

Reading Comprehension

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- ❑ Why Reading Comprehension passages are given maximum weightage in the English section
- ❑ How to answer different types of question on RC and understand the technique required
- ❑ How to read better and avoid inadequate ways of reading

WHAT IS READING COMPREHENSION?

Reading comprehension section in the CAT is the advanced version of the reading comprehension asked in schools. Historically, the passages in the CAT have ranged from 350-1300 words, followed by a set of few questions. The passages are drawn from areas like Pure Sciences, Social Sciences, Medicine, Art, Literature, Technology, etc. A student is supposed to answer the questions in light of the information given in the passage within the stipulated time. The ability of the student to make sense of the information and ideas presented in the passage is put to test through questions with multiple choice answers. More specifically, a person's ability to understand standard written English, analyse complex ideas, and ability to draw inferences from the written material is put to test.

The significance of Reading Comprehension, commonly known as RC, can be gauged from the fact that almost half the questions in the Verbal Section are based on Reading Comprehension. Many students find RC to be tough and challenging, but with consistent practice and patience, the art of Reading Comprehension can be mastered.

WHY IS READING COMPREHENSION ASKED?

RC is the most important and wide question type of the English section of the CAT and other B-school entrance tests. RC section helps examiners in assessing the expertise of one in understanding the language. Besides, RC also checks how

well a person understands someone else's (the author's) view point, his preferences and prejudices.

1. Reading Comprehension is integral to success in the CAT.

Reading is important not only for RC, but also for English usage area, especially in the Critical Reasoning or Fact Inference Journalism (FIJ) or Sentence arrangement questions, and LR/DI section. Having a good reading habit will make more time available for solving the problem.

2. Reading is essential to do well in a B-school.

Life in a B-school demands extensive reading and research for case studies, presentations, and business projects. Today's global manager has to keep pace with the latest happenings in the corporate world, political changes in the country and the world, and changing preferences of the customer. Therefore, newspapers, journals and business magazines form the staple diet of a wannabe professional.

3. Reading helps in getting ahead in career.

Recent researchers have tried to analyse the reading habits of adults working in different organizations at different levels of management hierarchy. One such research finds that people at the higher levels have more positive attitudes toward reading and spend more time in reading. It gives us an idea that reading helps probably because a well-read person will have viewpoints and knowledge about diversified fields in his/her occupation that may lead to faster growth.

Source: <http://www.eric.ed.gov> (sponsored by US Dept of Education)

Breaking the Ice with RC and English Usage

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions on the basis of the information supplied by the passage.

With Barack Obama taking oath yesterday as America's 44th and first African-American president, the United States turned a page and closed a chapter. Obama's spectacular success story is packed with poignant, and powerful, symbolism. If he accepted the Democratic nomination last August on the anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr's 'I Have a Dream' speech, his inauguration follows the American holiday in memory of King. It is the culmination of an extraordinary story and a new beginning. Obama rode on a ticket for change. A country left bitter, fearful and divided by eight years of George W Bush's presidency, welcomed him with relief and expectation. The world, which had viewed America with growing alarm during these years, tuned in to Obama as well. He represented hope that America would manage its own house responsibly and favour consensus and cooperation while dealing with the world. But as enormous as his moment in the history are the challenges that Obama will face from day one.

Undoubtedly, the gloomy economy will consume much of the new president's energies and he has so far shown signs of clear thinking on how to get America up on its feet again. Equally tough are the assortment of challenges that will present themselves on Obama's foreign policy plate. One war needs to be wound down responsibly while America's attention has to shift to the real battleground in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Obama cannot afford to engage Pakistan only to tackle al-Qaeda and the Taliban. To continue the world's war against terror, he will have to pursue the other extremist outfits like Lashkar-e-Taiba and its front organizations which export violence from that country. They have had a generally free run despite Pakistan's claims to the contrary. For the sake of the world's security, Obama must press Islamabad to clamp down on these groups and close down their bases, something that the Bush administration failed to do for most of its run. And then there is the Middle East mess. Trying to achieve a degree of resolution there will require fresh commitment and thinking from Washington. It is evident that Obama will have to hit the ground running. There are soaring expectations which cannot be all fulfilled. But he has a good base of credibility to start from. Opinion polls show he enjoys close to 80 per cent approval ratings as he picks up the keys to the White House and that the American people across political divides, are willing to give him a chance and their time. His commitment to consultative governance while being firmly in charge, and the A-list team he has picked, would hopefully serve America and the world well. Obama's inauguration party which has seen millions of Americans pour onto the streets to have a blast is a fine celebration of democratic ideals and values. Democracy's enabling promises are why Americans and those who share similar values elsewhere are raising a toast as they welcome President Barack Hussein Obama.

- Q.1** What does the author want to convey from the statement: 'But as enormous as his moment in history are the challenges Obama will face from day one'?
- (a) His ascent heralds a significant change but it also poses many daunting tasks ahead.
 - (b) The challenges in front of Obama are insignificant in comparison to his heroic stature.
 - (c) This the biggest moment in the history of the US, but also marks the beginning of Obama's onerous journey.
 - (d) Obama shall face the toughest challenges in the first phase of his presidency.
- Q.2** What can be inferred about the policies of Obama's predecessor?
- (a) His policies had less room for consensus and cooperation in world affairs.
 - (b) His policies lacked clear thinking on how to get America upon its feet.
 - (c) Pakistan was not engaged to tackle al-Qaeda and the Taliban.
 - (d) He showed lack of commitment to tackle the Middle East crisis.
- Q.3** According to the passage, Obama is likely to face all the following major challenges except:
- (a) To wind up the unresolved war.
 - (b) To improve the gloomy economic situation.
 - (c) To find a solution to the Middle East crisis.
 - (d) To get the complete support of the White House and the American people push his plans ahead.

Answers and Explanations

1. The passage conveys that the change is remarkable but also throws new challenges ahead, hence, option ((a)) The other options talk about something which is nowhere given or indicated in the passage.
2. It can be inferred from the second paragraph fourth line 'He represented hope that dealing with the world,' hence, option (a) is the answer.
3. The passage talks about 80 per cent approval ratings as he picks up the keys to the White House and that the American people across political divides', therefore 'to get the support of people' is not a challenge for him, so option (d) is the answer.

How to Acquire Mastery over Reading Comprehension?

Knowing the weightage given to RC in the verbal section across the range of B-school entrance tests, a student is hardly left with any choice but to attempt at least a few passages.

In order to master the RC section, there are facts that a test-taker needs to know, prior to taking a test. These include:

Does Speed Matter?

Looking at the pattern of last few CAT papers in its online format, average length of a passage has hovered around 700–800 words per passage including questions. Assuming that a student solves all 3 passages in 25 minutes time, this leads to going through 2400 words (on an average) in 25 minutes and 96 words per minute.

However, if a student goes through only two passages, then s/he will be going through only 1600 words in 25 minutes & 64 words per minute. This is sufficient to get a good percentile if you attempt similar number of questions in LR and other English Usage questions.

Having said this, I strongly suggest pushing the limits and increasing the comprehension speed as much as possible, however not at the cost of accuracy.

Its more about Comprehension than Reading

There are two types of reading—reading with the eyes and reading with the brain.

Reading for RC is different from general reading where we read either to get some specific piece of information or we read at ease to relax or unwind ourselves after a long tiring day, and it may just be reading with the eyes But for the competitive examinations we need to read with our brain because the purpose is different. And there comes the comprehension part. We read to find out the main idea of the passage and be accurate in answering the question, which even drains the physical energy. We read with sole objective to maximize our score, within a limited framework of time.

A practical suggestion can be given as to develop the habit of reading books of different genre, and developing a taste for intellectual debate and exploration. This can go a long way to develop the complete personality of the reader besides increasing the level of comfort in the RC section.

So, now what we focus upon is not reading speed but Comprehension speed.

Practice is the Key

Solving RC practice exercises regularly helps to develop confidence and gives an exposure to the nuances of RC. An aspirant is suggested to find out the main idea of the articles in the editorial section of the newspapers, so that identifying the main idea comes naturally to a student as it is integral to answering questions in CAT especially inferential ones.

And Finally, Analyse the Exercises Done

The work does not finish after solving the exercise. Analysing a test after solving is more important than students generally may think it to be. Analysis not only tells us where we went wrong and why we went wrong but also how those mistakes are to be avoided thence.

How to Increase your Reading Speed?

We have already discussed that with a decent speed of 80-100 words per minute only, RC can be managed for CAT, although importance of improving the reading speed (or for that matter improving anything else too) cannot be denied.

Generally, we read slowly because we believe that if we read slowly we will understand the things better. On the other hand, reading slowly leads to loss of concentration as our mind gets easily distracted, which leads to loss of interest, which further lowers down the reading speed.

It is important to understand how we read. Generally we read one to two words at a glance, pause for a fraction of a second and move to the other chunk of words. If we can train our eyes to read more number of words in a glance, our reading speed can increase manifold. With consistent practice, it may be possible to read the lines of a newspaper column in a single glance.

While reading a piece of text, we have tendency to move back, cross check and re-read the things which we have already read. Generally, this happens because of lack of interest, complex vocabulary, or poor retention of the reader. This is known as regression or skip back. The habit of regression has to be minimized if not eliminated. Pausing once in a while to figure out the contextual meaning of words, however, is not regression.

Regression is a big time killer. It breaks the flow of thought, and leads to poor concentration, which leads to more regressions, which further lowers down the reading speed. Thus regression makes reading a slow and tiresome process. The best way to eliminate regression is to move a pen or pencil smoothly under the text and make your eyes follow the text. This is a great way to train oneself to read faster.

Some of us move our lips while reading. We tend to mumble the words audibly or inaudibly. The habit of sounding out words while reading is known as *vocalization*. The habit has its roots in our childhood when we were asked by our teachers in school to read aloud. Even at our homes, our mother would ask us to read aloud, when she used to be busy with the house chores. You could focus on the text (as there was no choice!), but how much of that could you understand? The problem with vocalization is it limits our reading speed, although it may help the reader to fix his mind on the subject matter.

Please note that as you experiment with these speed enhancement techniques, your comprehension will dip initially. Your mind may revolt, as many of us have been regressing and vocalizing throughout our school and college life. With a firm faith to improve reading effectiveness, coupled with consistent practice you can increase your reading speed manifold.

Instructions

Move your pen/pencil under the line of text uniformly and let your eyes follow the movement of the pacer (pen/pencil) and answer the following questions with Yes or No.

Is Muntazer al-Zaidi, the Iraqi who hurled his Number 10 footwear at George W Bush during a press conference in Baghdad, a hero or a heel, in more ways than one? Opinion is sharply divided on this. On the one hand or rather, foot there are those who feel that al-Zaidi's behaviour was totally unacceptable, breaching as it did the code of conduct for journalists who as opinion formers must stick to rules of parliamentary conduct in their professional lives. Conversely, the footloose, or shoeloose, journo has been hailed as a champion by all those and there are many of them who feel that his was a robust and deserved retort-in-kind to Bush's jackbooted militarist policy in Afghanistan, Iraq itself, and elsewhere.

The Baghdad authorities have taken a dim view of the episode and al-Zaidi who has in a letter to the Iraqi Prime Minister pleading for clemency described his no-soles-barred attack as an "ugly act" could face two years imprisonment for his outburst. However, an enthralled Egyptian father has offered his daughter's hand in marriage to the feisty al-Zaidi, saying that he had nothing more valuable than his girl child to offer the barefoot guerrilla. Another admirer, a Saudi tycoon, had offered to buy the famous footwear for \$10 million. Unfortunately, the sale could not take place as an embarrassed Iraqi officialdom had consigned the items in question to an incinerator.

While the jury remains out on whether al-Zaidi should eventually end up in the hall of fame or that of infamy, protocol officers and event managers of politicians and other public figures should put on their thinking caps to figure out ways and means to avoid or at least to minimize the impact of such incidents in future. All public rites and rituals marriages, funerals, birthday parties, press conferences are organized according to commonly accepted codes of behaviour. It is high time that the ritual of public protest so vital to democracy and the concept of a free society should have its own guide book of dos and do not; we need an etiquette of demonstrative dissent.

In this exercise, we might like to take a tip from the would-be novelist who, before a public reading of his latest work, went to the market and bought quantities of eggs and tomatoes which he distributed among the audience, explaining that if he were to be pelted for deficiencies in his prose he would prefer the missiles to be fresh and not old and foul-smelling. This would appear to be an eminently civilised way of ordering such encounters: the protester would have the satisfaction of lodging, or lobbying, his protest, and the protestee the person being protested against would have the option of choosing the ammunition of the protester. In this way, both parties could claim satisfaction.

In the al-Zaidi-Bush case, such mutual gratification cannot be ruled out. While in the Arab world, and indeed in the Indian subcontinent, footwear with its unclean,

animal skin associations is considered a particularly offensive projectile to have hurled at oneself, in the rawhide Texan context of 10-gallon hats and cowboy boots that the exiting US president hails from, similar qualms of ritual pollution need not apply.

In Islamic and Indian traditions, footwear is removed before entering places of worship or even private houses. No such practice applies in the West, particularly in the fabled Wild West of which Dubya is in some ways an embodiment in which it was deemed an honour to have 'died with one's boots on'. Indeed, having ducked in time, the president did not seem particularly fazed by being targeted by *jootis*, and later remarked that he must think up some good shoe jokes for future reference. Sound advice to all those who need to go public. Think of some good shoe jokes. Or good whatever-it-is-you-would-like-thrown-at-you jokes. And lay in stocks of your preferred tokens of protest to give to those who would protest against you. Eggs, tomatoes, chappals; the choice is yours.

- Q.1** Baghdad authorities have welcomed al-Zaidi's act. Yes/No
- Q.2** The shoe which was hurled was 9 in number. Yes/No
- Q.3** In Texas footwear is considered an offensive projectile. Yes/No
- Q.4** In Islamic tradition, footwear is removed before entering private houses. Yes/No
- Q.5** A Saudi tycoon bought the famous footwear for \$10 million. Yes/No

Answers and Explanations

1. No, the passage authorities have taken a dim view of the episode.
2. No, it was 10 in number.
3. No, the passage says that it's a part of the Texan culture where cowboys don leather apparel.
4. Yes, given in the second last paragraph.
5. No, Saudi tycoon had only offered to buy the famous footwear, and the sale did not take place.

DIFFERENT CATEGORIES OF RC PASSAGES

The reading passages in CAT and other B-school entrance tests are from different subject areas like History, Philosophy, Literature, Economics, etc. On the basis of the subject matter, RCs can be broadly classified into different genre viz., Literature, Religion and Philosophy, Economics and Business, Psychology, Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, etc.

A passage from Sociology, Arts, or Philosophy can discombobulate a student from science background, and disturb the momentum of the entire paper.

Although the average length of passages has gone down significantly over the years to as low as 500-600 words, the subject matter can be quite unfamiliar and unfriendly to an average test taker. The primary reason behind this discomfort is that students are seldom comfortable with the vocabulary and concepts used in these subject areas.

Therefore, a serious aspirant must thoroughly read newspaper editorials, magazine articles and books from different areas which offer new ideas and challenging vocabulary. Expose yourself to new concepts and ideas through online glossaries and encyclopedia.

The idea is to develop a basic framework of knowledge so that the reader becomes comfortable with different branches of knowledge. This can greatly reduce the shock factor one faces while confronting the abstract passages in the test paper.

Let's take a few sample passages from different disciplines. Be patient and keep your mind open to learning. Try to make sense of what the passage talks about, what the author is trying to convey.

Passage 1

Physical Science

A large part of the North Polar Region the Arctic, Alaska and Greenland has lost over two trillion tonnes of ice over the last five years, according to scientists interpreting new data obtained from a NASA satellite. What is alarming is that the melt figure refers to depletion of landlocked ice, and more than half the loss is in Greenland, contributing to half a millimeter of sea level rise annually. The total ice melt from the entire region has led to sea levels rising by one-fifth of an inch in five years. Add to this, the Arctic Amplification Effect. The increase in the volume of Arctic waters absorbs more heat in the absence of sunlight-reflecting white ice which warms the oceans even more in summer. In autumn, the heat is released into the air, leading to rise in air temperatures, up to 10 degrees warmer now than recorded in the 1980s.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change fourth assessment report warned last year that if the current rate of emissions continues unabated, the world could reach a tipping point by 2050. Among other dire consequences, this would seriously impact the availability of drinking water, especially in Asia, Africa and Small Island Developing States.

James Hansen, director of NASA's Goddard Institute of Space Studies, says that the IPCC's estimates are conservative and the information outdated. New data reveal a situation that is far worse, calling for a 'Climate Code Red'. In other words, it's a planetary emergency. The December 2008 UN climate change conference in Poznan, Poland, did not reflect this urgency. Neither specifics nor timelines for curbing emissions were agreed upon that would help formulate a global plan of action at the Copenhagen December 2009 summit to fireproof climate change.

The year 2008 could be the tenth warmest year on record, according to the UN Meteorological Agency. Tackling the problem together ought to get top priority rather than assignment of blame, since emissions and their effects know no borders. The answer lies in sharing of clean technology and stepping up research and development efforts in alternative and renewable energy options despite cheaper oil. Industrialized countries should release the promised 2 per cent from carbon trade profits to the UN Adaptation Fund to help developing countries cope with the effects of climate change. India is among the hot spots identified by the UN for extreme weather events. Its National Action Plan on Climate Change shows India is taking the problem seriously. But this might be insufficient without a global plan.

