (A) Hidden
 - (B) Unknown
 - (C) Prominent
 - (D) Vague
5. What is the synonym of "transcend" as used in the passage?
 - (A) Decline
 - (B) Surpass
 - (C) Maintain
 - (D) Restrict

Read the passage carefully and answer questions from 6 to 10.

Space tourism, once a fantastical notion, is becoming reality, with companies like SpaceX pioneering commercial spaceflights. In 2024, Indian entrepreneur Rhea booked a suborbital flight, experiencing weightlessness and Earth's curvature. These ventures promise exhilarating experiences but are exorbitantly priced, limiting access to the affluent. Safety concerns also loom, as space travel remains inherently risky. Governments are drafting regulations to ensure passenger safety and environmental sustainability, given the carbon-intensive nature of launches. Rhea envisions a future where space tourism democratizes access, fostering a global appreciation for Earth's fragility.

6. What experience did Rhea have during her suborbital flight?
- (A) Conducting scientific experiments
(B) Experiencing weightlessness and Earth's curvature
(C) Designing spacecraft regulations
(D) Training for space missions
7. What is a major limitation of space tourism mentioned in the passage?
- (A) Lack of commercial companies
(B) High costs limiting access
(C) Absence of safety concerns
(D) Minimal environmental impact

8. What is the purpose of government regulations in space tourism?
- (A) To increase flight costs
(B) To ensure safety and sustainability
(C) To limit commercial spaceflights
(D) To reduce passenger interest
9. What is the antonym of "exhilarating" as used in the passage?
- (A) Thrilling (B) Boring
(C) Exciting (D) Invigorating
10. What is the synonym of "exorbitant" as used in the passage?
- (A) Reasonable (B) Excessive
(C) Affordable (D) Moderate

Read the passage carefully and answer questions from 11 to 15.

Microfinance has revolutionized financial inclusion in rural India, empowering women like Lakshmi from Rajasthan. Through small loans, she launched a tailoring business, achieving financial autonomy. Microfinance institutions (MFIs) provide credit to those excluded from traditional banking, fostering entrepreneurship. However, high interest rates and over-indebtedness pose risks, as some borrowers struggle with repayments. MFIs are now integrating financial literacy programs to mitigate these issues, ensuring sustainable growth. Lakshmi's success underscores microfinance's potential to transform lives, but its efficacy depends on prudent management and borrower education.

11. What has microfinance enabled Lakshmi to achieve?

- (A) Employment in a bank
- (B) Financial autonomy
- (C) High interest loans
- (D) Financial literacy expertise

12. What is a risk associated with microfinance mentioned in the passage?

- (A) Lack of entrepreneurial opportunities
- (B) Over-indebtedness of borrowers
- (C) Absence of financial literacy programs
- (D) Exclusion from rural communities

13. How are microfinance institutions addressing the risks mentioned?

- (A) By increasing interest rates
- (B) By limiting loan access
- (C) By integrating financial literacy programs
- (D) By excluding rural borrowers

14. What is the antonym of “prudent” as used in the passage?

- (A) Cautious (B) Reckless
- (C) Sensible (D) Judicious

15. What is the synonym of “efficacy” as used in the passage?

- (A) Ineffectiveness
- (B) Complexity
- (C) Effectiveness
- (D) Obstacle

Read the passage carefully and answer questions from 16 to 20.

Minimalism, a lifestyle advocating simplicity, has gained traction among urban professionals. In Mumbai, architect Neha embraced minimalism, decluttering her home to retain only essential possessions. This austere approach fosters tranquillity and reduces environmental impact by curbing consumerism. However, critics argue that minimalism can seem elitist, as it presupposes financial stability to prioritize quality over quantity. Neha counters that minimalism is adaptable, emphasizing mindful consumption over deprivation. Workshops on minimalism are proliferating, teaching techniques to streamline possessions and lifestyles. The philosophy challenges societal norms, urging individuals to find contentment in less.

16. What is the core principle of minimalism as described in the passage?

- (A) Accumulating luxury items
- (B) Advocating simplicity
- (C) Promoting consumerism
- (D) Ensuring financial instability

17. How does Neha practice minimalism?

- (A) By purchasing quality items
- (B) By decluttering her home
- (C) By hosting consumerism workshops
- (D) By adopting an elitist lifestyle

18. What criticism is levelled against minimalism in the passage?

- (A) It promotes excessive spending
- (B) It is inaccessible to urban professionals
- (C) It can seem elitist
- (D) It increases environmental impact

19. What is the antonym of “austere” as used in the passage?

- (A) Simple
- (B) Lavish
- (C) Modest
- (D) Frugal

20. What is the synonym of “proliferating” as used in the passage?

- (A) Decreasing
- (B) Stagnating
- (C) Multiplying
- (D) Vanishing