



# MISSION IBPS 2024

## English

### TOPIC BOOSTER



### READING COMPREHENSION ( TIPS AND TRICKS WITH QUESTIONS )

 LIVE 10:00 AM





# TIPS

- **Skim the Passage**
- **Focus on Keywords**
- **Take Notes**
- **Avoid Over reading**
- **Predict Answers**
- **Answer Wh-Questions First**



# STRATEGIES

- **Know your purpose**
- **Integrate prior knowledge**
- **Preview the text**
- **Plan to break your reading into manageable chunks**
- **Decide whether and how to read from a screen**



Read the following passage and answer the questions.



Over the past two decades people across the world have seen digital services transform the economy and their lives. Taxis, films, novels, noodles, doctors and dog-walkers can all be summoned with a tap of a screen. Giant firms in retailing, carmaking and the media have been humbled by new competitors. Yet one industry has withstood the tumult: banking. In rich countries it is perfectly normal to queue in branches, correspond with your bank by post and deposit cheques stamped with the logo of firms founded in the 19th century. In Asia payment apps are a way of life for over 1 billion users. In the West mobile banking is reaching critical mass—49% of Americans bank on their phones—and tech giants are muscling in. Apple unveiled a credit card with Goldman Sachs and Facebook is proposing a payments service to let users buy tickets and settle bills.

Banks are so vital that the economy reels when they stumble, as the crisis of 2008-09



showed. Bankers and politicians may thus be tempted to resist technological change. But that would be wrong because its benefits—a leaner, more user-friendly and more open financial system—easily outweigh the risks. Banking is late to the smartphone age because entrepreneurs have been put off by regulations. And, since the financial crisis, Western banks have been preoccupied with repairing their balance-sheets and old-fashioned cost-cutting. Late is better than never, however. Several new business models are emerging. In Asia payment apps are bundled with e-commerce, chat and ride-hailing services offered by firms such as Alibaba and Tencent in China and Grab in South-East Asia. These networks link to banks but are vying to control the customer relationship.

In America and Europe big banks are still more or less in control and are rushing to offer digital products.



But threats loom. Mobile-only neo-banks that do not bear the cost of branches are nibbling at customer bases. Payments firms like PayPal work with Western banks but are expected to capture a greater share of profits. Lucrative niches like foreign exchange and asset management are being harried by new entrants. The pace of change will accelerate. Younger people no longer stay with the same bank as their parents—15% of British 18- to 23-year-olds use a neo-bank. Tech firms that people trust, such as Apple and Amazon, are natural candidates to grow big financial arms. The biggest four American banks are spending a total of over \$25bn a year on perfecting better customer applications and learning to mine data more cleverly. Venture-capital firms invested \$37bn in upstart financial firms last year.

The benefits of technological change are likely to be vast. Costs should tumble as



branches are shut, creaking mainframe systems retired and bureaucracy culled. If the world's listed banks chopped expenses by a third, the savings would be worth \$80 a year for every person on Earth. In 2000 the Netherlands had more bank branches per head than America; it now has just a third as many. The system will get better at its vital job of allocating capital. Richer data will allow banks to take risks that currently baffle underwriters. Fraud should be easier to spot. Lower costs and the democratising effect of social media will give more people better access to finance. And more firms with good ideas should be able to get loans faster, boosting growth. Yet change also poses risks. Because the financial system is embedded in the economy, innovation tends to create turbulence. The credit card's arrival in 1950 revolutionised shopping but also sparked America's consumer-debt culture.





Q1. What is the primary purpose of the author in the first paragraph of the passage?

1. to illustrate the contribution of technology in ensuring access to banking services
2. to illustrate how technology has brought the world together
3. to illustrate how technology has revolutionised the service sector and how the banking sector is next in line for disruption
4. to illustrate the trust that people have in tech companies and how these companies have become too big to fail
5. None of the above



**Q2. Why has the author cited the example of Apple and Facebook in the first paragraph of the passage?**

1. to highlight the growing role of tech companies in the economy
2. to highlight the growing influence of tech companies in the lives of the people
3. to highlight the growing popularity of mobile banking services in the West
4. to highlight the growing need of diversification of tech companies.
5. None of the above



**Q3. How did the 2008 financial crisis impact the banking sector?**

- A. It has made the bankers and politicians cautious because of which they have been resisting technological change.
  - B. Most of the western banks have adopted cost-cutting measures.
  - C. It led to the imposition of regulations which discouraged new ventures
1. Only 1
  2. Only 1 and 2
  3. Only 2 and 3
  4. Only 1 and 3
  5. All 1, 2 and 3



Q4. As per the passage, which of the following statements is TRUE?

- A. Neo-banks have threatened the dominance of big banks in America and Europe.
  - B. Venture capital firms see huge potential in the financial sector.
  - C. Neo banks do not have physical branches
1. Only 1
  2. Only 1 and 2
  3. Only 2 and 3
  4. Only 1 and 3
  5. All 1, 2 and 3



Q5. What would be the advantages of technological change in the banking sector?