Explanation

The passage begins with the alarming fact that the North Polar Region has lost over two trillion tonnes of ice over the last five years. The melting ice leads to rising sea levels. The increased water volumes absorb more heat and release it into the air, leading to rise in air temperature, which causes global warming. The recent IPCC report says that if the current rate of emissions goes unchecked the world could reach a tipping point by 2050.

James Hansen, director of NASA's Goddard Institute of Space Studies believes that the situation is even bleaker. The answer lies in sharing of clean technology and stepping up research and development efforts in alternative and renewable energy options. Industrialized countries should part with some of their carbon trade profits to help the developing countries cope with the effects of climate change.

Passage 2

Politics/Government

The closing decades of the last century saw substantial off-loading of responsibilities by national governments to those below both in the US and Canada. It would appear there is, what Kincaid (2002) calls a "federalist ferment" across the world. The ferment notwithstanding, federalism is facing challenges from several directions. First of all, the intellectual case for decentralization and federalism has come under some critical reappraisal. Even some of the key assertions regarding the virtues of decentralization and the assumptions underlying them have been challenged. Attention has been drawn to the possibility of decentralization failures and the merits of strong nationhood as a check against centrifugal forces gaining ascendancy and subverting the integrity of nations.

What is more, the very forces that led to the fall of oppressive statism and provided the impetus for decentralization, viz., globalization and the demise of statism, are now posing a threat to the sovereignty of nation states—their life blood—and along with them that of their constituent units with implications that are yet to unfold. Despite the moves towards decentralization and more room for junior gov-

ernments in established federations, viz., the US, Canada and Australia, the signals are mixed. Federal government still accounts for 60 per cent of government expenditure in the US. Things have not changed much in Canada either.

In Australia, the trend, if any, is towards even more centralization. Some of the decentralized federal countries like Brazil are “recentralizing”. Globalization has generated pressures for reform in the economic and political organisation and thereby intergovernmental relations of all developing countries. There are forces pulling in opposite directions, tending to centralize functions envisaged by second tier governments, like states in India, and decentralize some to tiers further down citing “subsidiarity”.

The choice of the federal form for the US constitution that presaged the emergence of the federal idea across the world was motivated largely by the anxiety to have a central government that can act decisively when required unlike in a confederation, but with effective checks and balances by dividing powers between the federal government and the states.

What accounts for the current federalist ferment despite warnings about its risks and inefficiencies are basically two fold. One is the economic benefits of efficiency in the organisation and functioning of the public sector from decentralization 1—now encapsulated by the principle of “subsidiarity” in the EU’s Maastricht treaty—combined with the gains from the operation of a large common market. The other is commitment to diversity rather than homogeneity. And this is particularly relevant for a diverse country like India. There is also the strength that comes from unity, the ability to face calamities like the tsunami and threats to security like external aggression or terrorism.

Explanation

Federalism faces difficult challenges in the era of globalization, since the latter has generated pressures for reform in economic and political organizations and thereby in inter-governmental relations of all developing countries as well. There are forces in inter-governmental relations pulling in opposite directions, some tending to centralize functions of second tier governments, such as of the states in India, and others moving to decentralise to tiers further down, citing “subsidiarity”.

Passage 3

Philosophy/Religion

When I was a fairly precocious young man, I became thoroughly impressed with the futility of the hopes and strivings that chase most men restlessly through life. Moreover, I soon discovered the cruelty of that chase, which in those years was much more carefully covered up by hypocrisy and glittering words than is the case today. By the mere existence

of his stomach everyone was condemned to participate in that chase. The stomach might well be satisfied by such participation, but not man insofar as he is a thinking and feeling being.

As the first way out there was *religion*, which is implanted into every child by way of the traditional education-machine. Thus I came—though the child of entirely irreligious (Jewish) parents—to a deep religiousness, which, however, reached an abrupt end at the age of twelve. Through the reading of popular scientific books I soon reached the conviction that much in the stories of the Bible could not be true. The consequence was a positively fanatic orgy of freethinking coupled with the impression that youth is intentionally being deceived by the state through lies; it was a crushing impression. Mistrust of every kind of authority grew out of this experience, a skeptical attitude toward the convictions that were alive in any specific social environment—an attitude that has never again left me, even though, later on, it has been tempered by a better insight into the causal connections.

It is quite clear to me that the religious paradise of youth, which was thus lost, was a first attempt to free myself from the chains of the “merely personal,” from an existence dominated by wishes, hopes, and primitive feelings. Out yonder there was this huge world, which exists independently of us human beings and which stands before us like a great, eternal riddle, at least partially accessible to our inspection and thinking. The contemplation of this world beckoned as a liberation, and I soon noticed that many a man whom I had learned to esteem and to admire had found inner freedom and security in its pursuit.

The mental grasp of this extra-personal world within the frame of our capabilities presented itself to my mind, half consciously, half unconsciously, as a supreme goal. Similarly, motivated men of the present and of the past, as well as the insights they had achieved, were the friends who could not be lost. The road to this paradise was not as comfortable and alluring as the road to the religious paradise; but it has shown itself reliable, and I have never regretted having chosen it.

Explanation

This is a selection from an essay written by the great scientist Albert Einstein. The author says that most people chase material comforts throughout their lives, but it does not satisfy the thinking and feeling people like him. He believes that the traditional education ‘machine’ is rigid and mechanical. It dumbs down a person and limits one’s freethinking.

The author wants to free himself from the chain of merely personal to something bigger and universal, something which can give inner freedom and security. He sums up his argument by saying that path of religion offers many shortcuts and comfortable solutions but the quest for truth is riddled with many challenges.

Passage 4

Economics

China's lunar New Year sees the world's largest migration, as tens of millions of workers flock home. Deserting for a few days the factories that make the goods that fill the world's shops, they surge back to their native villages. This week, however, as they feasted to the deafening rattle of the firecrackers lit to greet the Year of the Ox, their celebrations had an anxious tinge. Many will not have jobs to go back to.

China's breakneck growth has stalled. The rest of East Asia, too, which had hoped that it was somehow "decoupled" from the economic trauma of the West, has found itself hit as hard as anywhere in the world—and in some cases harder. The temptation is to see this as a plague visited on the region from outside, which its governments are powerless to resist or cure. In truth, their policy errors have played their part in the downturn, so the remedies are partly in their hands.

The scale and speed of that downturn is breathtaking and broader in scope than in the financial crisis of 1997-98. China's GDP, which expanded by 13 per cent in 2007, scarcely grew at all in the last quarter of 2008 on a seasonally adjusted basis. In the same quarter, Japan's GDP is estimated to have fallen at an annualized rate of 10 per cent, Singapore's at 17 per cent and South Korea's at 21 per cent. Industrial-production numbers have fallen even more dramatically, plummeting in Taiwan, for example, by 32 per cent in the year to December.

The immediate causes are plain enough: destocking on a huge scale and a collapse in exports. Even in China, exports are spluttering, down by 2.8 per cent in December compared with the previous year. That month Japan's fell by 35 per cent and Singapore's by 20 per cent. Falls in imports are often even starker: China's were down by 21 per cent in December; Vietnam's by 45 per cent in January. Some had suggested that soaring intra-regional trade would protect Asia against a downturn in the West. But that's not happening, because trade within Asia is part of a globalized supply chain which is ultimately linked to demand in the rich world.

Some Asians are blaming the West. The Western consensus in favour of globalization lured them, they say, into opening their economies and pursuing export-led growth to satisfy the bottomless pit of Western consumer demand. They have been betrayed. Western financial incompetence has trashed the value of their investments and consumer demand has dried up. This explanation, which absolves Asian governments of responsibility for economic suffering, has an obvious appeal across the region.

Awakwardly, however, it tells only one part of the story. Most of the slowdown in regional economic growth so far stems not from a fall in net exports but from weaker domestic demand. Even in China, the region's top exporter, imports are falling faster than exports.

Domestic demand has been weak not just because of the gloomy global outlook, but also because of government policies. After the crisis a decade ago, many countries fixed their broken financial systems, but left their econo-

mies skewed towards exports. Savings remained high and domestic consumption was suppressed. Partly out of fright at the balance-of-payments pressures faced then, countries have run large trade surpluses and built up huge foreign-exchange reserves. Thus the savings of poor Asian farmers have financed the habits of spendthrift Westerners.

That's not at all bad. One consequence is that Asian governments have plenty of scope for boosting domestic demand and thus spurring economic recovery. China, in particular, has the wherewithal to make good on its promises of massive economic stimulus. A big public-works programme is the way to go, because it needs the investment anyway. When Japan spent heavily on infrastructure to boost its economy in the early 1990s, much of the money was wasted, because it was not short of the stuff. China, by contrast, could still do with more and better bridges, roads and railways.

Yet, infrastructure spending alone is not a long-term solution. This sort of stimulus will sooner or later become unaffordable, and growth based on it will run out of steam. To get onto a sustainable long-term growth path—and to help pull the rest of the world out of recession—Asia's economies need to become less dependent on exports in other ways.

Asian governments must introduce structural reforms that encourage people to spend and reduce the need for them to save. In China, farmers must be given reliable title to their land so that they can borrow money against it or sell it. In many countries, including China, governments need to establish safety-nets that ease worries about the cost of children's education and of health care. And across Asia, economies need to shift away from increasingly capital-intensive manufacturing towards labour-intensive services, so that a bigger share of national income goes to households.

For Asian governments trying to fix their countries problems, the temptation is to reach for familiar tools—mercantilist currency policies to boost exports. But the region's leaders seem to realise that a round of competitive devaluation will help no one. China has responded to American accusations of currency "manipulation" by denying it has any intention of devaluing the Yuan to boost exports. Structural reforms to boost demand would not only help cushion the blow to Asia's poor and thus help avert an explosion of social unrest that governments such as China's fear; they would also help counter the relentless rise in protectionist pressure in the West.

If emerging Asia needs a warning of the dangers of relying on exports, it need look no further than Japan. Japan's decade-long stagnation ended in 2002, thanks to a boom in exports, especially to China. Now, largely because of its failure to tackle the root causes of weak domestic demand, it is taking more of an economic hiding than any other rich country. Japan used to see itself as the lead goose in a regional flight formation, showing the way to export-led prosperity. It is time for the other geese to break ranks.

Explanation

The article begins with a hint of irony that tens of millions of Chinese workers have been rendered jobless due to the economic recession amidst the backdrop of New

Year celebrations. Many people believe that the economic crisis occurred because the Western countries lured the Asian countries into opening their economies and pursuing export-led growth. However, most of the slowdown in regional economic growth so far stems not from a fall in net exports but from weaker domestic demand. The domestic demand has been weak not just because of the gloomy global outlook, but also because of government policies, which left their economies skewed towards exports; The savings remained high and domestic consumption was suppressed. But there is a silver lining too. There is a scope for boosting domestic demand and spend heavily on infrastructure. Asia's economies need to become less dependent on exports by introducing structural reforms that encourage people to spend and reduce the need for them to save. Moreover, the Asian economies need to shift away from increasingly capital-intensive manufacturing towards labour-intensive services.

Passage 5

Literature

He that hath wife and children hath given hostages to fortune; for they are impediments to great enterprises, either of virtue or mischief. Certainly the best works, and of greatest merit for the public, have proceeded from the unmarried or childless men; which both in affection and means, have married and endowed the public. Yet it were great reason that those that have children, should have greatest care of future times; unto which they know they must transmit their dearest pledges. Some there are, who though they lead a single life, yet their thoughts do end with themselves, and account future times impertinences.

Nay, there are some other, that account wife and children, but as bills of charges. Nay more, there are some foolish rich covetous men that take a pride, in having no children, because they may be thought so much the richer. For perhaps they have heard some talk, Such an one is a great rich man, and another except to it, Yea, but he hath a great charge of children; as if it were an abatement to his riches. But the most ordinary cause of a single life, is liberty, especially in certain self-pleasing and humorous minds, which are so sensible of every restraint, as they will go near to think their girdles and garters, to be bonds and shackles.

Unmarried men are best friends, best masters, best servants; but not always best subjects; for they are light to run away; and almost all fugitives, are of that condition. A single life doth well with churchmen; for charity will hardly water the ground, where it must first fill a pool. It is indifferent for judges and magistrates; for if they be facile and corrupt, you shall have a servant, five times worse than a wife. For soldiers, I find the generals commonly in their hortatives, put men in mind of their wives and children; and I think the despising of marriage amongst the Turks, maketh the vulgar soldier more base.

Certainly, wife and children are a kind of discipline of humanity; and single men, though they may be many times more charitable, because their means are less

exhaust, yet, on the other side, they are more cruel and hardhearted (good to make severe inquisitors), because their tenderness is not so oft called upon. Grave natures, led by custom, and therefore constant, are commonly loving husbands, as was said of Ulysses, vetulam suam praetulit immortalitati.

Chaste women are often proud and forward, as presuming upon the merit of their chastity. It is one of the best bonds, both of chastity and obedience, in the wife, if she think her husband wise; which she will never do, if she find him jealous. Wives are young men's mistresses; companions for middle age; and old men's nurses. So as a man may have a quarrel to marry, when he will. But yet he was reputed one of the wise men, that made answer to the question, when a man should marry, A young man not yet, an elder man not at all.

It is often seen that bad husbands, have very good wives; whether it be, that it raiseth the price of their husband's kindness, when it comes; or that the wives take a pride in their patience. But this never fails, if the bad husbands were of their own choosing, against their friends' consent; for then they will be sure to make good their own folly.

Explanation

This is one of the most famous essays written by Francis Bacon, noted English philosopher, statesman, scientist, lawyer, jurist, and author titled '*Marriage and Single Life*'. In this essay, he uses witty language to compare the merits and demerits of married life with that of single life. It begins on a cynical note that marrying is a hindrance to any great enterprise. The unmarried or childless people have done the greatest things. The essence of single life is liberty, especially for self-pleasing and humorous minds. Marriage makes a person more disciplined and humane. Although single men are quite charitable they are more cruel and hardhearted. It includes one of the most popular quotes of Bacon, 'Wives are young men's mistresses; companions for middle age; and old men's nurses'.

UNDERSTANDING THE STYLE AND TONE OF THE PASSAGE

Different writers adopt different ways to present their ideas, and even while using the similar writing techniques the author may reflect a different outlook, his way of looking at things. Therefore, to develop a better understanding of the text that is critical to answering questions in the CAT, it is important to understand the style and tone of the passage.

The style of the passage refers to how the ideas have been presented. It is the technique used by the author to convey his/her ideas. The style of writing depends on a variety of factors like the choice of words, clarity and accuracy of expression, sentence length, variety and structure, lucidity or complexity of language used.

Writing Styles

1. The author could use a *narrative style* in which things move like a story with a definite beginning, middle and end. It is characterized by a personal touch to the description of events.

2. *Descriptive style* of writing reports the details of a person, place, thing or event. It is more like a news report you see in the front page of a daily newspaper. The writer begins in a general manner, and then offers a detailed description of the subject.
3. *Analytical style* of writing, as the name suggests, involves a detailed treatment of an issue or situation. The author dives deep and tries to follow the chain of reasoning and draw inferences. The author weighs the different points of view in favour of or against his argument before arriving at any conclusion.
4. When the author uses the *argumentative style* of writing, she/he analyses the topic after taking a stand. She/He tries to persuade the reader using a chain of reasoning, evidence or suggestions. It is a variant of the analytical style of writing.

Tone of Writing

The word tone generally refers to the quality of sound. But, when we refer to the tone of the passage, it refers to the predominant emotion or absence of it displayed by the author. The tone also reflects the attitude of the author towards a subject or character. Any predominant emotion may, thus become the author's tone.

Broadly, the tones can be classified as subjective or objective in nature. An objective tone is used when the author does not choose any side, and remains a neutral and detached observer. On the contrary a subjective tone reflects the emotion displayed by the author. Some of the common tones used by the authors are listed as follows:

Critical: Denotes negative or fault finding attitude of the author. Sometimes, the word critical is also used to denote deep analysis of the issue with a neutral outlook.

Laudatory/Eulogistic: To shower high praise on somebody or something.

Cynical: A higher degree of pessimism coupled with a sense of scepticism and helplessness.

Satirical: To use humour as a tool for healthy criticism.

Sarcastic: To use the words opposite to what you mean to taunt or make fun of somebody.

Didactic: When the author tries to teach or instruct through his writing.

Nostalgic: Conveys a sense of longing for the past.

For example, identify the tone of the passages given below.

Passage 1

Plants are not the only organisms that can be cloned naturally. The unfertilized eggs of some animals (small invertebrates, worms, and some species of fish, lizards and frogs) can develop into full-grown adults under certain environmental conditions—usually a chemical stimulus of some kind.

This process is called parthenogenesis, and the offspring are clones of the females that laid the eggs.

Another example of natural cloning is identical twins. Although they are genetically different from their parents, identical twins are naturally occurring clones of each other.

Scientists have experimented with animal cloning, but have never been able to stimulate a specialized (differentiated) cell to produce a new organism directly. Instead, they rely on transplanting the genetic information from a specialized cell into an unfertilized egg cell whose genetic information has been destroyed or physically removed.

In the 1970s, a scientist named John Gurdon successfully cloned tadpoles. He transplanted the nucleus from a specialized cell of one frog (B) into an unfertilized egg of another frog (A) in which the nucleus had been destroyed by ultraviolet light. The egg with the transplanted nucleus developed into a tadpole that was genetically identical to frog B.

