Aptitude practice questions for Grade 12 students

I. The following sentences test correctness and effectiveness of expression. Part of each sentence or the entire sentence is underlined; beneath each sentence are five ways of phrasing the underlined material. Choice A repeats the original phrasing; the other four choices are different. If you think the original phrasing produces a better sentence than any of the alternatives, select choice A; if not, select one of the other choices. In making your selection, follow the requirements of standard written English; that is, pay attention to grammar, choice of words, sentence construction, and punctuation. Your selection should result in the most effective sentence-clear and precise, without awkwardness or ambiguity.

1. Laura Ingalls Wilder published her first book and she was sixty-five years old then.
   (A) and she was sixty-five years old then
   (B) when she was sixty-five
   (C) at age sixty-five years old
   (D) upon the reaching of sixty-five years
   (E) at the time when she was sixty-five

2. Black holes are masses of infinitely dense matter that attract and pull in other matter, although white holes are infinite
   sources of mass that continually pour forth matter.
   A. although white holes are infinite sources of mass that continually pour forth matter
   B. while white holes are infinite sources of mass that continually pour forth matter
   C. likewise white holes, which are infinite sources of mass, continually pour forth matter
   D. since those that continually pour forth matter and are infinite sources of mass, white holes
   E. matter that is continually poured forth from an infinite source of mass is called a white hole

II. Each sentence contains either a single error or no error at all. No sentence contains more than one error. The error, if there is one, is underlined and lettered. If the sentence contains an error, select the one underlined part that must be changed to make the sentence correct. If the sentence is correct, select choice E. In choosing answers, follow the requirements of standard written English.

3. Every time I call, the manager who promised to give me a loan, he is either driving nor attending
   A B C D
   a meeting. No error
   E

4. Ever since his promotion to manager last year, John was the hardest-working employee of this
   A B C D
   small and highly industrious company. No error
   E

5. Even though a promotion might be a somewhat easy method for a store to boost sales, they may
A B
C
lead some people to shop irresponsibly. No error
D E

III. Each of the following sentences contains one or two blanks; each blank indicates that a word or set of words has been left out. Below the sentence are five words or phrases, lettered A through E. Select the word or set of words that best completes the sentence.

6. Fame is ----; today's rising star is all too soon tomorrow's washed-up has-been.
(A) rewarding (B) gradual
(C) essential (D) spontaneous
(E) transitory

7. Despite the ---- of the materials with which Tiffany worked, many of his glass masterpieces have survived for more than seventy years.
(A) beauty (B) translucence (C) abundance
(D) majesty (E) fragility

8. Children of the tribe were brought up with one prime --------; namely to -------- their elders and ancestors.
A. policy .. polish
B. errand .. cherish
C. reward .. discourage
D. dictum .. venerate
E. interest .. inculcate

IV. Word Analogy

9. _____ : trail. grain : grail
A. train
B. path
C. wheat
D. holy

10. moisten : _____ ::
cool : freeze
A. water
B. soak
C. oven
D. grow

Answers.

I. 1. B 2. B
II. 3. D (nor => or) 4. C (was=> has been) 5. C(they => it)
III. 6. E 7. E 8. D
IV. 9. A 10. B