1. Decrease in cost of operations, less intervention from bureaucracy
2. More transparency and creation of new job profiles
3. Better returns from investments and better premiums on insurance
4. Greater access to formal credit and lesser interest rates
5. None of the above



RICHARD WRIGHT, the father figure of African American literature, both nurtured and was rejected by his two most conspicuous heirs, Ralph Ellison and James Baldwin.

Wright, who took Ellison under his wing in New York in the late 1930s, told his acolyte to stop copying him, that he was mimicking, not cultivating his own style. Ellison responded that he was trying to learn to write well by imitating his mentor. That was when they were close. Baldwin, too, started out as a pupil and an admirer who saw Wright poised to be the greatest Black writer in the United States.

Though it happened slowly, by 1941, Ellison betrayed signs of feeling that Wright, affiliated off and on with the Communist Party, wrote fiction that was too ideological and not sensitive enough to nuance: Wright wanted to testify to the monstrosities of white supremacy, rather than the power of Black resilience.



Ellison grew committed to the poetry of American democracy, despite how badly it was sullied; he swore by the virtues of individualism. Calling Wright “Poor Richard,” Baldwin joined Ellison in lamenting their mentor’s failure to see the beauty of Black people. The two of them never ceased to love Wright’s prose, but they came to reject his perspective.

I admit I’ve been inclined to share their verdict, based on Wright’s first novel, *Native Son*, published in 1940, which I read again and again in classes before and during college. I’ve parroted the notes I took in lectures, and I’ve taught a version of those lectures myself: Bigger Thomas was a protagonist stripped of any redeeming qualities, so distorted by the conditions of racism that he became an avatar more than a character, and an unsettling representation of Blackness.

My assessment of Wright has begun to shift over the past couple of years. I’ve read *12 Million Black Voices* (1941)—his reflections on the Great Migration,



accompanied by Farm Security Administration photographs taken during the Depression—and been struck by his broad sympathy. And I've reread *Black Boy* (1945), a memoir I hadn't touched since my final year of high school in the Northeast, in a writing seminar led by a teacher born, like me, in Birmingham, Alabama. Wright reached for the very core of the human condition in his portrait of growing up destitute in the Deep South during the early 20th century and then making his way north: abundance everywhere and terrible hunger, tragedy mixed with the quotidian in the most disorienting ways. The experience he evoked might not have been every Black life, but it was indeed a part of Black life. In Mississippi, the land could swallow you whole. In Chicago, a rat might bite you, because after all, you were made to live in slums no different from rattraps. Wright was showing us something true, if not absolute—how, with the plantation breathing at your back and deferred dreams before you, a tragedy happened. Now I'm even more convinced that Wright deserves to be looked at with fresh eyes.





Q1. All of the following statements can be inferred from the passage EXCEPT that:

1. The protagonist, Bigger Thomas, is portrayed as a pessimistic character who is an unsettling reflection of Blackness.
2. Wright grew up extremely poor in the Deep South in the early twentieth century and then moved north.
3. Bigger Thomas, a character devoid of any negative traits, was the protagonist in Wright's first book, Native Son.
4. The author was moved by Wright's broad sympathy after reading his book 12 Million Black Voices.
5. None of these



Q2. Why does the author claim that "In Mississippi, the land could swallow you whole. In Chicago, a rat might bite you, because after all, you were made to live in slums no different from rattraps?"

1. The author was trying to emphasize how blacks faced horrible hunger and disaster, were suppressed, and were denied their dreams.
2. The author was reading lines from Wright's novel 12 Million Black Voices (1941), which was about the Great Migration.
3. The author was referring to Black Protestantism, which provided believers with psychic refuge while still recommending submission to the cruelty of the world.
4. The author was explaining how Wright came across all of the blacks' misery while growing up destitute in the early 21st century.
5. All of the above



Q3. Which of the following statements WEAKENS the author's argument that said:

"RICHARD WRIGHT, the father figure of African American literature, both nurtured and was rejected by his two most conspicuous heirs, Ralph Ellison and James Baldwin"?

1. Ellison and Baldwin both opposed and chastised Wright for his intermittent affiliation with the Communist Party.
2. Ellison was attempting to learn to write well by imitating Wright, and Baldwin, too, respected Wright, who was on the verge of becoming the greatest Black writer in the United States.
3. Ellison and Baldwin criticized Wright's viewpoint, claiming that he failed to acknowledge the beauty of Black people.
4. Ellison and Baldwin chastised Wright for his insistence on dramatising inevitability of subjugation and saw Wright as submitting to Black supremacy.
5. All except 3



Q4. Which of the following best represents the author's change of opinions about Richard Wright?

1. Ideological and non sensitive works of Wright, American democracy, virtues of individualism
2. Wright's first novel, Native Son, Wright's reflections on the Great Migration, Black Boy (1945)
3. Black resilience, virtues of individualism, 12 Million Black Voices
4. Communist Party, fiction, ideological and non sensitive works
5. All of the above



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**THANK  
YOU**