While Gurdon's tadpoles did not survive to grow into adult frogs, his experiment showed that the process of specialization in animal cells was reversible, and his technique of nuclear transfer paved the way for later cloning successes.

Explanation

The passage describes the process of cloning in animals. He describes the early experiments of animal cloning objectively; without taking any stand or position. Therefore, the tone of the passage is *Objective* or *Scientific*.

Passage 2

Everyone agrees that President George Bush's lobotomy has been a tremendous success.

Dick Cheney, the vice-president, declared that he was fully satisfied with it from his point of view. "Without the lobotomy," Mr Cheney told the American Academy of Neurology, it might have proved difficult to persuade the president to start wars all around the world without any good pretext. But the removal of those parts of the brain associated with understanding the outcome of one's actions has enabled the president to function fully and without hesitation. Even when it is clear that disaster is around the corner, as it is currently in Iraq, the chief executive is able to go on TV and announce that everything is on course and that he has no intention of changing tactics that have already proved disastrous.

"I would like to commend the surgeons, nurses and all involved with the operation," said Mr Cheney. Similarly, Donald Rumsfeld regards the surgery as an unqualified success. He writes in this month's American Medical Association Journal: "The president's prefrontal leucotomy has successfully removed all neural reflexes resistant to war-profiteering. It is a tribute to the medical team who undertook this delicate operation that, no matter how close the connection between those instigating military action and the companies who benefit from it, the president is able to carry on as if he were morally in the right."

Paul Wolfowitz, the deputy secretary of defence, is also delighted at the beneficial effect that medical intervention has had on the president. “Just imagine how the president might have responded to Ariel Sharon’s crazy schemes if we had not had the foresight to take out the neural pathways normally connected with perception and understanding,” Mr Wolfowitz told a meeting of the Association of Muslim Neurosurgeons For An All-Jewish Israel. “The president is now capable of treating the man responsible for the massacres at Shatila and Sabra as a decent human being, whose advice on how to deal with the problems of Israel is worth not only listening to, but also taking.”

With all this acclaim for the US president’s lobotomy, it is scarcely surprising that Tony Blair, should have decided to follow suit and undergo similar psychosurgery.

Thanks to the inhibition of specific presynaptic terminals, Mr Blair now appears to feel totally comfortable giving his support to the US massacre in Falluja and to the activities of US snipers who have been so busy in that city shooting women, children and ambulance drivers in revenge for the murder of four mercenaries.

It is also believed that intervention in the motor speech area of his cortex now enables Mr Blair to describe Iraqis who respond negatively to having their houses blown up as “fanatics, extremists and terrorists”. Similarly, ablation of the oculomotor nerve means that Mr Blair is now able to see Israeli plans to retain Jewish settlements in the West Bank as a big step forward in the Middle East peace process.

What has come as a complete surprise, however, is the recent revelation that Mr Blair’s brain surgery may even predate President Bush’s. For without the removal of large portions of his cerebellum, it is hard to understand how the British Prime Minister could have turned down Mr Bush’s no-strings offer to keep British troops out of combat in Iraq.

Political commentators are thus finding it impossible to say whether it is Mr Bush or Mr Blair who has pioneered the use of executive lobotomies in the war against terrorism.

Explanation

This article is a satire on the former president of the US George W Bush. Satire uses humour as a tool of healthy criticism, especially to point out flaws of the society or system at large. Do not be bogged down by the medical jargon. Just amuse yourself and enjoy. The way the passage begins with ‘The president’s surgery has been a tremendous success’ and then ‘without the lobotomy it might have proved difficult to persuade the president to start wars all around the world without any good pretext’ has a touch of satire in it, as the author wants to criticize Bush’s decision to start the wars around the world, hence, the tone of the passage is *satirical*.

Passage 3 (Poem)

I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o’er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the milky way,
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay:
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced; but they
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:
A poet could not but be gay,
In such a jocund company:
I gazed—and gazed—but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought:

For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.

Explanation

This is a classic poem written by one of the greatest romantic poets William Wordsworth. The poem has a great lyrical element. It is apparent that the poet was not just elated by the sight of the daffodils, but he reached a different plane of ecstasy. The poet has used vivid imagery. Expressions like ‘sparkling wave of glee; A poet could not but be gay ... in such a jocund company’ give us the impression that the tone of the passage is exalted or *laudatory*.

LOGICAL MAPPING OF THE PASSAGE

The author uses the reading passage as a tool to describe something, present his point of view on a particular subject, or elaborate a concept or idea. The author uses a web of words to convey his ideas and opinion.

The fact is only few words and key ideas are critical to understand the passage quickly and accurately. Rest of the words which form a mass of the passage are nothing but extensions, examples, explanations and facts used by the author to elaborate the theme of passage. Some of the words may also be used to display skillful use of language [Rhetoric]

Like an architect who makes a blueprint of the building, visualizing how the construction work will go in the future,

an active reader makes a logical outline of ideas in his mind on the basis of how the author builds his ideas and what he wants to convey to the reader.

Underlining or making a mental note of the **key ideas** of each paragraph as they appear in the passage helps you to understand how the theme of the passage develops.

Since the passages are highly condensed, one is required to read between the lines too, to understand the important elements of the passage which are integral to answering the questions. Do not be misled by illustrations, examples or extensions given by the author but learn to sieve the important details.

Such focused reading also helps you to read faster as you save your time by not getting into extraneous details. It also increases the comprehension as one does not miss out on the main points.

Passage 4

Read the following passage carefully and underline the key points. Identify the logical flow of the passage.

Time Allowed: 8 minutes

Education is a mess because politicians refuse to discipline teachers who sabotage primary education. Surveys show that government teacher absenteeism ranges from 20 per cent to 57 per cent in different states, yet they earn thrice or more than private sector teachers.

Some teachers run businesses (shops, transport services). Others skip school in the morning but give paid tuitions to richer students in the afternoon.

No wonder half of all students drop out by Class 7. Barely 30-50 per cent can read the alphabet in Class 1, and barely 40-50 per cent can read simple words in Class 2. Millions who complete school emerge functionally illiterate, unable to read simple paragraphs or do simple arithmetic. Yet no political party is willing to discipline teachers or demand performance.

An obvious reason is the power of teacher trade union. These often launch strikes just before school examinations, impelling state governments to surrender rather than jeopardize the future of students. Hence, teachers get ever-higher salaries while escaping accountability for performance. Teachers salaries appropriate almost the whole educational budget, leaving hardly anything for other items such as teaching materials and textbooks. Between 1960 and 1980 in Uttar Pradesh, the share of non-salary pending in education fell from 12 per cent to 3 per cent in primary education, and from 28 per cent to 9 per cent in secondary education.

A seasoned politician gave me a big additional reason for teacher power. You see, he said, government teachers preside over polling booths at election time. So we must cosset them, not antagonize them. Otherwise teachers will help rival parties to rig elections, and we cannot afford that at any cost.

A recent book by Geeta Kingdon and Mohammed Muzammil (*The Political Economy of Education in India*)

throws new light on teacher power in Uttar Pradesh. Teachers are politically strong because they themselves have become politicians in astonishingly large numbers. *Masterji* has become *Netaji*.

The Constitution provides a quota for teachers in the Upper Houses of State Legislatures. Only large states have an Upper House, but the bulk of the population is in such states.

Second, while the law prohibits government servants from contesting elections, it makes an exception for teachers. Why should teachers be allowed to contest but not doctors, clerks, sanitary engineers or other officials? The only reason is teacher clout.

Third, teachers are often the best educated in rural areas, and so are natural leaders. Hence, they are elected in large numbers to the lower houses of state legislatures too. Since they have so much spare time—they only teach in the mornings, if at all—many do political work. Some are really politicians pretending to be teachers in order to collect a regular salary and have an institutionalized position of power. Fourth, politicized teachers help provide the troops needed for rallies and elections. Teachers help organize students in secondary schools to become political campaigners. This in turn produces a peculiar breed of “student leaders” who see a future in politics but none in education. They agitate for an automatic pass for all students, not high academic standards.

Kingdon and Muzammil give some stunning figures about the teacher-politician nexus in Uttar Pradesh. In the Upper House, 8.5 per cent of seats are reserved for teachers, yet the proportion actually elected to the Upper House varies from 13 per cent to 22 per cent. Clearly, the power of teachers far exceeds their Constitutional quota.

The Lower House has no teacher quota. Yet teachers accounted for 10.8 per cent of all elected MLA's in the 1993 election, and 8.7 per cent in the 1996 election, far above their 0.9 per cent share in the adult population.

Their share of Cabinet posts was even higher. This share has usually been in double digits since 1985, with a peak of 16.3 per cent in 1991-92. This high share persists regardless of which party is in power—Congress, BJP, Samajwadi, BSP. Mayawati, whose party is tipped to win the next election, is herself an ex-teacher.

This, then, explains why all state governments treat teachers with kid gloves, and in the bargain ignore the mess in education. One obvious way to improve education and teacher accountability is to empower panchayats and parents associations to discipline absentee teachers. But despite the Constitutional amendment seeking to devolve primary education to panchayats, all efforts at actual devolution have been sabotaged. The Kalyan Singh government in 1992 tried to give managers of aided private schools greater powers over teachers, but this led to a mass strike, and the government backed down. In the late 1990s the UP government tried to devolve some educational powers to panchayats, but once again teachers went on the rampage and the government caved in.

This is why many state governments prefer to let panchayats hire para-teachers—local people without proper teacher qualifications. These have helped improve basic literacy at a cost one-fifth that of regular teachers. That is a short-term gain, but para-teachers cannot provide quality education. Besides, in some states para-teachers are agitating to be recognized as regular teachers. What is the way out? Kingdon and Muzammil offer no panaceas. If villagers and panchayats get sufficiently angry with the mess in education, they could create a countervailing political force. That day still seems far off.

Explanation

The 1st paragraph highlights the main idea of the passage—the sorry state of education in India is primarily because of political unwillingness to reform primary education.

The second and the third paragraph bring facts to support that education is in a state of complete mess like: high drop out rates of students and high absenteeism among teachers because of their personal interests. The author then discusses the real reason behind the teacher power: powerful teacher unions and other political compulsions. The author presents facts from the book by Kingdon and Muzammil to support his main argument explaining the reasons behind teacher power. The author presents some more facts and figures to explain the teacher-politician nexus. The last paragraph talks about one possible solution to this is to empower the local political bodies like village *panchayats* and parents associations and the challenges in implementing it.

DIFFERENT TYPES OF RC QUESTIONS

RC is a tool which is used by the examiners to test a person's ability to understand and analyse text drawn from different areas. It also tests a person's ability to draw inferences, and if necessary to apply the inference in a new context or framework.

Reading passages do not directly test the general awareness or subject knowledge of any particular field, although a broad awareness of different areas is helpful in increasing the comfort level, and consequently the confidence level with which a person handles the passages. RC questions may test you on either what is given in the passage or what can be deduced from the passage. The idea is to get as close as possible to the mind of the author—what he wants to convey through the framework of ideas interwoven in the passage. From the examination point of view, the RC questions can be broadly subdivided into six categories. A student should try to master different RC question types to exorcise the fear of RC from his mind forever.

1. Main Idea Question
2. Explicit Detail or Direct Question
3. Inference Question
4. Logical Structure Question
5. Tone or Attitude based Question
6. Extended Application Question

Main Idea Question

Main idea of a passage can be defined as the most succinct summary that encompasses the passage.

These questions are very important and test one's ability to understand the overall theme of the passage, mainly 'what the passage is precisely about'. One needs to have a fair understanding of what the passage talks about 'as a whole', and not be confused by the facts, explanations and examples given by the author to support the main idea. Main idea is generally indicated in the first part of the passage. Rarely, it could also come in the concluding part of the article.

Sometimes, the main idea question may be based on supplying a suitable title for the passage. A suitable title is one which captures the major elements of the passage in the shortest logical manner.

Explicit Detail or Direct Question

These questions use the phrases like 'According to the passage ...', or 'The author/passage mentions the following except:' These questions are easier to tackle as they test one's ability to find specific information given in the passage. One has to locate the detail in the form of information, data or statistics as mentioned in the passage.

These questions provide direct clues like line references which make them easier to crack. Sometimes, these questions can also ask the contextual meaning of an underlined or italicized word as it has been used in the passage. This type of questions may not be frequently asked in the CAT now but appear in SNAP and FMS test.

Inference Questions

To infer is to draw or deduce something on the basis of what is given in or implied by the passage. These questions are favourite of the CAT. The students find these questions challenging, as answering these questions requires a careful reading of the passage, which includes the ability to read between the lines, ability to interconnect the different logical elements given in the passage.

These questions typically use words like infer, imply, arrive at, deduce, surmise, etc. To handle these questions one must refer back to that part of the passage from where the inference has been drawn, correlate the concepts if necessary, and narrow down the answer choices. Both the aspects are important: to read the context given in the passage, and to gradually eliminate the answer choices to arrive at the best solution.

Generally, the students get stuck up between the last two options. One must settle for the answer choice which is more clearly and specific on the basis of the main idea of the passage.

Logical Structure Question

These questions ask about why the author introduces a specific point, gives a particular example, or quotes somebody

in the passage. Sometimes, these questions also ask about overall development of the passage about 'WHY' the author uses a particular example, anecdote, refutation, or counter argument to develop the passage.

These questions mainly focus on 'WHY' of the subject matter. Therefore, it becomes important to read the mind of the author. These questions generally give you a line reference from where the example or quote has been taken. If you carefully read two to three lines above or below the line from where the text has been taken and work with the options, you can hit the bull's eye. Remember the answer can never be within the of line reference, as the question is 'WHY' that particular thing has been mentioned.

Tone/Attitude Based Question

These questions test your ability to find out the underlying emotion of a particular line, paragraph or passage as a whole. One has to judge the attitude of the author towards his subject. These questions are not common in the CAT and other B-school entrance tests, however, a fair understanding of tone helps one to understand the passage better and faster. One must develop the ability to understand the different shades of mood displayed by the author. Vocabulary plays an important role in handling these questions as the words like eulogistic or satirical are not used commonly used in colloquial or written English.

Attempt these questions only if you have a fairly clear idea of the emotional underpinning of the sentence or paragraph in question.

Extended Application Question

Application based questions take the logic a step further to that involved in inference questions. They test the ability to apply what you have learnt from the passage into a new context or framework, sometimes even unrelated to the passage. These questions are a bit challenging to the students, as they test one's ability to think creatively and see things in new light.

These questions generally look like: 'The author would most likely/least likely agree with' 'Which of the following statements if true would most strongly strengthen/weaken the argument' 'the writer/target audience of the passage is most likely

To handle these questions one must meticulously narrow down the options keeping an eye on the main idea, scope and tone of the passage. These questions should be touched only when one has developed a clear understanding of the passage.

Another format of the application question is 'which of the following is likely to be the title of the forthcoming/next article written by the author.' These questions can be easily cracked if you carefully read the last paragraph and find out where the author leaves the passage, what are the unexplained issues or explanations which leave room for further discussion, analysis or elucidation.

PRACTICE EXERCISES

EXERCISE 1

Direction for questions: *Each passage is followed by questions based on its content. After reading passage, choose the best answer to each question. Answer all questions following a passage on the basis of what is stated or implied in that passage.*

Passage 1

Some recent historians have argued that life in the British colonies in America from approximately 1763 to 1789 was marked by internal conflicts among colonists. Inheritors of some of the viewpoints of early twentieth-century progressive historians such as Beard and Becker, these recent historians have put forward arguments that deserve evaluation. The kind of conflict most emphasized by these historians is class conflict. Yet with the Revolutionary War dominating these years, how does one distinguish class conflict within the larger conflict? Certainly not by the side a person supported. Although many of these historians have accepted the earlier assumption that Loyalists represented an upper class, new evidence indicates that Loyalists, like rebels, were drawn from all socio-economic classes. (It is nonetheless probably true that a larger percentage of the well-to-do joined the Loyalists than joined the rebels). Looking at the rebel side, we find little evidence for the contention that lower-class rebels were in conflict with the upper-class rebels. Indeed, the war effort against Britain tended to suppress class conflicts. Where it did not, the disputing rebels of one or another class usually became Loyalists. Loyalism thus operated as a safety valve to remove socio-economic discontent that exist among the rebels.

Disputes occurred, of course, among those who remained on the rebel side, but the extraordinary social mobility of eighteenth century American society (with the obvious exception of slaves) usually prevented such disputes from hardening along class lines. Social structure was in fact so fluid – though recent statistics suggest a narrowing of economic opportunity as the latter half of the century progressed – that to talk about social classes at all requires the use of loose economic categories such as rich, poor, and middle class, or eighteenth-century designations like “he better sort.” Despite these vague categories, one should not claim unequivocally that hostility between recognizable classes cannot be legitimately observed. Outside of New York, however, there were very few instances of openly expressed class antagonism.

Having said this, however, one must add that there is much evidence to support the further claim of recent historians that sectional conflicts were common between 1763 and 1789. The “Paxton Boys” incident and the Regulator movement are representative examples of the widespread, and justified, discontent of western settlers against colonial or

state governments dominated by eastern interests. Although undertones of class conflict existed beneath such hostility, the opposition was primarily geographical. Sectional conflict which also existed between North and South – deserves further investigation. In summary, historians must be careful about the kind of conflict they emphasize in eighteenth-century America. Yet those who stress the achievement of a general consensus among the colonists cannot fully understand that consensus without understanding the conflicts that had to be overcome or repressed in order to reach it.

