Directions (1-10): Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below.

Johor baharu, a sprawling, gritty city in Malaysia, would once have been an unusual home for a British university. But just off one of the main roads out of town, past signs to Legoland, sits EduCity, a development which is home to three British institutions, each a humid five-minute stroll from the other. The University of Reading is filled with greenery and gleams in the sun. Newcastle transplants the architecture of the university’s Tyneside home to Malaysia. Southampton completes the unlikely trio. These outposts are part of a broader trend. Britain’s 136 universities now have 39 foreign campuses abroad, educating 26,000 students, from Middlesex University’s site in Mauritius to Glasgow Caledonian’s branch in Bangladesh. Only Australia, which has a much smaller higher-education system, can boast a similar ratio of home to overseas campuses. In addition, there are many more students taking British degrees taught by foreign institutions. In these arrangements British universities provide a curriculum, and sometimes teaching staff, training and support, in return for a juicy fee. In all, in 2015-16 there were 703,000 students studying for a British higher-education qualification overseas. Including international students in Britain, British universities have 1.1m foreign students on their books, a number fast catching up with the 1.9m British students they are educating. The universities’ overseas footprint began to grow fast in the 2000s, as they rushed to meet demand in growing economies, mostly in Asia. “Like in any other industry, universities dipped their toes in the water, then took the plunge,” says Vangelis Tsiligiris of Nottingham Business School. High-ranking universities were the most likely to set up campuses, in the hope of attracting better staff and more students, both of which would help them up the international rankings. In the early days, less-fancy universities were happier letting local colleges teach their qualifications. Increasingly, the more prestigious universities prefer this approach too. All universities wax lyrical about the benefits of fostering international research links; in some cases it might even be true. The attraction for students is clear. A British degree holds a promise of quality, explains Mark, a local undergraduate at Sunway University, a Malaysian institution just outside Kuala Lumpur. Studying at home allows students to avoid Britain’s increasingly strict visa regime. It is also much cheaper. A joint Lancaster-Sunway degree costs around 28,000 ringgit (£5,300, or $6,820) a year, compared with £9,250 for a Lancaster degree in Britain—which would also involve hefty travel and living costs. In the past five years, Sunway’s student numbers have trebled, to 7,500. The offer of British qualifications has been crucial, says Graeme Wilkinson, its vice-chancellor—although, he adds, having a water park next door did no harm. For countries like Malaysia, importing foreign universities offers a way to build institutional expertise quickly. Two decades ago, Malaysia began to position itself as a hub for higher education, seeking to attract students from around the region, as well as from farther-away Muslim countries, explains Sarah D ever—all, head of the Malaysian branch of the British Council, which promotes British culture abroad. Malaysia now has more students studying for a British qualification than any country bar Britain itself. Others places have courted foreign universities for different reasons. Dubai, for instance, encouraged them to set up shop to cater to the children of its large expat population. Despite support from host governments, dealing with a foreign higher-education system is hard work. Sam Weston, who works for the University of Reading in EduCity, admits that recruitment has been
slower than hoped. “It’s early days,” she explains. “We’re still getting the word out.” Both Wolverhampton and Aberystwyth have closed campuses in Mauritius, after failing to attract students. Last year Warwick scrapped plans to build a campus in California, following difficulties in navigating local regulation. Others relied too heavily on the enthusiasm of individual university officials in Britain, and floundered when those people moved on. Universities also have to adapt, sometimes uncomfortably, to local politics. In July an academic was removed from the management board of Nottingham’s Ningbo campus—a joint venture with the Chinese government—after writing an essay critical of the 19th Party Congress, a meeting of government bigwigs. Restrictions in Malaysia mean there are no student unions on the British campuses there. Partly as a result of these difficulties, most British universities selling their qualifications abroad prefer to get a local institution to do the teaching. But this arm’s length approach is not entirely trouble free. Some worry that the quality of education is not always up to scratch. The Quality Assurance Agency, which helps regulate British universities (including their overseas empires) says that malpractice is rare. But some university officials privately doubt that teaching is always equal to that found in Britain, as is meant to be the case. All of this means universities are beginning to tread more carefully. There has been a move away from the “hands-off model”, in which universities provide certificates and little else, to more genuine partnerships, says Janet Ilieva, a higher education consultant based in Britain. A number of governments in big markets are also growing more cautious. Two years ago, Malaysia banned any new links with universities not in the top 5% of a global ranking. At the same time, China reportedly halted approvals of new joint venture campuses. Expansion is also kept in check by the fact that universities are reluctant to do anything that might water down their British character. David Willetts, a former higher-education minister, has complained that he was unable to convince any university to create a vehicle to list on the stock market to promote a global higher-education brand. Last year growth in the number of students studying for British degrees overseas slowed, to just 1%. But university officials don’t expect the lull to last long. Some British universities are considering setting up continental campuses after Brexit, in order to sidestep expected restrictions on immigration. A looming demographic dip in the number of British 18-year-olds, and threats by politicians to cut tuition fees at home, are also making universities look abroad. As demand for degrees grows around the world, it is likely that British universities will become ever more international.

