

HOLIDAYS HOMEWORK

GRADE – XI

Great Indian digital divide

1.The revolution in information technology (IT), far from helping India to leapfrog to a post-industrial society, threatens to rupture the social fabric by enriching a few at the cost of many.

2.In a very short time and quite unexpectedly, India has risen to considerable eminence in the world of information technology. This year, software products are expected to account for \$ 5.7 billion in exports and will account for a quarter of the growth in the economy, which is expected to grow nearly seven per cent. Within eight years, predicts a recent study by McKinsey & Co. and the National Association of Software & Service Companies (Nasscom), India's annual IT exports could hit \$ 50 billion about 33 per cent of global software exports. Such a surge is expected to generate 2.2 million jobs—and push our growth rate near the double digits that many East Asian Tigers enjoyed before the 1997 crash.

3.For the rapidly growing middle class, which was desperate to make its presence felt but remained mired in the great Indian outback of the global economy and regretfully watched the industrial revolution pass it by, this is the moment they have been waiting for. When countries like Japan and Germany, the objects of Indian admiration, should come knocking on our doors to solicit our talent to invigorate their industry, it is indeed redemption of sorts. And IT is the cause of it all.

4.The big question is, will IT do an encore for India as a nation, and not just for a wafer thin percentage of IT-literate Indians, mostly the poster boys of the IITs?

5.IT has, as yet, failed to touch the lives of the average citizen and India is nowhere close to being a knowledge economy or society. As per the International Data Corporation (IDC), in a survey of 55 countries, India ranks 54th on its Information Society Index.

6.The fact is, it is a straightforward reflection of the deep inequality of our education system which breeds a few 'geniuses' at the cost of the entire nation. A study by former director of the National Centre for Software Technology, R. Narasimhan, points out that nowhere is the digital divide more glaring than in IT education. The report warns that India's 'obsession' with the software industry and its exports orientation is leading to the churning out of unemployable students on one hand and bright whiz-kids on the other. While the latter are lured away by overseas employers, the former remain unemployable.

7.Narasimhan cautions against the 'hype' associated with the phenomenal growth of India's software industry defying rational explanations and built up into a 'mystique of sort' which

breeds false hopes. India's software industry is a poor employment generator. In the mid-Nineties, some 20,000 people were actively employed in software export services. In contrast, there were three million registered unemployed graduates in the Nineties. While the 'Narasimhan study doesn't mention number of jobs lost due to computerisation, one could comfortably add a million to the number.

A. Answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option:

i. The revolution in IT threatens to break apart the social fabric because.....

- (a) the stocks of software companies have risen at BSE
- (b) it has helped India to rise beyond the industrial society
- (c) it is enriching a few at the cost of many
- (d) it has created a gulf between the rural and urban sector

ii. Growth in export of Indian software products and national economy have been achieved because of.....

- (a) global recession
- (b) liberalised economy
- (c) public private cooperation
- (d) eminence of Information Technology

iii. It is a time of pride for the middle classes in India because.....

- (a) developed industrial nations will require Indian software professionals to invigorate their industry
- (b) they are desperate to make their presence felt
- (c) they have remained stuck in the mud of global economy
- (d) they have regretfully watched the industrial revolution pass by them

iv. The digital divide is clearly visible in IT revolution because.....

- (a) it has improved a lot of average Indian citizen
- (b) it has benefitted only the products of IITs or some IT-literates
- (c) it has made India a knowledge economy or society
- (d) non-IT trained students run the IT institutes

v. Narasimhan's report cautions against 'hype' around IT software industry because

- (a) it is rational
- (b) it breeds false hopes
- (c) all look for foreign assignments
- (d) it attracts even the dullards

vi. The word 'redemption' in para 3 means.....

- (a) recoument
- (b) recumbent
- (c) recovery
- (d) redeeming

B. Answer the following questions in brief:

- vii. Why is the digital divide clearly visible in IT revolution?
- viii. Why is IT not beneficial for average Indians?
- ix. What does Narasimhan's report highlight on IT software industry?
- x. How is it lucrative for the middle classes in India?
- xi. Find the words from the passage which are similar in meaning.
- xii Recovery (para 3)
- xiii Very easily seen (para 6)

The Digital Detox Movement

In an era dominated by screens and constant connectivity, a counter-movement is gaining momentum: the digital detox. This movement encourages individuals to take intentional breaks from their digital devices, aiming to reduce stress, improve mental well-being, and foster real-world connections.

The primary drive behind the digital detox movement is the growing realization of the adverse effects of excessive screen time. Studies have shown that prolonged exposure to screens can disrupt sleep patterns, reduce attention spans, and even contribute to feelings of loneliness and depression. By consciously unplugging, individuals can recalibrate their relationship with technology and rediscover the joys of face-to-face interactions.

However, embracing a digital detox is not without its challenges. In a world where work, social interactions, and even leisure often revolve around digital platforms, disconnecting can feel daunting. There's also the fear of missing out (FOMO) on important updates or news. Yet, with structured breaks and setting clear boundaries, many find the transition to be rejuvenating.

Beyond individual benefits, the digital detox movement has broader societal implications. Schools are introducing tech-free days, companies are promoting device-free meetings, and

retreats are offering unplugged experiences. These initiatives aim to create a balanced digital ecosystem, where technology enhances rather than dominates our lives.

Survey on Digital Detox (Total number of participants: 400)

No.	Survey statements	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree
1	Excessive screen time can lead to mental health issues	230	110	40	10	10
2	Digital detox improves sleep quality	210	130	40	10	10
3	Unplugging from devices is challenging	190	140	50	10	10
4	Schools should have tech-free days	200	120	50	20	10
5	The fear of missing out (FOMO) is a barrier to digital detox	220	110	50	10	10
6	Device-free meetings are more productive	205	120	55	10	10

Questions: II-Read the following case-based passage and answer the given questions-

- i. The digital detox movement encourages individuals to take breaks from their _____.
- ii. One of the adverse effects of excessive screen time is the disruption of _____ patterns.
- iii. Which of the following is a primary reason for the rise of the digital detox movement?

a) Aesthetic appeal b) Economic viability c) Popularity among residents d) Promoting new gadget sales

iv. What can be inferred about the challenges of a digital detox?

a) They are universally easy. b) They are primarily financial. c) They involve the fear of missing out and societal norms. d) They are promoted by tech companies.

v. According to the survey, which statement had the most “Strongly Agree” responses?

a) Statement 1 b) Statement 2 c) Statement 3 d) Statement 4

vi. Why is the digital detox movement considered beneficial for individuals?

vii. Discuss the broader societal implications of the digital detox movement. (Answer in about 40 words)

viii. Elaborate on the challenges individuals face when trying to reduce screen time. (Answer in about 40 words)

POSTER MAKING

Q1. You are the school captain at Holy Heart school, Vasant Nagar Lucknow. Your school is organizing a two-day fete. Prepare a poster for the same, including all essential details.

Q2. You are a member of the social awareness team of your school and you have to participate in an awareness drive regarding the importance of water. Prepare a poster highlighting the importance and ways of rainwater harvesting that can be implemented by the residents of the area.

Reading Activity

Read the Novel – Crush on Hizam Lords by Dev Sharma. Write a synopsis and design the cover page for the same.

REVISION

Revise the syllabus completed.