- Q.1** The author considers the contentions made by the recent historians discussed in the passage to be
- (a) potentially verifiable.
 - (b) partially justified.
 - (c) logically contradictory.
 - (d) capricious and unsupported.
- Q.2** The author most likely refers to “historians such as Beard and Becker” in order to
- (a) point out historians whose views of history anticipated some of the views of the recent historians mentioned in the passage.
 - (b) isolate the two historians whose work is most representative of the viewpoints of Progressive historians.
 - (c) emphasize the need to find connections between recent historians writing and the work of earlier historians.
 - (d) suggest that progressive historians were the first to discover the particular internal conflicts in eighteenth-century American life mentioned in the passage.
- Q.3** According to the passage, Loyalism during the American Revolutionary War served the function of
- (a) eliminating the disputes that existed among those colonists who supported the rebel cause.
 - (b) drawing upper, as opposed to lower, socio-economic classes away from the rebel cause.
 - (c) absorbing members of socio-economic groups on the rebel side who felt themselves in contention with members of other socio-economic groups.
 - (d) channeling conflict that existed within a socio-economic class into the war effort against the rebel cause.
- Q.4** The passage suggests that the author would be likely to agree with which of the following statements about the social structure of eighteenth-century American society?

- I. It allowed greater economic opportunity than it did social mobility.
 - II. It permitted greater economic opportunity prior to 1750 and after 1750.
 - III. It did not contain rigidly defined socioeconomic divisions.
 - IV. It prevented economic disputes from arising among members of the society.
- (a) I and IV only
 - (b) II and III only
 - (c) III and IV only
 - (d) I, II and III only

Q.5 It can be inferred from the passage that the author would be most likely to agree with which of the following statements regarding socioeconomic class and support for the rebel and Loyalist causes during the American Revolutionary War?

- (a) Identifying a person's socioeconomic class is the least accurate method of ascertaining which side that person supported.
- (b) Identifying a person as a member of the rebel or of the Loyalist side does necessarily reveal that person's particular socioeconomic class.
- (c) Both the rebel and the Loyalist sides contained members of all socioeconomic classes, although there were fewer disputes among socioeconomic class on the Loyalist side.
- (d) Both the rebel and Loyalist sides contained members of all socioeconomic classes, although the Loyalist side was made up primarily of members of the upper class.

Q.6 The author suggests which of the following about representatives of colonial or state governments in America from 1763 to 1789?

- (a) The governments inadequately represented the interests of people in western regions.
- (b) The governments more often represented class interests than sectional interests.
- (c) The governments were less representative than they had been before 1763.
- (d) The governments were dominated by the interests of people of an upper socioeconomic class.

Q.7 According to the passage, which of the following is a true statement about sectional conflicts in America between 1763 and 1789?

- (a) These conflicts were instigated by eastern interests against western settlers.
- (b) These conflicts were the most serious kind of conflict in America.
- (c) The conflicts eventually led to openly expressed class antagonism.
- (d) These conflicts contained an element of class hostility.

Passage 2

Many critics of Emily Brontë's novel *Wuthering Heights* see its second part as a counterpoint that comments on, if does not reverse, the first part, where a "romantic" reading receives more confirmation. Seeing the two parts as a whole is encouraged by the novel's sophisticated structure, revealed in its complex use of narrators and time shifts. Granted that the presence of these elements need not argue an authorial awareness of novelistic construction comparable to that of Henry James, their presence does encourage attempts to unify the novel's heterogeneous parts. However, any interpretation that seeks to unify of the novel's diverse elements is bound to be somewhat unconvincing. This is not because such an interpretation necessarily stiffens into a thesis (although rigidity in any interpretation of this or of any novel is always a danger), but because *Wuthering Heights* has recalcitrant elements of undesirable power that ultimately, resist inclusion in an all-encompassing interpretation. In this respect, *Wuthering Heights* shares a feature of *Hamlet*.

Q.8 According to the passage, which of the following is a true statement about the first and second parts of *Wuthering Heights*?

- (a) The second part has received more attention from critics.
- (b) The second part has little relation to the first part.
- (c) The second part is better because it is more realistic.
- (d) The second part provides less substantiation for a "romantic" reading.

Q.9 Which of the following inferences about Henry James's awareness of novelistic construction is best supported by the passage?

- (a) James, more than any other novelist, was aware of the difficulties of novelistic construction.
- (b) James was very aware of the details of novelistic construction.
- (c) James's awareness of novelistic construction derived from the reading of Brontë.
- (d) James's awareness of novelistic construction has led most commentators to see unity in his individual novels.

Q.10 The author of the passage would be most likely to agree that an interpretation of a novel should:

- (a) not try to unite heterogeneous elements in the novel.
- (b) not be inflexible in its treatment of the elements in the novel.
- (c) not argue that the complex use of narrators or of time shifts indicates a sophisticated structure.
- (d) concentrate on those recalcitrant elements of the novel that are outside the novel's main structure.

Q.11 The author of the passage suggests which of the following about *Hamlet*?

- I. *Hamlet* has usually attracted critical interpretations that tend to stiffen into thesis.
 - II. *Hamlet* has elements that are not amenable to an all-encompassing critical interpretation.
 - III. *Hamlet* is less open to an all-encompassing critical interpretation that is *Wuthering Heights*.
 - IV. *Hamlet* has not received a critical interpretation that has been widely accepted by readers.
- (a) I only
 - (b) II only
 - (c) I and IV only
 - (d) I, II and III only

Passage 3

Upwards of a billion stars in our galaxy have burnt up their internal energy sources, and so can no longer produce heat as a star needs to oppose the inward force of gravity. These stars, of more than a few solar masses, evolve, generally, much more rapidly than does a star like the Sun. Moreover, it is just these more massive stars whose collapse does not halt at intermediate stages (that is, as white dwarfs or neutron stars). Instead, the collapse continues until a singularity (an infinitely dense concentration of matter) is reached.

It would be wonderful to observe a singularity and obtain direct evidence of the undoubtedly bizarre phenomena that occur near one. Unfortunately in most cases a distant observer cannot see the singularity; outgoing light rays are dragged back by gravity so forcefully that even if they could start out within a few kilometers of the singularity, they would end up in the singularity itself.

Q.12 The author's primary purpose in the passage is to:

- (a) describe the formation and nature of singularities.
- (b) explain why large numbers of stars become singularities.
- (c) compare the characteristics of singularities with those of stars.
- (d) explain what happens during the stages of a singularity's formation.

Q.13 The passage suggests which of the following about the Sun?

- I. The Sun could evolve to a stage of collapse that is less dense than a singularity.
 - II. In the Sun, the inward force of gravity is balanced by the generation of heat.
 - III. The Sun emits more observable light than does a dwarf or a neutron star.
- (a) I only
 - (b) III only
 - (c) I and II only
 - (d) I, II, and III only

Q.14 Which of the following sentences would most probably follow the last sentence of the passage?

- (a) Thus, a physicist interested in studying phenomena near singularities would necessarily hope to find a singularity with a measurable gravitational field.
- (b) Accordingly, physicists to date have been unable to observe directly any singularity.
- (c) It is specifically this startling phenomenon that has allowed us to codify the scant information currently available about singularities.
- (d) Moreover, the existence of this extraordinary phenomenon is implied in the extensive reports of several physicists.

Passage 4

As Gilbert White, Darwin, and others observed long ago, all species appear to have the innate capacity to increase their numbers from generation to generation. The task for ecologists is to untangle the environmental and biological factors that hold this intrinsic capacity for population growth in check over the long run. The great variety of dynamic behaviours exhibited by different populations makes this task more difficult: some populations remain roughly constant from year to year; others exhibit regular cycles of abundance and scarcity; still others vary wildly, with outbreaks and crashes that are in some cases plainly correlated with the weather, and in other cases not.

To impose some other order on this kaleidoscope of patterns, one school of thought proposes dividing populations into two groups. These ecologists posit that the relatively steady populations have "density-dependent" growth parameters; that is, rates of birth, death, and migration which depend strongly on population density. The highly varying populations have "density-independent" growth parameters, with vital rates buffeted by environmental events; these rates fluctuate in a way that is wholly independent of population density.

This dichotomy has its uses, but it can cause problems if taken too literally. For one thing, no population can be driven entirely by density-independent factors all the time. No matter how severely or unpredictably birth, death, and migration rates may be fluctuating around their long-term averages, if there were no density-dependent effects, the population would, in the long run, either increase or decrease without bound (barring a miracle by which gains and losses canceled exactly). Put another way, it may be that on average 99 per cent of all deaths in a population arise from density-independent causes, and only one per cent from factors varying with density. The factors making up the one per cent may seem unimportant, and their cause may be correspondingly hard to determine. Yet, whether recognized or not, they will usually determine the long-term average population density.

In order to understand the nature of the ecologist's investigation, we may think of the density-dependent effects on growth parameters as the "signal" ecologists are trying to isolate and interpret, one that tends to make the population increase from relatively low values or decrease from relatively high ones, while the density-independent effects act

to produce “noise” in the population dynamics. For populations that remain relatively constant, or that oscillate around repeated cycles, the signal can be fairly easily characterized and its effects described, even though the caustic biological mechanism may remain unknown. For irregularly fluctuating populations, we are likely to have too few observations to have any hope of extracting the signal from the overwhelming noise. But it now seems clear that all populations are regulated by a mixture of density-independent effects in varying proportions.

Q.15 The author of the passage is primarily concerned with

- (a) discussing two categories of factors that control population growth and assessing their relative importance.
- (b) describing how growth rates in natural populations fluctuate over time and explaining why these changes occur.
- (c) proposing a hypothesis concerning population sizes and suggesting ways to test it.
- (d) proposing a fundamental question about environmental factors in population growth and presenting some currently accepted answers.

Q.16 It can be inferred from the passage that the author considers the dichotomy discussed in the third paragraph to be

- (a) applicable only to erratically fluctuating populations.
- (b) useful, but not only if its limitations are recognized.
- (c) dangerously misleading in most circumstances.
- (d) a complete and sufficient way to account for observed phenomena.

Q.17 Which of the following statements can be inferred from the last paragraph?

- (a) For irregularly fluctuating populations, doubling the number of observations made will probably result in the isolation of density-dependent effects.
- (b) Density-dependent effects on population dynamics do not occur as frequently as do density-independent effects.
- (c) It is sometimes possible to infer the existence of a density-dependent factor controlling population growth without understanding its causative mechanism.
- (d) At present, ecologists do not understand any of the underlying causes of the density-dependent effects they observe in populations dynamics.

Q.18 According to the passage, which of the following is a statement about density-dependent factors in population growth?

- (a) They ultimately account for long-term population levels.

- (b) They have little to do with long-term population dynamics.

- (c) They are always more easily isolated and described than those that are density-independent.

- (d) They include random environmental events.

Q.19 According to the passage, all of the following behaviours have been exhibited by different populations except

- (a) roughly constant population levels from year to year.
- (b) regular cycles of increases and decreases in numbers.
- (c) erratic increases in numbers correlated with the weather.
- (d) unchecked increases in numbers over many generations.

Q.20 The discussion concerning population in the second paragraph serves primarily to

- (a) underline the importance of even small density-dependent factors in regulating long-term population densities.
- (b) advocate more rigorous study of density-dependent factors in population growth.
- (c) prove that the death rates of any population are never entirely density-independent.
- (d) give an example of how death rates function to limit population densities in typical populations.

Q.21 In the passage, the author does all of the following except

- (a) cite the views of other biologists.
- (b) define a basic problem that the passage addresses.
- (c) present conceptual categories used by other biologists.
- (d) describe the results of a particular study.

Passage 5

In *Raisin in the Sun*, Lorraine Hansberry does not reject integration or the economic and moral promise of the American dream; rather, she remains loyal to this dream while looking, realistically, at its incomplete realization. Once we recognize this dual vision, we can accept the play’s ironic nuances as deliberate social commentaries by Hansberry rather than as the “unintentional” irony that Bigsby attributes to the work. Indeed, a curiously persistent refusal to credit Hansberry with a capacity for intentional irony has led some critics to interpret the play’s thematic conflicts as mere confusion, contradiction, or eclecticism. Isaacs, for example, cannot easily reconcile Hansberry’s intense concern for her race with her ideal of human reconciliation. But the play’s complex view of Black self-esteem and human solidarity, as compatible is no more “contradictory” than Du Bois famous, well-considered ideal of ethnic self-awareness coexisting with human unity, or Fanon’s emphasis on an ideal inter-

nationalism that also accommodates national identities and roles.

- Q.22** The author's primary purpose in this passage is to
- (a) explain some critics refusal to consider *Raisin in the Sun* a deliberately ironic play.
 - (b) affirm the thematic coherence underlying *Raisin in the Sun*.
 - (c) analyze the fundamental dramatic conflicts in *Raisin in the Sun*.
 - (d) justify the inclusion of contradictory elements in *Raisin in the Sun*.
- Q.23** It can be inferred from the passage that the author believes which of the following about Hansberry's use of irony in *Raisin in the Sun*?
- (a) It reflects Hansberry's reservations about the extent to which the American dream has been realized.
 - (b) It derives from Hansberry's eclectic approach to dramatic structure.
 - (c) It is justified by Hansberry's loyalty to a favourable depiction of American life.
 - (d) It is influenced by the themes of works by DU Bios and Fanon.

- Q.24** In which of the following does the author of the passage reinforce his criticism of responses such as Isaacs to *Raisin in the Sun*?
- (a) The statement that Hansberry's is "loyal" to the American dream.
 - (b) The description of Hansberry's concern for Black Americans as "intense".
 - (c) The assertion that Hansberry is concerned with "human solidarity".
 - (d) The description of Du Bios ideal as "well-considered".
- Q.25** The author of the passage would probably consider which of the following judgments to be most similar to the reasoning of critics described:
- (a) The world is certainly flat; therefore, the person proposing to sail around it is unquestionably foolhardy.
 - (b) Radioactivity cannot be directed perceived, therefore, a scientist could not possibly control it in a laboratory.
 - (c) The painter of this picture could not intend it to be funny; therefore, its humor must result from a lack of skill.
 - (d) Traditional social mores are beneficial to culture; therefore, anyone who deviates from them acts destructively.

PRACTICE EXERCISE 2

Direction for questions: *Each passage is followed by questions based on its content. After reading passage, choose the best answer to each question. Answer all questions following a passage on the basis of what is stated or implied in that passage.*

Passage 1

Since 1953, many experimental attempts to synthesize the chemical constituents of life under "primitive Earth conditions" have been performed, but none of these experiments has produced anything approaching the complexity of the simplest organism. They have demonstrated, however, that a variety of the complex molecules currently making up living organisms could have been present in the early ocean and atmosphere, with only one limitation: such molecules are synthesized far less readily when oxygen-containing compounds dominate the atmosphere. Therefore some scientists postulate that the Earth's earliest atmosphere, unlike that of today, was dominated by hydrogen, methane, and ammonia. From these studies, scientists have concluded that the surface of the primitive Earth was covered with oceans containing the molecules fundamental to life. Although, at present, scientists cannot explain how these relatively small molecules combined to produce larger, more complex molecules, some scientists have precipitously ventured hypothesis that attempt to explain the development, from these larger molecules, of the earliest self-duplicating organisms.

- Q.1** According to the passage, which of the following can be inferred about the process by which the chemical constituents of life were synthesized under primitive Earth conditions?
- (a) The synthesis is unlikely to occur under current atmospheric conditions.
 - (b) The synthesis is common in modern laboratories.
 - (c) The synthesis occurs more readily in the atmosphere than in the ocean.
 - (d) The synthesis is accelerated by the presence of oxygen-containing compounds.
- Q.2** The primary purpose of the passage is to
- (a) point out that theories about how life developed on Earth have changed little since 1953.
 - (b) warn of increasing levels of hydrogen, methane, and ammonia in the Earth's atmosphere.
 - (c) describe the development since 1953 of some scientists understanding of how life began on Earth.
 - (d) demonstrate that the synthesis of life in the laboratory is too difficult for modern technology.
- Q.3** It can be inferred from the passage that "some scientists" assume which of the following concerning "larger, more complex molecules"?

- (a) The earliest atmosphere was formed primarily of these molecules.
- (b) Chemical processes involving these molecules proceeded much more slowly under primitive Earth conditions.
- (c) The presence of these molecules would necessarily precede the existence of simple organisms.
- (d) Experimental techniques will never be sufficient sophisticated to produce in the laboratory simple organisms from these chemical constituents.

- Q.4** The author's reaction to the attempts that have been made to explain the development of the first self-duplicating organisms can best be described as one of:
- (a) Enthusiasm
 - (b) Expectation
 - (c) Dismay
 - (d) Skepticism

Passage 2

By the time the American colonists took up arms against Great Britain in order to secure their independence, the institution of Black slavery was deeply entrenched. But the contradiction inherent in this situation was, for many, a source of constant embarrassment. "It always appeared a most iniquitous scheme to me", Abigail Adams wrote her husband in 1774, "to fight ourselves for what we are daily robbing and plundering from those who have as good a right to freedom as we have."

Many Americans besides Abigail Adams were struck by the inconsistency of their stand during the War of Independence, and they were not averse to making moves to emancipate the slaves. Quakers and other religious groups organized antislavery societies, while numerous individuals manumitted their slaves. In fact, within several years of the end of the War of Independence, most of the Eastern states had made provisions for the gradual emancipation of slaves.