1. Choose synonym for - Fostering
   (a) nurture  
   (b) disuse  
   (c) abandon  
   (d) gamble  
   (e) None of these  
   **Answer: a)**

2. Choose synonym for - lull
   (a) harsh  
   (b) soothe  
   (c) agitate  
   (d) rouse  
   (e) None of these  
   **Answer: b)**

3. Choose synonym for - Reluctant
   (a) zeal  
   (b) keen  
   (c) eager  
   (d) loath  
   (e) None of these  
   **Answer: d)**

4. Choose an appropriate title for the passage.
   (a) India on higher education: Worlds ahead  
   (b) Brexit and the world  
   (c) Higher education: Britain’s purview  
   (d) Malaysia’s changing trends  
   (e) None of these  
   **Answer: c)**
5. Which of the following best explains authors’ tone in the passage?
(a) rhetorical  
(b) critical  
(c) analytical  
(d) Both b and c  
(e) None of these  
**Answer: d**

**Explanation** – The author is analytical as he uses facts and data to support his arguments. Also, he is critical of the loopholes in the system. Hence, option d is correct.

6. Where do you think the article is most likely to appear in?
(a) in a news daily  
(b) in a magazine  
(c) government’s annual publication  
(d) both b and c  
(e) None of these  
**Answer: b**

**Explanation** – option b is most obvious answer as the analysis given is too lengthy for a newspaper and too much informal for a government publication.

7. Which of the following is irrelevant in terms of the passage?
(a) People have been crowding the universities  
(b) Governments’ have played almost no role in establishing shops.  
(c) Reluctance has been there because of newer rules.  
(d) both b and c  
(e) None of these  
**Answer: b**

**Explanation** – option b has no relevance to the given passage.

8. Choose antonym for - floundered  
(a) groped  
(b) idled  
(c) kept  
(d) tossed  
(e) None of these  
**Answer: b**

9. Choose antonym for - courted  
(a) shirked  
(b) enticed  
(c) wooed  
(d) caressed  
(e) None of these  
**Answer: a**

10. Choose antonym for - hefty  
(a) massive  
(b) gaunt  
(c) ponderous  
(d) burly  
(e) None of these.  
**Answer: b**

Direction (11–20): Which of the phrases (a), (b), (c), (d) given below each sentence should replace the phrase printed in bold type to make the sentence grammatically correct? If the sentence is correct as it is mark (e) i.e. ‘No correction required’ as the answer

11. Emmanuel Macron suffered a blow yesterday when his high-profile environment minister quit without warning, damaging the French president’s much-vaunted green credentials as he was away upon a foreign visit.
(a) much-vaunted green credentials as he was away on a foreign visit  
(b) much-vaunted green credentials as he was away in a foreign visit  
(c) much-vaunted green credentials as he was away at a foreign visit  
(d) much-vaunted green credentials as he was away to a foreign visit  
(e) No correction required  
**Answer: a**

**Explanation** – Usage done in option a is correct.
12. Sweden’s ruling Social Democrats have offered parents of schoolchildren an extra paid week of holiday as the centre-left party tries to turn debate away from immigration and crime in the run-up to next month’s election.
(a) have offered parents for schoolchildren an extra paid week of holiday
(b) have offered parents with schoolchildren an extra paid week of holiday
(c) have offered parents on schoolchildren an extra paid week of holiday
(d) have offered parents in schoolchildren an extra paid week of holiday
(e) No correction required
Answer: b)  
Explanation – Usage done in option b is correct.

13. Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates have been responsible of violations in the conflict in Yemen that may amount to war crimes, including air strikes on civilian targets and torture and rape, according to UN experts.
(a) have been responsible off violations in the conflict in
(b) have been responsible because violations in the conflict in
(c) have been responsible for violations in the conflict in
(d) have been responsible as violations in the conflict in
(e) No correction required
Answer: c)  
Explanation – Usage done in option c is correct.

14. Chinese travel companies are resuming group tours to South Korea that were hobbled last year during a dispute over Seoul’s decision to install a US ballistic missile shield.
(a) that were cobbled last year during a dispute over Seoul’s decision to
(b) that were halted last year during a dispute over Seoul’s decision to
(c) that were halt last year during a dispute over Seoul’s decision to
(d) that were helped last year during a dispute over Seoul’s decision to
(e) No correction required
Answer: b)  
Explanation – Usage done in option b is correct.

15. South Korea has proposed its largest budget increase in a decade as it seek to boost a failing economy that is also hit by the falling approval ratings of President Moon Jae-in.
(a) proposed its largest budget increase in a decade as it kept to boost a failing
(b) proposed its largest budget increase in a decade as it seeked to boost a failing
(c) proposed its largest budget increase in a decade as it seeks to boost a failing
(d) proposed its largest budget increase in a decade as it keeps to boost a failing
(e) No correction required
Answer: c)  
Explanation – Usage done in option c is correct.

16. Donald Trump has repeatedly attacked Robert Mueller and the Russia probe but the guilty plea by his former attorney last week is a reminder that the president’s legal vows go further than the special counsel’s investigation.
(a) last week is a reminder that the president’s legal views go
(b) last week is a reminder that the president’s legal woes go
(c) last week is a reminder that the president’s legal wows go
(d) last week is a reminder that the president’s legal wow go
(e) No correction required
Answer: b)  
Explanation – Usage done in option b is correct.

17. Shareholder rebellions over executive pay at the UK’s biggest companies have doubled this year, as groups
from AstraZeneca to BT and Shell suffering big protest votes at annual meetings.
(a) biggest companies have doubled this year, since groups from
(b) biggest companies have doubled this year, because groups from
(c) biggest companies have doubled this year, for groups from
(d) biggest companies have doubled this year, with groups from
(e) No correction required
Answer: d)
Explanation – Usage done in option d is correct.

18. Italian men’s luxury group Ermenegildo Zegna has agreed to buy 85 per cent of US luxury label Thom Browne from Sand bridge Capital for an enterprise value of about $500m, the Milan-based company said in a statement.
(a) has agreed to buying 85 per cent of US luxury label
(b) has agreed to buy off 85 per cent of US luxury label
(c) has agreed to by 85 per cent of US luxury label
(d) has agreed to battle 85 per cent of US luxury label
(e) No correction required
Answer: e)
Explanation – Usage done in option e is correct.

19. Credit Suisse said it will buy back $6bn of debt raised from the Qatar Investment Authority and Saudi Arabia’s Olayan family during the financial crisis in a plan to facilitate funding costs.
(a) during the financial crisis in a plan to loom funding costs
(b) during the financial crisis in a plan to render funding costs
(c) during the financial crisis in a plan to reduce funding costs
(d) during the financial crisis in a plan to keep funding costs
(e) No correction required
Answer: c)
Explanation – Usage done in option c is correct.

