

Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80.

(20 marks)

Young and bouncy, Bette Graham had a dream of becoming an artist. However, before she could realise her dream, she fell in love and became a mother. Not long after, World War II broke out. Like many other young men, Bette's husband, though reluctant to leave his wife and child, was forced to take up arms. By the time the war was over, love had gone too. Bette's husband never came back. Here she was, a single mother without a proper education and no time and money to follow her dream. Necessity forced Bette to take up a job as an executive secretary. It was the late forties and in those days, typewriters did not have delete buttons. Error after error would appear on the documents she was typing. Bette was losing time and nerves. 5 10

One day, it struck her that painters have a great life. If they are not happy with their painting, they just paint over the spot they dislike and they are right back on track. She went home and started experimenting with tempera colours, mixing different shades until she finally created a colour that perfectly matched the colour of the stationery. The next day, Bette was happily typing away, correcting every error with the help of her concoction. It was a breeze! Her work was easier and she became more effective. It did not take long for the rest of the secretaries to see how effective her system was. They started asking her for some of the stuff she was using. Bette obliged and handed out bottles labelled, 'Mistake Out'. 15 20

Word spread fast! Here was this 'magic liquid' that made work so much easier. Soon, the orders for her special concoction started mounting. By 1966, Bette founded the Mistake Out Co. in Dallas, Texas. It was a simple operation. She mixed her concoction in kitchen blenders while her son and his friends did the bottling. She worked day and night and even on weekends, but somehow the business did not seem to be able to grow. The extreme workload took its toll and Bette's health suffered. Her attention at work was not always totally focused. Then something happened. She made a mistake at work that was seen as irredeemable and she got fired! No amount of pleading could make her employer change his mind. 25 30

The magic moment had happened! Bette had been frantically holding on to her job, accepting a mediocre income even though a huge opportunity was staring her right in the face. Losing her job meant more time for her: time to sell her product and expand her fledgling company. By 1967, she hit a million dollars turnover and when she sold her Liquid Paper Company in 1980, she got US\$47.5 million for it. 35

71. What was Bette Graham's ambition?

71. What was Bette Graham's ambition?
---------------------------------------

72. Which phrase has the same meaning as "go to war"?

72. Which phrase has the same meaning as "go to war"?
---

73. Did Bette fulfil her ambition? Why?

Did Bette fulfil her ambition?	
Give two reasons explaining your answer.	

74. Why was Bette 'losing time and nerves' at work?

74. Why was Bette 'losing time and nerves' at work?
---

75. List two actions taken by Bette to create "Mistake Out".

1.	
2.	

76. When did Bette's work become more efficient and easier?

77. Why did Bette think that painters have a great life?

78. Why was Bette holding on to her job even though the salary was low?

79. Why was Bette given the sack?

80. Find the words in the passage that have the same meaning as the following words.

a) Begging

b) Mixture

End of Practice Paper 4