- Q.5** Which of the following best states the central idea of the passage?
- (a) The War of Independence produced among many Black Americans a heightened consciousness of the inequities in American society.
 - (b) The War of Independence strengthened the bonds of slavery of many Black Americans while intensifying their desire to be free.
 - (c) The War of Independence exposed to many Americans the contradiction of slavery in a country seeking its freedom and resulted in efforts to resolve that contradiction.
 - (d) The War of Independence provoked strong criticisms by many Americans of the institution of slavery, but produced little substantive action against it.
- Q.6** The passage contains information that would support which of the following statements about the colonies before the War of Independence?

- (a) They contained organized antislavery societies.
- (b) They allowed individuals to own slaves.
- (c) They prohibited religious groups from political action.
- (d) They were inconsistent in their legal definitions of slave status.

- Q.7** According to the passage, the War of Independence was embarrassing to some Americans for which of the following reasons?

- I. It involved a struggle for many of the same liberties that Americans were denying to others.
 - II. It involved a struggle for independence from the very nation that had founded the colonies.
 - III. It involved a struggle based on inconsistencies in the participants' conceptions of freedom.
- (a) I only
 - (b) II only
 - (c) I and II only
 - (d) I and III only

- Q.8** Which of the following statements regarding American society in the years immediately following the War of Independence is best supported by the passage?

- (a) The unexpected successes of the antislavery societies led to their gradual demise in the Eastern states.
- (b) Some of the newly independent American states had begun to make progress toward abolishing slavery.
- (c) Americans like Abigail Adams became disillusioned with the slow progress of emancipation and gradually abandoned the cause.
- (d) Emancipated slaves gradually were accepted in the Eastern states as equal members of American society.

Passage 3

The evolution of sex ratios has produced, in most plants and animals with separate sexes, approximately equal numbers of males and females. Why should this be so? Two main kinds of answers have been offered. One is couched in terms of advantage to population. It is argued that the sex ratio will evolve so as to maximize the number of meetings between individuals of the opposite sex. This is essentially a "group selection" argument. The other, and in my view correct, type of answer was first put forward by Fisher in 1930. This "genetic" argument starts from the assumption that genes can influence the numbers of male and female offspring produced by an individual carrying the genes. That sex ratio will be favoured which maximizes the number of descendants an individual will have and hence the number of gene copies transmitted. Suppose that the population consisted mostly of females: then an individual who produced sons only would have more grandchildren. In contrast, if the population consisted mostly of males, it would pay to have daughters. If, however, the population consisted of equal numbers of males

and females, sons and daughters would be equally valuable. Thus a one-to-one sex ratio is the only stable ratio; it is an “evolutionarily stable strategy.” Although Fisher wrote before the mathematical theory of games had been developed, his theory incorporates the essential feature of a game – that the best strategy to adopt depends on what others are doing.

Since Fisher’s time, it has been realized that genes can sometimes influence the chromosome or gamete in which they find themselves so that the gamete will be more likely to participate in fertilization. If such a gene occurs on a sex – determining (X or Y) chromosome, then highly aberrant sex ratios can occur. But more immediately relevant to game theory are the sex ratios in certain parasitic wasp species that have a large excess of females. In these species, fertilized eggs develop into females and unfertilized eggs into males.

A female stores sperm and can determine the sex of each egg she lays by fertilizing it or leaving it unfertilized. By Fisher’s argument, it should still pay a female to produce equal numbers of sons and daughters. Hamilton, noting that the eggs develop within their host – the larva of another insect – and that the newly emerged adult wasps mate immediately and disperse, offered a remarkably cogent analysis. Since only one female usually lay eggs in a given larva, it would pay her to produce one male only, because this one male could fertilize all his sisters on emergence. Like Fisher, Hamilton looked for an evolutionarily stable strategy, but he went a step further in recognizing that he was looking for a strategy.

- Q.9** The author suggests that the work of Fisher and Hamilton was similar in that both scientists:
- (a) conducted their research at approximately the same time.
 - (b) sought to manipulate the sex ratios of some of the animals they studied.
 - (c) sought an explanation of why certain sex ratios exist and remain stable.
 - (d) studied game theory, thereby providing important groundwork for the later development of strategy theory.
- Q.10** It can be inferred from the passage that the author considers Fisher’s work to be
- (a) fallacious and unprofessional.
 - (b) definitive and thorough.
 - (c) inaccurate but popular, compared with Hamilton’s work.
 - (d) admirable, but not as up-to-date as Hamilton’s work.
- Q.11** The passage contains information that would answer which of the following questions about wasps?
- I. How many eggs does the female wasp usually lay in a single host larva?
 - II. Can some species of wasp determine sex ratios among their offspring?
 - III. What is the approximate sex ratio among the offspring of parasitic wasps?

- (a) I only
- (b) II only
- (c) III only
- (d) I and II only

- Q.12** It can be inferred that the author discusses the genetic theory in greater detail than the group selection theory primarily because he believes that the genetic theory is more:
- (a) Complicated
 - (b) Accurate
 - (c) Popular
 - (d) Comprehensive
- Q.13** According to the passage, successful game strategy depends on
- (a) the ability to adjust one’s behaviour in light of the behaviour of others.
 - (b) one’s awareness that there is safety in numbers.
 - (c) the degree of stability one can create in one’s immediate environment.
 - (d) the accuracy with which one can predict future events.
- Q.14** It can be inferred from the passage that the mathematical theory of games has been
- (a) developed by scientists with an interest in genetics.
 - (b) useful in explaining some biological phenomenon.
 - (c) based on animal studies conducted prior to 1930.
 - (d) adopted by Hamilton in his research.
- Q.15** Which of the following is not true of the species of parasitic wasps discussed in the passage?
- (a) Adult female wasps are capable of storing sperm.
 - (b) Female wasps lay their eggs in the larvae of other insects.
 - (c) The adult female wasp can be fertilized by a male that was hatched in the same larva as herself.
 - (d) So few male wasps are produced that extinction is almost certain.

Passage 4

Thomas Hardy’s impulses as a writer, all of which he indulged in his novels, were numerous and divergent, and they did not always work together in harmony. Hardy was to some degree interested in exploring his characters’ psychologies, though impelled less by curiosity than by sympathy. Occasionally he felt the impulse to comedy (in all its detached coldness) as well as the impulse to farce, but he was more often inclined to see tragedy and record it. He was also inclined to literary realism in the several senses of that phrase. He wanted to describe ordinary human beings; he wanted to speculate on their dilemmas rationally (and, unfortunately, even schematically); and he wanted to record precisely the material universe. Finally, he wanted to be more than a realist. He wanted to transcend what he considered to be the banality of solely recording things exactly and to express as well his awareness of the occult and the strange.

In his novels these various impulses were sacrificed to each other inevitably and often. Inevitably, because Hardy did not care in the way that novelists such as Flaubert or James cared, and therefore took paths of least resistance. Thus, one impulse often surrendered to a fresher one and, unfortunately, instead of exacting a compromise, simply disappeared.

A desire to throw over reality a light that never was might give away abruptly to the desire on the part of what we might consider a novelist scientist to record exactly and concretely the structure and texture of a flower. In this instance, the new impulse was at least an energetic one, and thus its indulgence did not result in a relaxed style. But on other occasions Hardy abandoned a perilous, risky, and highly energizing impulse in favour of what was for him the fatally relaxing to classify and schematize abstractly. When a relaxing impulse was indulged, the style – that sure index of an author's literary worth – was certain to become verbose. Hardy's weakness derived from his apparent inability to control the comings and goings of these divergent impulses and from his unwillingness to cultivate and sustain the energetic and risky ones. He submitted to first one and then another, and the spirit blew where it listed; hence the unevenness of any one of his novels. His most controlled novel, *Under the Greenwood Tree*, prominently exhibits two different but reconcilable impulses – a desire to be a realist-historian and a desire to be a psychologist of love – but the slight interlockings of plot are not enough to bind the two completely together. Thus even this book splits into two distinct parts.

- Q.16** Which of the following is the most appropriate title for the passage, based on its content?
- Under the Greenwood Tree: Hardy's Ambiguous Triumph.*
 - The Real and the Strange: The Novelist's Shifting Realms.
 - Energy *Versus* Repose: The Role of Ordinary People in Hardy's Fiction.
 - Hardy's Novelistic Impulses: The Problem of Control.
- Q.17** The passage suggests that the author would be most likely to agree with which of the following statements about literary realism?
- Literary realism is most concerned with the exploration of the internal lives of ordinary human beings.
 - The term "literary realism" is susceptible to more than a single definition.
 - Literary realism and an interest in psychology are likely to be odds in a novelist's work.
 - "Literary Realism" is the term most often used by critics in describing the method of Hardy's novels.
- Q.18** The author of the passage considers a writer's style to be
- a reliable means by which to measure the writer's literary merit.
 - most apparent in those parts of the writer's work that are not realistic.
 - problematic when the writer attempts to follow perilous or risky impulses.
 - shaped primarily by the writer's desire to classify and schematize.
- Q.19** Which of the following words could best be substituted for "relaxed" without substantially changing the author's meaning?
- Informal
 - Risky
 - Wordy
 - Confined
- Q.20** The passage supplies information to suggest that its author would be most likely to agree with which of the following statements about the novelists Flaubert and James?
- They indulged more impulses in their novels than did Hardy in his novels.
 - They have elicited a greater degree of favourable response from most literary critics than has Hardy.
 - In the writing of their novels, they often took pains to effect a compromise among their various novelistic impulses.
 - Regarding novelistic construction, they cared more about the opinions of other novelists than about the opinions of ordinary readers.
- Q.21** Which of the following statements best describes the organizations of lines of the passage ("Thus..... abstractly")?
- The author makes a disapproving observation and then present two cases, one of which leads to a qualification of his disapproval and the other of which does not.
 - The author draws a conclusion from a previous statement, explains his conclusion in detail, and then gives a series of examples that have the effect of resolving an inconsistency.
 - The author concedes a point and then makes a counterargument, using an extended comparison and contrast that qualifies his original concession.
 - The author makes a judgment, points out an exception to his judgment, and then contradicts his original assertion.
- Q.22** Which of the following statements about the use of comedy in Hardy's novels is best supported by the passage?
- Hardy's use of comedy in his novels tended to weaken his literary style.
 - Hardy's use of comedy in his novels was inspired by his natural sympathy.
 - Comedy appeared less frequently in Hardy's novels than did tragedy.
 - Comedy played an important role in Hardy's novels though that comedy was usually in the form of farce.

- Q.23** The author implies which of the following about *Under the Greenwood Tree* in relation to Hardy's other novels?
- (a) It is Hardy's most thorough investigation of the psychology of love.
 - (b) Although it is his most controlled novel, it does not exhibit any harsh or risky impulses.

- (c) It, more than his other novels, reveals Hardy as a realist, interested in the history of ordinary human beings.
- (d) In it Hardy's novelistic impulses are managed somewhat better than in his other novels.

PRACTICE EXERCISE 3

Direction for questions: *Each passage is followed by questions based on its content. After reading passage, choose the best answer to each question. Answer all questions following a passage on the basis of what is stated or implied in that passage.*

Passage 1

A Marxist sociologist has argued that racism stems from the class struggle that is unique to the capitalist system – that racial prejudice is generated by capitalists as a means of controlling workers. His thesis works relatively well when applied to discrimination against Blacks in the United States, but his definition of racial prejudice as “radically-based negative prejudgments against a group generally accepted as a race in any given region of ethnic competition,” can be interpreted as also including hostility towards such ethnic groups as the Chinese in California and the Jews in medieval Europe. However, since prejudice against these latter peoples was not inspired by capitalists, he has no reason that such antagonisms were not really based on race. He disposes thusly (albeit unconvincingly) of both the intolerance faced by Jews before the rise of capitalism and the early twentieth-century discrimination against Oriental people in California, which, inconveniently, was instigated by workers.

- Q.1** The passage supplies information that would answer which of the following questions?
- (a) What accounts for the prejudice against the Jews in medieval Europe?
 - (b) What conditions caused in discrimination against Oriental people in California in the early twentieth-century?
 - (c) Which groups are not in ethnic competition with each other in the United States?
 - (d) What explanation did the Marxist sociologist give for the existence of racial prejudice?
- Q.2** The author considers the Marxist sociologist's thesis about the origins of racial prejudice to be:
- (a) Unoriginal
 - (b) Unpersuasive
 - (c) Offensive
 - (d) Obscure
- Q.3** It can be inferred from the passage that the Marxist sociologist would argue that in a noncapitalist society racial prejudice would be:

- (a) Pervasive
- (b) Tolerated
- (c) Nonexistent
- (d) Forbidden

- Q.4** According to the passage, the Marxist sociologist's chain of reasoning him to assert that prejudice toward Oriental people in California was
- (a) non-racial in character.
 - (b) similar in origin to prejudice against the Jews.
 - (c) understood by Oriental people as ethnic competition.
 - (d) provoked by workers.

Passage 2

By 1950, the results of attempts relate brain processes to mental experience appeared rather discouraging. Such variations in size, shape, chemistry, conduction speed, excitation threshold, and the like as had been demonstrated in nerve cells remained negligible in significance for any possible correlation with the manifold dimensions of mental experience. Near the turn of the century, it had been suggested by Hering that different modes of sensation, such as pain, taste, and colour, might be correlated with the discharge of specific kinds of nervous energy. However, subsequently developed methods of recording and analyzing nerve potentials failed to reveal any such qualitative diversity. It was possible to demonstrate by other methods refined structural differences among neuron types; however, proof was lacking that the quality of the impulse or its conduction was influenced by these differences, which seemed instead to influence the developmental patterning of the neural circuits.

Although qualitative variance among nerve energies was never rigidly disproved, the doctrine was generally abandoned in favour of the opposing view, namely, that nerve impulses are essentially homogeneous in quality and are transmitted as “common currency” throughout the nervous system. According to this, it is not the quality of the sensory nerve impulses that determines the diverse conscious sensations they produce, but rather the different areas of the brain into which they discharge, and there is some evidence for this view. In one experiment, when an electric stimulus was applied to a given sensory field of the cerebral cortex of a conscious human subject, it produced a sensation of the appropriate modality for that particular locus, that is, a visual sensation from the auditory cortex, and so on. Other experiments revealed slight variations in the size, number,

arrangement, and interconnection of the nerve cells, but as far as psychoneural correlations were concerned, the obvious similarities of these sensory fields to each other seemed much more remarkable than any of the minute differences.

However, cortical locus, in itself, turned out to have little explanatory value. Studies showed that sensations as diverse as those of red, black, green, and white, or touch, cold, warmth, movement, pain, posture, and pressure apparently may arise through activation of the same cortical areas. What seemed to remain was some kind of differential patterning effects in the brain excitation: it is the difference in the central distribution of impulses that counts. In short, brain theory suggested a correlation between mental experience and the activity of relatively homogeneous nerve-cell units conducting essentially homogeneous impulses through homogeneous cerebral tissue. To match the multiple dimensions of mental experience, psychologists could only point to a limitless variation in the spatio-temporal patterning of nerve impulses.

- Q.5** The author suggests that, by 1950, attempts to correlate mental experience with brain processes would probably have been viewed with:
- (a) Indignation (b) Impatience
 - (c) Pessimism (d) Defiance
- Q.6** The author mentions “common currency” primarily in order to emphasize the
- (a) lack of differentiation among nerve impulses in human beings.
 - (b) similarities of the sensations that all human beings experience.
 - (c) similarities in the views of scientists who have studied the human nervous system.
 - (d) continuous passage of nerve impulses through nervous system.
- Q.7** The description of an experiment in which electric stimuli were applied to different sensory fields of the cerebral cortex tends to support the theory that
- (a) the stimuli presence of different cortical areas cannot account for the diversity of mental experience.
 - (b) variation in spatio-temporal patterning of nerve impulses correlates with variation in subjective experience.
 - (c) nerve impulse are essentially homogeneous and are relatively unaffected as they travel through the nervous system.
 - (d) the mental experiences produced by sensory nerve impulses are determined by the cortical area activated.
- Q.8** According to the passage, some evidences exist that the area of the cortex activated by a sensory stimulus determines which of the following?
- I. The nature of the nerve impulse.
 - II. The modality of the sensory experience.
 - III. Qualitative differences within a modality.

- (a) II only (b) III only
- (c) I and II only (d) II and III only

- Q.9** The passage can most accurately be described as a discussion concerning historical views of the
- (a) anatomy of the brain.
 - (b) physiological correlates of mental experience.
 - (c) manner in which nerve impulse are conducted.
 - (d) mechanics of sense perception.
- Q.10** Which of the following best summarizes the author’s opinion of the suggestion that different areas of the brain determine perceptions produced by sensory nerve impulses?
- (a) It is a plausible explanation, but it has not been completely proved.
 - (b) It is the best explanation of brain processes currently available.
 - (c) It is disproved by the fact that the various areas of the brain are psychologically very similar.
 - (d) There is some evidence to support it, but it fails to explain the diversity of mental experience.

Passage 3

The transfer of heat and water vapour from the ocean to the air above, it depends on a disequilibrium at the interface of the water and the air. Within about a millimeter of the water, air temperature is close to that of the surface water, and the air is nearly saturated with water vapour. But the differences, however small, are crucial, and the disequilibrium is maintained by air near the surface mixing with air higher up, which is typically appreciably cooler and lower in water-vapour content. The air is mixed by means of turbulence that depends on the wind for its energy. As wind speed increases, so does turbulence, and thus the rate of heat and moisture transfer. Detailed understanding of this phenomenon awaits further study. An interacting – and complicated – phenomenon is wind-to-water transfer of momentum that occurs when waves are formed. When the wind waves, it transfers important amounts of energy – energy that is, therefore, not available to provide turbulence.