20. Ryanair has signed a collective labour agreement with some of its Italian pilots, the first with any of its unions, after this summer’s strikes.
(a) signed a collective labour agreement with some of there Italian pilots
(b) signed a collective labour agreement with some of their Italian pilots
(c) signed a collective labour agreement with some of his Italian pilots
(d) signed a collective labour agreement with some of her Italian pilots
(e) No correction required
Answer: e)
Explanation – Usage done in option e is correct.

Directions (21-30): Find out the error, if any. If there is no error, the answer is (e), i.e. No error. (Ignore the errors of punctuation, if any.)

21. A corporate financier who had worked for (a)/ Blackstone has been accused of orchestrating the (b)/ fraudulent bankruptcy of a company he had (c)/ bought so that he could buy it back in the cheap. (d)/ No error (e)/
(a) a
(b) b
(c) c
(d) d
(e) e
Answer: d)
Explanation – ‘on the cheap’ is correct usage.

22. China’s Himin Solar was flying high a (a)/ decade ago as the world’s largest solar (b)/ water-heating company, securing $100m (c)/ with an investment round involving Goldman Sachs.(d)/ No error (e)/
(a) a
(b) b
(c) c
(d) d
(e) e
Answer: d)
Explanation – ‘in an investment’ is correct usage.
23. The Argentine peso touched a record low after (a)/ President Mauricio Macri asked the IMF to (b)/ speed up the disbursement in its $50bn bailout package (c)/ because of concerns that the country cannot meet its financing needs.(d)/ No error (e)/
   (a) a
   (b) b
   (c) c
   (d) d
   (e) e
   Answer: c)
   Explanation - ‘disbursement of’ is correct usage.

24. Germany has formally handed back skulls, bones and (a)/ other human remains that were taken (b)/ from Namibia more than a century ago, the latest at a series of political (c)/ gestures by Berlin to atone for its bloody colonial history in Africa.(d)/ No error (e)/
   (a) a
   (b) b
   (c) c
   (d) d
   (e) e
   Answer: c)
   Explanation - ‘latest in’ is correct usage.

25. A forum set up by Michael Bloomberg, Henry Kissinger and global business (a)/ leaders to improve understanding between the US and China (b)/ has been caught on the crossfire between the Trump administration and Beijing,(c)/ forcing the organisers into an abrupt change of plans.(d)/ No error (e)/
   (a) a
   (b) b
   (c) c
   (d) d
   (e) e
   Answer: c)
   Explanation - ‘caught in’ is correct usage.

26. Japan and China are set to discuss this week the revival (a)/ at currency swap arrangements and (b)/ a potential leaders’ summit, in the latest sign of (c)/ warming relations between Tokyo and Beijing. (d)/ No error (e)/
   (a) a
   (b) b
   (c) c
   (d) d
   (e) e
   Answer: b)
   Explanation - ‘of currency swap’ is correct usage.

27. The number of automated Twitter accounts supporting (a)/ the populist anti-immigration Sweden Democrats has (b)/ surged from the run-up to (c)/ next month’s election, according to a state agency. (d)/ No error (e)/
   (a) a
   (b) b
   (c) c
   (d) d
   (e) e
   Answer: c)
   Explanation - ‘surged in’ is correct usage.

28. Aston Martin has announced plans to float at (a)/ the London Stock Exchange this year after (b)/ half-year results that saw sales and profits (c)/ for the luxury British carmaker hit record levels.(d)/ No error (e)/
   (a) a
   (b) b
   (c) c
   (d) d
   (e) e
   Answer: a)
   Explanation - ‘float on’ is correct usage.

29. Dick’s Sporting Goods, the (a)/ US retailer, blamed disappointing sales (b)/ of firearms and the athletic apparel brand Under Armour(c)/ from a weak set of quarterly results.(d)/ No error (e)/
   (a) a
30. Higher energy prices and a weakened rouble saw second-quarter profits soar (a) at three of Russia’s largest oil and gas groups, (b) underlining a robust results season for the country’s energy (c) industry that has weathered international sanctions in reap strong earnings (d). No error (e).

Answer: d)

Explanation - ‘for a weak’ is correct usage.

(b) b
(c) c
(d) d
(e) e

Answer: d)

Explanation - ‘to reap strong’ is correct usage.