



SSC GD 2025



अवसर बेर

ENGLISH

Unseen Passage

Part -2

LIVE 12-08-2024 07:00 PM





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Question No. (6-10):

Rajendran belongs to the Irula tribe, one of India's oldest indigenous communities, who live along the north-eastern coast of the state of Tamil Nadu. They are known for their ancient and intimate knowledge of snakes, and their skills form an important but nearly invisible part of the healthcare system in India.

"Many people are scared of snakes." Rajendran said, "But we must remember that the snake is only interested in survival. If we move in agitation, the snake perceives a threat and can strike. If we stand still, however, it will often slither away."

स्वदेशी



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We were at the offices of the Irula Snake Catchers Industrial Co-Operative Society, which was formed in 1978 in Vadanemmel to capture snakes and extract their venom. Nearly 50,000 people die of snakebites each year in the country, and the only reliable treatment is the prompt administration of anti-venom. Six companies across India produce around 1.5 million vials of anti-venom annually, and most of it is derived from the venom extracted by the Irulas.

Rajendran showed us a sunken sandpit enclosed by a low brick wall. A high thatched roof protected the space from the sun, and a small raised platform in the centre of the pit had a simple

Steps



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blackboard with details of the snakes being held in the facility. This was the venom extraction site.

We aren't holding too many snakes right now," he said, pointing to the numerous rows of clay pots, neatly arranged outside thatch structure. Each pot will be half-filled with sand before housing two snakes each, and the mouth of the pot will be carefully sealed with porous cotton cloth so that the snakes can't leave the pot but there is still enough air.

The co-operative has official licences to hold about 800 snakes at a time. "We keep every snake for 21 days. and extract venom four times during that period." Rajendran said. The snakes are



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then released into the wild. A small mark on their belly scales prevents the same snake from being caught repeatedly. "The mark goes away after a few months."

Rajendran's confidence in handling snakes and his deep understanding of these creatures are derived from a childhood spent in the forests and scrublands of the region. Before he turned 10, he had seen hundreds of snakes being captured. The Irulas usually work in silence, even when they go into the forest with others. They instinctively know the significance of faint signs on the ground to either follow clues or dismiss them. However, they often find it hard to articulate the details of their understanding, even to people who study reptiles.



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6. What is the best way to save yourself when a snake is near you?

(1) try to run away

(2) stand still

(3) strike the snake

(4) try to kill the snake



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7. After the ^{जहर} venom has been fully extracted from a snake, what happens to the snake?

जहर निकालना

- (1) it is left in the sand pit
- (2) it is killed
- (3) it is kept in a clay pot
- (4) it is released in the forest



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8. How did Rajendran learn snake catching?

- (1) He learnt it instinctively from his childhood spent in the wild.
- (2) He learned it in the village school.
- (3) He learnt it at the Irula Cooperative Society.
- (4) He learnt it at an anti venom factory.



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9. The main theme of the passage is:

- (1) to inform about the Irula tribe and ^{their} ~~the~~ specialization in snake catching.
- (2) to talk about the importance of snake catching in the area of medicine.
- (3) to talk about the Irula Snake Catchers Industrial Co-Operative Society.
- (4) to tell about Rajendran, the snake catcher.



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10. Which statement is NOT true according to the passage?

(1) Nearly 50000 people die of snake bite in India ✓

(2) Irula's skills form an important part of the healthcare system in India.

(3) The administration of anti-venom is not the only treatment of snake bite.

(4) Most of the anti-venom in India is made from the venom extracted by Irulas.



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1. Keep someone at arm's length

- (a) Restrict someone to a small space to stand**
- (b) Allow someone to talk only from a distance**
- (c) Make someone stay outside**
- (d) Avoid being friendly with someone**



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2. The new electrician is a green horn, but will learn fast.

- (a) Efficient**
- (b) Proficient**
- (c) Professional**
- (d) Inexperienced**



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3. Sticky fingers

- (a) An inclination to steal**
- (b) A habit of licking fingers**
- (c) A tendency to interfere**
- (d) A tendency to forget**



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4. To hold water

- (a) To be valid and reasonable**
- (b) To be unsteady and unsure**
- (c) To be large and deep**
- (d) To be sad and depressed**



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5. Play with fire

- (a) To be courageous**
- (b) To spread knowledge**
- (c) To do something dangerous**
- (d) To fight an opponent**



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6. Blow your own trumpet

- (a) Boast about one's own qualities**
- (b) Keep away the dust from your instruments**
- (c) Practice playing music**
- (d) Play on your instrument**



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7. A snake in the grass

- (a) A sudden death**
- (b) A good fortune**
- (c) A hidden enemy**
- (d) An unfortunate accident**



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8. Smooth sailing

- (a) Easy progress
- (b) Calm weather
- (c) Comfortable place
- (d) Plain dress



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9. On purpose

- (a) Intentionally
- (b) Accidentally
- (c) Luckily
- (d) Mischievously



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10. It was a lavish birthday party and I could see my friend eat like a horse.

- (a) eating excessively**
- (b) eating what horses eat**
- (c) eating differently**
- (d) hardly eating**



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11. Pay heed to

- (a) Repay old debts honestly**
- (b) Listen carefully with attention**
- (c) Give back money with interest**
- (d) Disburse without partiality**



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12. Back out

- (a) To enquire
- (b) To withdrawn
- (c) To throw
- (d) To explode



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13. Have a change of heart

(a) Undergo a surgery

(b) Change one's opinion

(c) Fall in love with someone

(d) Express happiness about something



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14. Hit a brick wall

- (a) Demolish a brick wall**
- (b) Not able to make any progress**
- (c) Use physical force**
- (d) Fight a powerful foe**



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15. To sit on the fence

- (a) Occupy a bench next to a boundary**
- (b) Avoid taking sides**
- (c) Take a high seat**
- (d) Place something on a barrier**