- Q.11** The primary purpose of the passage is to
- (a) resolve a controversy.
 - (b) describe a phenomenon.
 - (c) outline a theory.
 - (d) classify various observations.
- Q.12** According to the passage, wind over the ocean generally does which of the following?
- I. Causes relatively cool, dry air to come into proximity with the ocean surface.
 - II. Maintains steady rate of heat and moisture transfer between the ocean and the air.
 - III. Causes frequent changes in the temperature of the water at the ocean’s surface.
- (a) I only (b) II only
 - (c) I and II only (d) II and III only

Q.13 It can be inferred from the passage that the author regards current knowledge about heat and moisture transfer from the ocean to air as:

- (a) Revolutionary (b) Outdated
- (c) Incomplete (d) Derivative

Q.14 The passage suggests that if on a certain day the wind were to decrease until there was no wind at all, which of the following would occur?

- (a) The air closest to the ocean surface would become saturated with water vapour.
- (b) The air closest to the ocean surface would be warmer than the water.
- (c) The amount of moisture in the air closest to the ocean surface would increase.
- (d) The rate of heat and moisture transfer would increase.

Passage 4

The molecules of carbon dioxide in the Earth's atmosphere affect the heat balance of the Earth by acting as a one-way screen. Although these molecules allow radiation at visible wavelength, where most of the energy of sunlight is concentrated, to pass through, they absorb some of the longer-wavelength, infrared emissions radiated from the Earth's surface, radiation that would otherwise be transmitted back into space. For the Earth to maintain a constant average temperature, such emissions from the planet must balance incoming solar radiation. If there were no carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, heat would escape from the Earth much more easily. The surface temperature would be so much lower that the oceans might be a solid mass of ice.

Today, however, the potential problem is too much carbon dioxide. The burning of fossil fuels and the clearing of forests have increased atmospheric carbon dioxide by about 15 per cent in the last hundred years, and we continue to add carbon dioxide to the atmosphere. Could the increase in carbon dioxide cause a global rise in average temperature, and could such a rise have serious consequences for human society? Mathematical models that allow us to calculate the rise in temperature as a function of the increase indicate that the answer is probably 'yes'.

Under present conditions, a temperature of -18°C can be observed at an altitude of 5 to 6 kilometers above the Earth. Below this altitude (called the radiating level), the temperature increases by about 6°C per kilometer approaching the Earth's surface, where the average temperature is about 15°C . An increase in the amount of carbon dioxide means that there are more molecules of carbon dioxide to absorb infrared radiation. As the capacity of the atmosphere to absorb infrared radiation increases, the radiating level and the temperature of the surface must rise.

One mathematical model predicts that doubling the atmospheric carbon dioxide would rise the global mean surface temperature by 25°C . This model assumes that the atmosphere's relative humidity remains constant and the temperature decreases with altitude at a rate of 6.5°C per kilometer. The assumption of constant relative humidity is

important, because water vapour in the atmosphere is another efficient absorber of radiation as infrared wavelengths. Because warm air can hold more moisture than cool air, the relative humidity will be constant only if the amount of water vapour in the atmosphere increases as the temperature rises. Therefore, more infrared radiation would be absorbed and redirected back to the Earth's surface. The resultant warming at the surface could be expected to melt snow and ice, reducing the Earth's reflectivity. More solar radiation would then be absorbed, leading to a further increase in temperature.

Q.15 The primary purpose of the passage is to

- (a) warn of the dangers of continued burning of fossil fuels.
- (b) discuss the significance of increasing the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.
- (c) explain how a constant temperature is maintained on the Earth's surface.
- (d) describe the ways in which various atmospheric and climatic conditions contribute to the Earth's weather.

Q.16 According to the passage, the greatest part of the solar energy that reaches the Earth is

- (a) concentrated in the infrared spectrum.
- (b) concentrated at visible wavelengths.
- (c) absorbed by carbon dioxide molecules.
- (d) absorbed by atmospheric water vapour.

Q.17 According to the passage, atmospheric carbon dioxide performs all of the following functions except

- (a) absorbing radiation at visible wavelengths.
- (b) absorbing infrared radiation.
- (c) absorbing outgoing radiation from the Earth.
- (d) helping to retain heat near the Earth's surface.

Q.18 Which of the following best describes the author's attitude towards the increasing amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere and its consequences?

- (a) Incredulous
- (b) Completely detached
- (c) Objective yet concerned
- (d) Angry yet resigned

Q.19 It can be concluded from information contained in the passage that the average temperature at an altitude of 1 kilometer above the Earth is about:

- (a) 15°C (b) 9°C
- (c) 2.5°C (d) -12°C

Q.20 It can be inferred from the passage that the construction of the mathematical model mentioned in the passage involved the formulation of which of the following?

- (a) An assumption that the amount of carbon dioxide added to the atmosphere would in reality steadily increase.
- (b) An assumption that human activities are the only agencies by which carbon dioxide is added to the atmosphere.

- (c) Assumption about social and political consequences of any curtailment of the use of fossil fuels.
- (d) Assumptions about the physical conditions that are likely to prevail during the period for which the model was made.

- Q.21** According to the passage, which of the following is true of the last hundred years?
- (a) Fossil fuels were burned for the first time.
 - (b) Greater amounts of land were cleared then at any time before.
 - (c) The average temperature of the Earth's surface has become 2° C cooler.
 - (d) The amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere has increased measurably.

Passage 5

Some modern anthropologists hold that biological evolution has shaped not only human morphology but also human behaviour. The role those anthropologists ascribe to evolution is not of dictating the details of human behaviour but one of imposing constraints – ways of feeling, thinking, and acting that “come naturally” in archetypal situations in any culture. Our “frailties” – emotions and motives such as rage, fear, greed, gluttony, joy, lust, love – may be a very mixed assortment, but they share at least one immediate quality: we are, as we say, “in the grip” of them. And thus they give us our sense of constraints.

Unhappily, some of those frailties – our need for ever-increasing security among them – are presently maladaptive. Yet, beneath the overlay of cultural detail, they, too said to be biological in direction, and therefore, as natural to us as are our appendixes. We would need to comprehend thoroughly their adaptive origins in order to understand how badly they guide us now. And we might then begin to resist their pressure.

- Q.22** The primary purpose of the passage is to present
- (a) a position on the foundations of human behaviour and on what those foundations imply.
 - (b) a theory outlining the parallel development of human morphology and of human behaviour.
 - (c) a diagnostic test for separating biologically determined behaviour patterns from cultures specific detail.
 - (d) a practical method for resisting the pressures of biologically determined drives.

- Q.23** The author implies that control to any extent over the “frailties” that constraint our behaviour is thought to presuppose
- (a) that those frailties are recognized as currently beneficial and adaptive.
 - (b) that there is little or no overlay of culture detail that mask their true nature.
 - (c) that there are cultures in which those frailties do not “come naturally” and from which such control can be learned.
 - (d) a full understanding of why those frailties evolved and of how they function now.

- Q.24** Which of the following most probably provides an appropriate analogy from human morphology for the “details” versus “constraints” distinction made in the passage in relation to human behaviour?
- (a) The ability of most people to see all the colours of the visible spectrum as against most people's inability to name any but the primary colours.
 - (b) The ability of even the least fortunate people to show compassion as against people's inability to mask their feelings completely.
 - (c) The greater lung capacity of mountain peoples that helps them live in oxygen-poor air as against people's inability to fly without special apparatus.
 - (d) The psychological profile of those people who are able to delay gratification as against people's inability to control their lives completely.

- Q.25** It can be inferred that in his discussion of maladaptive frailties the author assumes that
- (a) evolution does not favour the emergence of adaptive characteristics over the emergence of maladaptive ones.
 - (b) changes in the total human environment can outpace evolutionary change.
 - (c) maladaptive characteristics, once fixed, make the emergence of other maladaptive characteristics more likely.
 - (d) the designation of characteristics as being maladaptive must always remain highly tentative.

PRACTICE EXERCISE 4

Passage 1

A mysterious phenomenon is the ability of over-water migrants to travel on course. Birds, bees, and other species can keep track of time without any sensory cues from the outside world, and such “biological clocks” clearly contribute to their “compass sense”. For example, they can use the position of the Sun or stars, along with the time

of day, to find north. But compass sense alone cannot explain how birds navigate the ocean: after a flock travelling east is blown far south by a storm, it will assume the proper northeasterly course to compensate. Perhaps, some scientists thought, migrants determine their geographic position on Earth by celestial navigation, almost as human navigators use stars and planets, but this would demand of

the animals a fantastic map sense. Researchers now know that some species have a magnetic sense, which might allow migrants to determine their geographic location by detecting variations in the strength of the Earth's magnetic field.

- Q.1** The main idea of the passage is that
- (a) migration over land requires a simpler explanation than migration over water does.
 - (b) the means by which animals migrate over water are complex and only partly understood.
 - (c) the ability of migrant animals to keep track of time is related to their magnetic sense.
 - (d) knowledge of geographic location is essential to migrants with little or no compass sense.
- Q.2** It can be inferred from the passage that if the flock of birds were navigating by compass sense alone, they would, after the storm, fly:
- (a) East
 - (b) North
 - (c) South
 - (d) Southeast
- Q.3** In maintaining that migrating animals would need "a fantastic map sense" to determine their geographic position by celestial navigation, the author intends to express
- (a) admiration for the ability of the migrants.
 - (b) skepticism about celestial navigation as an explanation.
 - (c) certainty that the phenomenon of migrants will remain mysterious.
 - (d) interest in a new method of accounting for over-water migration.

Passage 2

A "scientific" view of language was dominant among philosophers and linguists who affected to develop a scientific analysis of human thought and behaviour in the early part of this century. Under the force of this view, it was perhaps inevitable that the art of rhetoric should pass from the status of being regarded as of questionable worth (because although it might be both a source of pleasure and a means to urge people to right action, it might also be a means to distort truth and a source of misguided action) to the status of being wholly condemned. If people are regarded only as machines guided by logic, as they were by these "scientific" thinkers, rhetoric is likely to be held in low regard; for the most obvious truth about rhetoric is that it speaks to the whole person. It presents its arguments first to the person as a rational being, because persuasive discourse, if honestly conceived, always has a basis in reasoning. Logical argument is the plot, as it were, of any speech or essay that is respectfully intended to persuade people. Yet, it is a characterizing feature of rhetoric that it goes beyond this and appeals to the parts of our nature that are involved in feeling, desiring, acting, and suffering. It recalls relevant instances of the emotional reactions of people to circumstances – real or fictional – that are similar to our own circumstances. Such is the purpose of

both historical accounts and fables in persuasive discourse: they indicate literally or symbolically how people may react emotionally, with hope or fear, to particular circumstances. A speech attempting to persuade people can achieve little unless it takes into account the aspect of their being related to such hopes and fears.

Rhetoric, then, is addressed to human beings living at particular times and in particular places. From the point of view of rhetoric, we are not merely logical thinking machines, creatures abstracted from time and space. The study of rhetoric should, therefore, be considered the most humanistic of the humanities, since rhetoric is not directed only to our rational selves. It takes into account what the "scientific" view leaves out. It is a weakness to harbour feelings, then rhetoric may be thought of as dealing in weakness. But those who reject the idea of rhetoric because they believe it deals in lies and who at the same time hope to move people to action, must either be liars themselves or be very naïve; pure logic has never been a motivating force unless it has been subordinated to human purposes, feelings, and desires, and thereby ceased to be pure logic.

- Q.4** According to the passage, to reject rhetoric and till hope to persuade people is:
- (a) An aim of most speakers and writers.
 - (b) An indication either of dishonesty or of credulity.
 - (c) A way of displaying distrust of the audience's motives.
 - (d) A characteristic of most humanistic discourse.
- Q.5** It can be inferred from the passage that in the late nineteenth century rhetoric was regarded as:
- (a) The only necessary element of persuasive discourse.
 - (b) A dubious art in at least two ways.
 - (c) An outmoded and tedious amplification of logic.
 - (d) An open offense to the rational mind.
- Q.6** It can be inferred from the passage that in the late nineteenth century rhetoric was regarded as:
- (a) Reaction against science.
 - (b) Lack of training in logic.
 - (c) View of human motivation.
 - (d) Misunderstanding of the use of the term "scientific".
- Q.7** The passage suggests that a speech that attempts to persuade people to act is likely to fail if it does not
- (a) distort the truth a little to make it more acceptable to the audience.
 - (b) appeal to the self-interest as well as the humanitarianism of the audience.
 - (c) address listeners' emotions as well as their intellects.
 - (d) concede the logic of other points of view.
- Q.8** The passage suggests that to consider people as "thinking machines" is to consider them as:

- (a) Beings separated from a historical context.
- (b) Replaceable parts of a larger social machine.
- (c) More complex than other animals.
- (d) Liars rather than honest people.

- Q.9** Which of the following persuasive devices is not used in the passage?
- (a) A sample of an actual speech delivered by an orator.
 - (b) The contrast of different points of view.
 - (c) The repetition of key ideas and expressions.
 - (d) An analogy that seeks to explain logical argument.
- Q.10** Which of the following best states the author's main point about logical argument?
- (a) It is a sterile, abstract discipline, of little use in real life.
 - (b) It is an essential element of persuasive discourse, but only one such element.
 - (c) It is an important means of persuading people to act against their desires.
 - (d) It is the lowest order of discourse because it is the least imaginative.

Passage 3

Since the Hawaiian Islands have never been connected to other land masses, the great variety of plants in Hawaii must be a result of the long-distance dispersal of seeds, a process that requires both a method of transport and on equivalence between the ecology of the source area and that of the recipient area.

There is some dispute about the method of transport involved. Some biologists argue that ocean and air currents are responsible for the transport of plant seeds to Hawaii. Yet the results of flotation experiments and the low temperatures of air currents cast doubt on these hypotheses. More probable is bird transport, either externally, by accidental attachment of the seeds to feathers, or internally, by the swallowing of fruit and subsequent excretion of the seeds. While it is likely that fewer varieties of plant seeds have reached Hawaii externally than internally, more vacancies are known to be adapted to external than to internal transport.

- Q.11** The author of the passage is primarily concerned with
- (a) discussing different approaches biologists have taken to testing theories about the distribution of plants in Hawaii.
 - (b) discussing different theories about the transport of plant seeds to Hawaii.
 - (c) discussing the extent to which air currents are responsible for the dispersal of plant seeds to Hawaii.
 - (d) resolving a dispute about the adaptability of plant seeds to bird transport.
- Q.12** Author mentions the results of flotation experiments on plant seeds most probably in order to

- (a) support the claim that the distribution of plants in Hawaii is the result of the long-distance dispersal of seeds.
- (b) lend credibility to the thesis that air currents provide a method of transport for plant seeds to Hawaii.
- (c) suggest that the long-distance dispersal of seeds is a process that requires long periods of time.
- (d) challenge the claim that ocean currents are responsible for the transport of plant seeds to Hawaii.

- Q.13** It can be inferred from information in the passage that the existence in alpine regions of Hawaii of a plant species that also grows in the southwestern United States would justify which of the following conclusions:
- (a) The ecology of the southwestern United States is similar in important respects to the ecology of alpine regions of Hawaii.
 - (b) There are ocean currents that flow from the southwestern United States to Hawaii.
 - (c) The plant species discovered in Hawaii must have traveled from the southwestern United States only very recently.
 - (d) The plant species discovered in Hawaii reached there by attaching to the feathers of birds migrating from the southwestern United States.

- Q.14** The passage supplies information for answering which of the following questions?
- (a) Why does successful long-distance dispersal of plant seeds require an equivalence between the ecology of the source area and that of the recipient area?
 - (b) Why are more varieties of plant seeds adapted to external rather than to internal bird transport?
 - (c) What varieties of plant seeds are birds that fly long distances most likely to swallow?
 - (d) What is a reason for accepting the long-distance dispersal of plant seeds as an explanation for the origin of Hawaiian flora?

Passage 4

A long-held view of the history of the English colonies that became the United States has been that England's policy toward these colonies before 1763 was dictated by commercial interests and that a change to a more imperial policy, dominated by expansionist militarist objectives, generated the tensions that ultimately led to the American Revolution. In a recent study, Stephen Saunders Webb has presented a formidable challenge to this view. According to Webb, England already had a military imperial policy for more than a century before the American Revolution. He sees Charles II, the English monarch between 1660 and 1685, as the proper successor of the Tudor monarchs of the sixteenth century and of Oliver Cromwell, all of whom were bent on extend-

ing centralized executive power over England's possessions through the use of what Webb calls "Garrison government". Garrison government allowed the colonists a legislative assembly but real authority, in Webb's view, belonged to the colonial governor, who was appointed by the king and supported by the "garrison", that is, by the local contingent of English troops under the colonial governor's command.

According to Webb, the purpose of Garrison government was to provide military support for a royal policy designed to limit the power of the upper classes in the American colonies. Webb argues that the colonial legislative assemblies represented the interests not of the common people but of the colonial upper classes, a coalition of merchants and nobility who favoured self-rule and sought to elevate legislative authority at the expense of the executive. It was, according to Webb, the colonial governors who favoured the small farmer, opposed the plantation system, and tried through taxation to break up large holdings of land. Backed by the military presence of the garrison, these governors tried to prevent the gentry and merchants, allied in the colonial assemblies, from transforming colonial America into a capitalistic oligarchy. Webb's study illuminates the political alignments that existed in the colonies in the century prior to the American Revolution, but his view of the crown's use of the military as an instrument of colonial policy is not entirely convincing. England during the seventeenth century was not noted for its military achievements. Cromwell did mount England's most ambitious overseas military expedition in more than a century, but it proved to be an utter failure. Under Charles II, the English army was too small to be a major instrument of government. Not until the war France in 1697 did William III persuade Parliament to create a professional standing army, and Parliament's price for doing so was to keep the army under tight legislative control. While it may be true that the crown attempted to curtail the power of the colonial upper classes, it is hard to imagine how the English army during the seventeenth century could have provided significant military support for such a policy.

- Q.15** The passage can best be described as a
- (a) survey of the inadequacies of a conventional viewpoint.
 - (b) reconciliation of opposing points of view.
 - (c) summary and evaluation of a recent study.
 - (d) defence of a new thesis from anticipated objections.

- Q.16** The passage suggests that the long-standing view referred to in the first paragraph argued that
- (a) the colonial governors were sympathetic to the demands of the common people.
 - (b) Charles II was a pivotal figure in the shift of English monarchs toward a more imperial policy in their governorship of the American colonies.
 - (c) the American Revolution was generated largely out of a conflict between the colonial up-

per classes and an alliance of merchants and small farmers.

- (d) the military did not play a major role as an instrument of colonial policy until 1763.

- Q.17** It can be inferred from the passage that Webb would be most likely to agree with which of the following statements regarding garrison government?

- (a) Garrison government gave legislative assemblies in the colonies relatively little authority, compared to the authority that it gave the colonial governors.
- (b) Garrison government proved relatively ineffective until it was used by Charles II to curb the power of colonial legislatures.
- (c) Garrison government became a less viable colonial policy as the English Parliament began to exert tighter legislative control over the English Military.
- (d) Oliver Cromwell was the first English ruler to make use of garrison government on a large scale.

- Q.18** According to the passage, Webb views Charles II as the "proper successor" (in the first paragraph) of the Tudor monarchs and Cromwell because Charles II

- (a) used colonial tax revenues to fund overseas military expeditions.
- (b) used the military to extend executive power over the English colonies.
- (c) wished to transform the American colonies into capitalistic oligarchies.
- (d) resisted the English Parliament's efforts to exert control over the military.

- Q.19** According to Webb's view of colonial history, which of the following was (were) true of the merchants and nobility mentioned in the second paragraph?

- I. They were opposed to policies formulated by Charles II that would have transformed the colonies into capitalistic oligarchies.
 - II. They were opposed to attempts by the English crown to limit the power of the legislative assemblies.
 - III. They were united with small farmers in their opposition to the stationing of English troops in the colonies.
- (a) I only
 - (b) II only
 - (c) I and II only
 - (d) I, II and III

- Q.20** The author suggests that if William III had wanted to make use of the standing army (mentioned in last paragraph) to administer garrison government in the American colonies, he would have had to

- (a) make peace with France.
- (b) abolish the colonial legislative assemblies.
- (c) seek approval from the English Parliament.
- (d) appoint colonial governors who were more sympathetic to royal policy.

PRACTICE EXERCISE 5

Direction for questions: *Each passage is followed by questions based on its content. After reading passage, choose the best answer to each question. Answer all questions following a passage on the basis of what is stated or implied in that passage.*

Passage 1

The belief that art originates in intuitive rather than rational faculties was worked out historically and philosophically in the somewhat wearisome volumes of Benedetto Croce, who is usually considered the originator of the new aesthetic. Croce was, in fact, expressing a very old idea. Long before the Romantics stressed intuition and self-expression, the frenzy of inspiration was regarded as fundamental to art, but philosophers had always assumed it must be controlled by law and by the intellectual power of putting things into harmonious order. This general philosophic concept of art was supported by technical necessities. It was necessary to master certain laws and to use intellect in order to build Gothic cathedrals, or set up the stained glass windows of Chartres. When this bracing element of craftsmanship ceased to dominate artists' outlook, new technical elements had to be adopted to maintain the intellectual element in art. Such were linear perspective and anatomy.

- Q.1** The passage suggests that which of the following would most likely have occurred if linear perspective and anatomy had not come to influence artistic endeavour?
- (a) The craftsmanship that shaped Gothic architecture would have continued to dominate artists' outlooks.
 - (b) Some other technical elements would have been adopted to discipline artistic inspiration.
 - (c) Intellectual control over artistic inspiration would not have influenced painting as it did architecture.
 - (d) The role of intuitive inspiration would not have remained fundamental to theories of artistic creation.
- Q.2** Which of the following questions can be answered by the information supplied in the passage?
- (a) Does Romantic art exhibit the triumph of intuition over intellect?
 - (b) Did an emphasis on linear perspective and anatomy dominate Romantic art?
 - (c) Are the intellectual and intuitive faculties harmoniously balanced in post-Romantic art?
 - (d) Are the effects of the rational control of artistic inspiration evident in the great works of pre-Romantic eras?
- Q.3** The passage implies that which of the following was a traditional assumption of aesthetic philosophers?

- (a) Intellectual elements in art exert a necessary control over artistic inspiration.
- (b) Architecture has never again reached the artistic greatness of the Gothic cathedrals.
- (c) Aesthetic philosophy is determined by the technical necessities of art.
- (d) Artistic craftsmanship is more important in architectural art than in pictorial art.

- Q.4** The author mentions "linear perspective and anatomy", in the last sentence in order to do which of the following?
- (a) Expand his argument to include painting as well as architecture.
 - (b) Indicate his disagreement with Croce's theory of the origins of art.
 - (c) Support his point that rational order of some kind has often seemed to discipline artistic inspiration.
 - (d) Explain the rational elements in Gothic painting that corresponded to craftsmanship in Gothic architecture.

Passage 2

Computer programmers often remark that computing machines, with a perfect lack of discrimination, will do any foolish thing they are told to do. The reason for this lies, of course, in the narrow fixation of the computing machine's "intelligence" on the details of its own perceptions – its inability to be guided by any large context. In a psychological description of the computer intelligence, three related adjectives come to mind: single-minded, literal-minded, and simple-minded. Recognizing this, we should at the same time recognize that this single-mindedness, literal-mindedness, and simple-mindedness also characterizes theoretical mathematics, though to a lesser extent.

Since science tries to deal with reality, even the most precise sciences normally work with more or less imperfectly understood approximations toward which scientists must maintain an appropriate skepticism. Thus, for instance, it may come as a shock to mathematicians to learn that the Schrödinger equation for the hydrogen atom is not a literally correct description of this atom, but only an approximation to a somewhat more correct equation taking account of spin, magnetic dipole and relativistic effects; and that this corrected equation is itself only an imperfect approximation to an infinite set of quantum field-theoretical equations. Physicists, looking at the original Schrodinger equation, learn to sense in it the presence of many invisible terms in addition to the differential terms visible, and this sense inspires an entirely appropriate disregard for the purely technical features of the equation. This very healthy skepticism is foreign to the mathematical approach.

Mathematics must deal with well-defined situations. Thus, mathematicians depend on an intellectual effort outside of mathematics for the crucial specification of the approximation that mathematics is to take literally. Give mathematicians a situation that is the least bit ill-defined, and they will make it well-defined, perhaps appropriately, but perhaps inappropriately. In some cases, the mathematicians' literal-mindedness may have unfortunate consequences. The mathematicians turn the scientist's theoretical assumptions, that is, their convenient points of analytical emphasis, into axioms, and then take these axioms literally. This brings the danger that they may also persuade the scientists to take these axioms literally. The question, central to the scientific investigation but intensely disturbing in the mathematical context – what happens if the axioms are relaxed? – is thereby ignored.

The physicist rightly dreads precise argument, since an argument that is convincing only if it is precise loses all its force if the assumptions on which it is based are slightly changed, whereas an argument that is convincing though imprecise may well be stable under small perturbations of its underlying assumptions.

- Q.5** The author discusses computing machines in the first paragraph primarily in order to do which of the following?
- Indicate the dangers inherent in relying to a great extent on machines.
 - Illustrate his views about the approach of mathematicians to problem solving.
 - Compare the work of mathematicians with that of computer programmers.
 - Provide one definition of intelligence.
- Q.6** According to the passage, scientists are skeptical toward their equations because scientists
- work to explain real, rather than theoretical or simplified, situations.
 - know that well-defined problems are often the most difficult to solve.
 - are unable to express their data in terms of multiple variables.
 - are unwilling to relax the axioms they have developed.
- Q.7** It can be inferred from the passage that scientists make which of the following assumptions about scientific arguments?
- The literal truth of the arguments can be made clear only in a mathematical context.
 - The arguments necessarily ignore the central question of scientific investigation.
 - The arguments probably will be convincing only to other scientists.
 - The premises on which the arguments are based may change.
- Q.8** According to the passage, mathematicians present a danger to scientists for which of the following reasons?
- Mathematicians may provide theories that are incompatible with those already developed by scientists.
 - Mathematicians may define situation in a way that is incomprehensible to scientists.
 - Mathematicians may convince scientists that theoretical assumptions are facts.
 - Scientists may come to believe that axiomatic statements are untrue.
- Q.9** The author suggests that the approach of physicists to solving scientific problems is which of the following?
- Practical for scientific purposes.
 - Detrimental to scientific progress.
 - Unimportant in most situations.
 - Effective, but rarely recognized as such.
- Q.10** The author suggests that a mathematician asked to solve a problem in an ill-defined situation would first attempt to do which of the following?
- Identify an analogous situation.
 - Simplify and define the situation.
 - Vary the underlying assumptions of a description of the situation.
 - Determine what use would be made of the solution provided.
- Q.11** The author implies that scientists develop a healthy skepticism because they are aware that
- mathematicians are better able to solve problems than are scientists.
 - changes in axiomatic propositions will inevitably undermine scientific arguments.
 - some factors in most situations must remain unknown.
 - mathematical solutions can rarely be applied to real problems.

Passage 3

In eighteenth-century France and England, reformers rallied around egalitarian ideals, but few reformers advocated higher education for women. Although the public decried women's lack of education, it did not encourage learning for its own sake for women. In spite of the general prejudice against learned women, there was one place where women could exhibit their erudition: the literary salon. Many writers have defined the woman's role in the salon as that of an intelligent hostess, but the salon had more than a social function for women. It was an informal university, too, where women exchanged ideas with educated persons, read their own works and heard those of others, and received and gave criticism.

In the 1750's, when salons were firmly established in France, some English women, who called themselves "Bluestockings" followed the example of the *salonnières* (French salon hostesses) and formed their own salons. Most Bluestockings did not wish to mirror the *salonnières*; they simply desired to adapt a proven formula to their own purpose - the elevation of women's status through moral and intellectual training. Differences in social orientation

and background can account perhaps for differences in the nature of French and English salons. The French salon incorporated aristocratic attitudes that exalted courtly pleasure and emphasized artistic accomplishments. The English Bluestockings, originating from a more modest background, emphasized learning and work over pleasure. Accustomed to the regimented life of court circles, *salonnières* tended toward formality in their salons. The English women, though somewhat puritanical, were more casual in their approach.

At first, the Bluestockings did imitate the *salonnières* by including men in their circles. However, as they gained cohesion, the Bluestockings came to regard themselves as a women's group and to possess a sense of female solidarity lacking in the *salonnières*, who remained isolated from one another by the primacy each held in her own salon. In an atmosphere of mutual support, the Bluestockings went beyond the salon experience. They travelled, studied, worked, wrote for publication, and by their activities challenged the stereotype of the passive woman. Although the *salonnières* were aware of sexual inequality, the narrow boundaries of their world kept their intellectual pursuits within conventional limits. Many *salonnières*, in fact, camouflaged their non-traditional activities behind the role of hostess and deferred to men in public.

Though the Bluestockings were trailblazers when compared with the *salonnières*, they were not feminists. They were too traditional, too hemmed by their generation to demand social and political rights. Nonetheless, in their desire for education, their willingness to go beyond the confines of the salon in pursuing their interests, and their championing of unity among women, the Bluestockings began the process of questioning women's role in society.

- Q.12** Which of the following best states the central idea of the passage?
- (a) The establishment of literary salons was a response to reformers' demands for social rights for women.
 - (b) For women, who did not have access to higher education as men did, literary salons provided an alternate route to learning and a challenge to some of society's basic assumptions about women.
 - (c) The literary salons provided a sounding board for French and English women who called for access to all the educational institutions in their societies on an equal basis with men.
 - (d) In England, as in France, the general prejudice against higher education for women limited women's function in literary salons to a primarily social one.
- Q.13** According to the passage, a significant distinction between the *salonnières* and Bluestockings was in the way each group regarded which of the following?
- (a) The value of acquiring knowledge.
 - (b) The role of pleasure in the activities of the literary salon.

- (c) The desirability of a complete break with societal traditions.
- (d) The inclusion of women of different backgrounds in the salons.

- Q.14** The author refers to differences in social background between *salonnières* and Bluestockings in order to do which of the following?
- (a) Criticize the view that their choices of activities were significantly influenced by male salon members.
 - (b) Discuss the reasons why literary salons in France were established before those in England.
 - (c) Question the importance of the Bluestockings in shaping public attitudes toward educated women.
 - (d) Explain the differences in atmosphere and style in their salons.
- Q.15** Which of the following statements is most compatible with the principles of the *salonnières* as described in the passage?
- (a) Women should aspire to be not only educated but independent as well.
 - (b) The duty of the educated women is to provide an active political model for less educated women.
 - (c) Devotion to pleasure and art is justified in itself.
 - (d) Substance, rather than form, is the most important consideration in holding a literary salon.
- Q.16** The passage suggests that the Bluestockings might have had a more significant impact on society if it had not been for which of the following?
- (a) Their unwillingness to defy aggressively the conventions of their age.
 - (b) Competitiveness among their salons.
 - (c) Their emphasis on individualism.
 - (d) The limited scope of their activities.
- Q.17** Which of the following could best be considered a twentieth-century counterpart of an eighteenth-century literary salon as it is described in the passage?
- (a) A social sorority
 - (b) A community centre
 - (c) A lecture course on art
 - (d) A humanities study group
- Q.18** To an assertion that Bluestockings were feminists, the author would most probably respond in which of the following way?
- (a) Admitted uncertainty
 - (b) Qualified disagreement
 - (c) Complete indifference
 - (d) Strong disparagement
- Q.19** Which of the following titles best describes the content of the passage?

- (a) Eighteenth – Century Egalitarianism
- (b) Feminists of the Eighteenth Century
- (c) Eighteenth Century – Precursors of Feminism
- (d) Intellectual Life in the Eighteenth Century

Passage 4

When same parameters and quantitative theory are used to analyze both termite colonies and troops of rhesus macaques, we will have a unified science of sociobiology. Can this ever really happen? As my own studies have advanced, I have been increasingly impressed with the functional similarities between insect and vertebrate societies and less so with the structural differences that seem, at first glance, to constitute such an immense gulf between them. Consider for a moment termites and macaques. Both form cooperative groups that occupy territories. In both kinds of society there is a well-marked division of labour. Members of both groups communicate to each other hunger, alarm, hostility, caste status or rank, and reproductive status. From the specialist's point of view, this comparison may at first seem facile - or worse. But it is out of such deliberate oversimplification that the beginnings of a general theory are made.

- Q.20** Which of the following best summarizes the author's main point?
- (a) Oversimplified comparisons of animal societies could diminish the likelihood of developing a unified science of sociobiology.

- (b) Understanding the ways in which animals as different as termites and rhesus macaques resemble each other requires train in both biology and sociology.
- (c) A study of the similarities between insect and vertebrate societies could provide the basis for a unified science of sociobiology.
- (d) Animals as different as termites and rhesus macaques follow certain similar and predictable patterns of behaviour.

- Q.21** The author's attitude toward the possibility of a unified theory in sociobiology is best described as which of the following?
- (a) Guarded optimism
 - (b) Unqualified enthusiasm
 - (c) Objective indifference
 - (d) Dissatisfaction
- Q.22** In discussing insect and vertebrate societies, the author suggests which of the following?
- (a) A distinguishing characteristic of most insect and vertebrate societies is a well-marked division of labour.
 - (b) The caste structure of insect societies is similar to that of vertebrate societies.
 - (c) Most insect and vertebrate societies form cooperative groups in order to occupy territory.
 - (d) There are significant structural differences between insect and vertebrate societies.

PRACTICE EXERCISE 6

Direction for questions 1 to 25: Each passage is followed by questions based on its content. After reading passage, choose the best answer to each question. Answer all questions following a passage on the basis of what is stated or implied in that passage.

Passage 1

Theorists are divided concerning the origin of the Moon. Some hypothesize that the Moon was formed in the same way as were the planets in the inner solar system (Mercury, Venus, Mars, and Earth) – from planet-forming materials in the presolar nebula. But, unlike the cores of the inner planets, the Moon's core contains little or no iron, while the typical planet-forming materials were quite rich in iron. Other theorists propose that the Moon was ripped out of the Earth's rocky mantle by the Earth's collision with another large celestial body after much of the Earth's iron fell to its core. One problem with the collision hypothesis is the question of how a satellite formed in this way could have settled into the nearly circular orbit that the Moon has today. Fortunately, the collision hypothesis is testable. If it is true, the mantle rocks of the Moon and the Earth should be the same geochemically.

- Q.1** The primary purpose of the passage is to
- (a) present two hypotheses concerning the origin of the Moon.
 - (b) discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the collision hypothesis concerning the origin of the Moon.
 - (c) propose that hypotheses concerning the Moon's origin be tested.
 - (d) argue that the Moon could not have been formed out of the typical planet-forming materials of the presolar nebula.
- Q.2** According to the passage, Mars and the Earth are similar in which of the following ways?
- I. Their satellites were formed by collisions with other celestial bodies.
 - II. Their cores contain iron.
 - III. They were formed from the presolar nebula.
- (a) III only
 - (b) I and II only
 - (c) I and III only
 - (d) II and III only
- Q.3** The author implies that a nearly circular orbit is unlikely for a satellite that
- (a) circles one of the inner planets.
 - (b) is deficient in iron.

- (c) is different from its planet geochemically.
- (d) was formed by a collision between two celestial bodies.

Q.4 Which of the following, if true, would be most likely to make it difficult to verify the collision hypothesis in the manner suggested by the author?

- (a) The Moon's core and mantle rock are almost inactive geologically.
- (b) The mantle rock of the Earth has changed in composition since the formation of the Moon, while the mantle rock of the Moon has remained chemically inert.
- (c) Much of the Earth's iron fell to the Earth's core long before the formation of the Moon, after which the Earth's mantle rock remained unchanged.
- (d) The mantle rock of the Moon contains elements such as platinum, gold, and iridium.

Passage 2

For some time scientists have believed that cholesterol plays a major role in heart disease because people with familial hypercholesterolemia, a genetic defect, have six to eight times the normal level of cholesterol in their blood and they invariably develop heart disease. These people lack cell-surface receptors for low-density lipoproteins (LDLs), which are the fundamental carriers of blood cholesterol to the body cells that use cholesterol. Without an adequate number of cell-surface receptors to remove LDLs from the blood, the cholesterol-carrying LDLs remain in the blood, increasing blood cholesterol levels. Scientists also noticed that people with familial hypercholesterolemia appear to produce more LDLs than normal individuals. How, scientists wondered, could a genetic mutation that causes a slowdown in the removal of LDLs from the blood also result in an increase in the synthesis of this cholesterol-carrying protein?

Since scientists could not experiment on human body tissue, their knowledge of familial hypercholesterolemia was severely limited. However, a breakthrough came in the laboratories of Yoshio Watanabe of Kobe University in Japan in 1980. Watanabe noticed that a male rabbit in his colony had ten times the normal concentration of cholesterol in its blood. By appropriate breeding, Watanabe obtained a strain of rabbits that had very high cholesterol levels. These rabbits spontaneously developed heart disease. To his surprise, Watanabe further found that the rabbits, like humans with familial hypercholesterolemia, lacked LDL receptors. Thus, scientists could study these Watanabe rabbits to gain a better understanding of familial hypercholesterolemia in humans.

Prior to the breakthrough at Kobe University, it was known that LDLs are secreted from the liver in the form of a precursor, called very low-density lipoproteins (VLDs), which carry triglycerides as well as relatively small amounts of cholesterol. The triglycerides are removed from the VLDs by fatty and other tissues. What remains is a remnant particle that must be removed from the blood. What scientists learned by studying the Watanabe rabbits is that the removal

of the VLDL remnant requires the LDL receptor. Normally, the majority of the VLDL remnants go to the liver where they bind to LDL receptors and are degraded. In the Watanabe rabbit, due to a lack of LDL receptors on liver cells, the VLDL remnants remain in the blood and are eventually converted to LDLs. The LDL receptors thus have a dual effect in controlling LDL levels. They are necessary to prevent over synthesis of LDLs from VLDL remnants and they are necessary for the normal removal of LDLs from the blood. With this knowledge, scientists are now well on the way toward developing drugs that dramatically lower cholesterol levels in people afflicted with certain forms of familial hypercholesterolemia.

Q.5 In the passage, the author is primarily concerned with

- (a) presenting a hypothesis and describing compelling evidence in support of it.
- (b) raising a question and describing an important discovery that led to an answer.
- (c) showing that a certain genetically caused disease can be treated effectively with drugs.
- (d) explaining what causes the genetic mutation that leads to heart disease.

Q.6 Which of the following drugs, if developed, would most likely be an example of the kind of drug mentioned in the line 32?

- (a) A drug that stimulates the production of VLDL remnants.
- (b) A drug that stimulates the production of LDL receptors on the liver.
- (c) A drug that stimulates the production of an enzyme needed for a cholesterol production.
- (d) A drug that suppresses the production of body cells that use cholesterol.

Q.7 The passage supplies information to answer which of the following questions?

- (a) Which body cells are the primary users of cholesterol?
- (b) How did scientists discover that LDLs are secreted from the liver in the form of a precursor?
- (c) Where in the body are VLDL remnants degraded?
- (d) Which body tissues produce triglycerides?

Q.8 According to the passage, by studying the Watanabe rabbits scientists learned that

- (a) VLDL remnants are removed from the blood by LDL receptors in the liver.
- (b) LDLs are secreted from the liver in the form of precursors called VLDLs.
- (c) VLDL remnant particles contain small amounts of cholesterol.
- (d) LDL receptors remove LDLs from the blood.

Q.9 The development of drug treatments for some forms of familial hypercholesterolemia is regarded by the author as

- (a) possible, but not very important.
- (b) highly probable.
- (c) promising, but many years off.
- (d) extremely unlikely.

Q.10 The passage implies that if the Watanabe rabbits had had as many LDL receptors on their livers as do normal rabbits, the Watanabe rabbits would have been

- (a) less likely than normal rabbits to develop heart disease.
- (b) less likely than normal rabbits to develop high concentrations of cholesterol in their blood.
- (c) less useful than they actually were to scientists in the study of familial hypercholesterolemia in humans.
- (d) unable to secrete VLDLs from their livers.

Q.11 The passage implies that Watanabe rabbits differ from normal rabbits in which of the following ways?

- (a) Watanabe rabbits have more LDL receptors than do normal rabbits.
- (b) The blood of Watanabe rabbits contains more VLDL remnants than does the blood of normal rabbits.
- (c) Watanabe rabbits have fewer fatty tissues than do normal rabbits.
- (d) Watanabe rabbits secrete lower levels of VLDLs than do normal rabbits.

Passage 3

When speaking of Romare Bearden, one is tempted to say, “A great Black American artist.” The subject matter of Bearden’s collages is certainly Black. Portrayals of the folk of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, whom he remembers from early childhood, of the jazz musicians and tenement roofs of his Harlem days, of Pittsburgh steelworkers, and his reconstruction of classical Greek myths in the guise of the ancient Black kingdom of Benin, attest to this. In natural harmony with this choice of subject matter are the social sensibilities of the artist, who remains active today with the Cinque Gallery in Manhattan, which he helped found and which is devoted to showing the work of minority artists. Then why not call Bearden a Black American artist? Because ultimately this categorization is too narrow. “What stands up in the end is structure,” Bearden says. “What I try to do is amplify. If I were just creating a picture of a farm woman from back home, it would have meaning to her and people there. But art amplifies itself to something universal.”

Q.12 According to the passage, all of the following are depicted in Bearden’s collages EXCEPT:

- (a) Workers in Pittsburgh’s steel mills.
- (b) Scenes set in the ancient kingdom of Benin.
- (c) People Bearden knew as a child.
- (d) Traditional representations of the classical heroes of Greek mythology.

Q.13 The author suggests that Bearden should not be called a Black American artist because

- (a) there are many collages by Bearden in which the subject matter is not Black.
- (b) Bearden’s work reflects the Black American experience in a highly individual style.
- (c) through the structure of Bearden’s art his Black subjects come to represent all of humankind.
- (d) Bearden’s true significance lies not so much in his own work as in his efforts to help other minority artists.

Q.14 Bearden’s social sensibilities and the subject matter of his collages are mentioned by the author in order to explain

- (a) why one might be tempted to call Bearden a Black American artist.
- (b) why Bearden cannot be readily categorized.
- (c) why Bearden’s appeal is thought by many to be ultimately universal.
- (d) how deeply an artist’s artistic creations are influenced by the artist’s social conscience.

Q.15 The author of the passage is chiefly concerned with

- (a) discussing Bearden’s philosophy of art.
- (b) assessing the significance of the ethnic element in Bearden’s work.
- (c) acknowledging Bearden’s success in giving artistic expression to the Black American experience.
- (d) pointing out Bearden’s helpfulness to other minority artists.

Passage 4

Surprisingly enough, modern historians have rarely interested themselves in the history of the American South in the period before the South began to become self-consciously and distinctively “Southern”—the decades after 1815. Consequently, the cultural history of Britain’s North American empire in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries has been written almost as if the Southern colonies had never existed. The American culture that emerged during the Colonial and Revolutionary eras has been depicted as having been simply an extension of New England Puritan culture. However, Professor Davis has recently argued that the South stood apart from the rest of American society during this early period, following its own unique pattern of cultural development. The case for Southern distinctiveness rests upon two related premises: first, that the cultural similarities among the five Southern colonies were far more impressive than the differences, and second, that what made those colonies alike also made them different from the other colonies. The first, for which Davis offers an enormous amount of evidence, can be accepted without major reservations; the second is far more problematic.

What makes the second premise problematic is the use of the Puritan colonies as a basis for comparison. Quite properly, Davis decries the excessive influence ascribed by historians to the Puritans in the formation of American cul-

ture. Yet Davis inadvertently adds weight to such ascriptions by using the Puritans as the standard against which to assess the achievements and contributions of Southern colonials. Throughout, Davis focuses on the important, and undeniable, differences between the Southern and Northern colonies in motives for and patterns of early settlement, in attitudes toward nature and Native Americans, and in the degree of receptivity to metropolitan cultural influences.

However, recent scholarship has strongly suggested that those aspects of early New England culture that seem to have been most distinctly Puritan, such as the strong religious orientation and the communal impulse, were not even typical of New England as a whole, but were largely confined to the two colonies of America. Thus, what in contrast to the Puritan (Northern) colonies appears to Davis to be peculiarly Southern – acquisitiveness, a strong interest in politics and the law, and a tendency to cultivate metropolitan cultural models – was not only more typically English than the cultural patterns exhibited by Puritan Massachusetts and Connecticut, but also almost certainly characteristic of most other early modern British colonies from Barbados north to Rhode Island and New Hampshire. Within the larger framework of American colonial life, then, not the Southern but the Northern colonies appear to have been distinctive, and even they seem to have been rapidly assimilating to the dominant cultural patterns by the last Colonial period.

- Q.16** The author is primarily concerned with
- (a) refuting a claim about the influence of Puritan culture on the early American South.
 - (b) refuting a thesis about the distinctiveness of the culture of the early American South.
 - (c) refuting the two premises that underlie Davis's discussion of the culture of the American South.
 - (d) challenging the hypothesis that early American culture was homogeneous in nature.
- Q.17** The passage implies that the attitudes toward Native Americans that prevailed in the Southern colonies
- (a) were in conflict with the cosmopolitan outlook of the South.
 - (b) derived from Southerners' strong interest in the law.
 - (c) were modelled after those that prevailed in the North.
 - (d) differed from those that prevailed in the Puritan colonies.
- Q.18** According to the author, the depiction of American culture during the Colonial and Revolutionary eras as an extension of New England Puritan culture reflects the
- (a) fact that historians have overestimated the importance of the Puritans in the development of American culture.
 - (b) fact that early American culture was deeply influenced by the strong religious orientation of the colonists.

- (c) extent to which Massachusetts and Connecticut served as cultural models for the other American colonies.
- (d) extent to which colonial America resisted assimilating cultural patterns that were typically English.

Q.19 The author of the passage is in agreement with which of the following elements of Davis' book?

- I. Davis' claim that acquisitiveness was a characteristic unique to the South during the Colonial period.
 - II. Davis' argument that there were significant differences between Puritan and Southern culture during the Colonial period.
 - III. Davis' thesis that the Southern colonies shared a common culture.
- (a) I only
 - (b) II only
 - (c) III only
 - (d) II and III only

Q.20 The passage suggests that by the late Colonial period the tendency to cultivate metropolitan cultural models was a cultural pattern that was

- (a) dying out as Puritan influence began to grow.
- (b) self-consciously and distinctively Southern.
- (c) spreading to Massachusetts and Connecticut.
- (d) more characteristic of the Southern colonies than of England.

Q.21 Which of the following statements could most logically follow the last sentence of the passage?

- (a) Thus, had more attention been paid to the evidence, Davis would not have been tempted to argue that the culture of the South diverged greatly from Puritan culture in the seventeenth century.
- (b) Thus, convergence, not divergence, seems to have characterized the cultural development of the American colonies in the eighteenth century.
- (c) Thus, without the cultural diversity represented by the America South, the culture of colonial America would certainly have been homogeneous in nature.
- (d) Thus, the contribution of Southern colonials to American culture was certainly overshadowed by that of the Puritans.

Passage 5

The social sciences are less likely than other intellectual enterprises to get credit for their accomplishments. Arguably, this is so because the theories and conceptual constructs of the social sciences are especially accessible: human intelligence apprehends truths about human affairs with particular facility. And the discoveries of the social sciences, once isolated and labelled, are quickly absorbed into conventional wisdom, whereupon they lose their distinctiveness as scientific advances.

This under appreciation of the social sciences contrasts oddly with what many see as their overutilization. Game theory is pressed into service in studies of shifting international alliances. Evaluation research is called upon to demonstrate successes or failures of social programs. Models from economics and demography become the definitive tools for examining the financial base of social security. Yet this rush into practical applications is itself quite understandable: public policy must continually be made, and policy-makers rightly feel that even tentative findings and untested theories are better guides to decision-making than no findings and no theories at all.

- Q.22** The author is primarily concerned with
- (a) advocating a more modest view, and less widespread utilization, of the social sciences.
 - (b) analyzing the mechanisms for translating discoveries into applications in the social sciences.
 - (c) dissolving the air of paradox inherent in human beings studying themselves.
 - (d) explaining a peculiar dilemma that the social sciences are in.
- Q.23** Which of the following is a social science discipline that the author mentions as being possibly over-utilized?
- (a) Conventional theories of social change
 - (b) Game theory

- (c) Decision-making theory
- (d) Systems analysis

- Q.24** It can be inferred from the passage that, when speaking of the “overutilization”, of the social sciences, the author is referring to the
- (a) premature practical application of social science advances.
 - (b) habitual reliance on the social sciences even where common sense would serve equally well.
 - (c) use of social science constructs by people who do not fully understand them.
 - (d) tendency on the part of social scientists to recast everyday truths in social science jargon.
- Q.25** The author confronts the claim that the social sciences are being over-utilized with
- (a) proof that over-extensions of social science results are self-correcting.
 - (b) evidence that some public policy is made without any recourse to social science findings or theories.
 - (c) the observation that this practice represents the lesser of two evils under existing circumstances.
 - (d) the argument that over-utilization is by and large the exception rather than the rule.

PRACTICE EXERCISE 7

Direction for questions 1 to 15: *Each passage is followed by questions based on its content. After reading passage, choose the best answer to each question. Answer all questions following a passage on the basis of what is stated or implied in that passage.*

Passage 1

Diamonds, an occasional component of rare igneous rocks called Lamproites and Kimbserlites, have never been dated satisfactorily. However, some diamonds contain minute inclusions of silicate minerals, commonly olivine, pyroxene, and garnet. These minerals can be dated by radioactive decay techniques because of the very small quantities of radioactive trace elements they, in turn, contain. Usually, it is possible to conclude that the inclusions are older than their diamond hosts, but with little indication of the time interval involved. Sometimes, however, the crystal form of the silicate inclusions is observed to resemble more closely the internal structure of diamond than that of other silicate minerals. It is not known how rare this resemblance is, or whether it is most often seen in inclusions of silicates such as garnet, whose crystallography is generally somewhat similar to that of diamond; but when present, the resemblance is regarded as compelling evidence that the diamonds and inclusions are truly co-genetic.

- Q.1** The author implies that silicate inclusions were most often formed
- (a) with small diamonds inside them.
 - (b) with trace elements derived from their host minerals.
 - (c) by the radioactive decay of rare igneous rocks.
 - (d) at the earlier period than were their host minerals.
- Q.2** According to the passage, the age of silicate minerals included in diamonds can be determined due to a feature of the
- (a) trace elements in the diamond hosts.
 - (b) trace elements in the rock surrounding the diamonds.
 - (c) trace elements in the silicate minerals.
 - (d) silicate minerals' crystal structure.
- Q.3** The author states that which of the following generally has a crystal structure similar to that of diamond?
- (a) Garnet
 - (b) Lamprorite
 - (c) Olivine
 - (d) Pyroxene
- Q.4** The main purpose of the passage is to
- (a) explain why it has not been possible to determine the age of diamonds.

- (b) explain how it might be possible to date some diamonds.
- (c) compare two alternative approaches to determining the age of diamonds.
- (d) compare a method of dating diamonds with a method used to date certain silicate minerals.

Passage 2

Discussion of the assimilation of Puerto Ricans in the United States has focused on two factors: social standing and the loss of national culture. In general, excessive stress is placed on one factor or the other, depending on whether the commentator is North American or Puerto Rican. Many North American social scientists, such as Oscar Handlin, Joseph Fitzpatrick, and Oscar Lewis, consider Puerto Ricans as the most recent in a long line of ethnic entrants to occupy the lowest rung on the social ladder. Such a “sociodemographic” approach tends to regard assimilation as a benign process, taking for granted increased economic advantage and inevitable cultural integration, in a supposedly egalitarian context. However, this approach fails to take into account the colonial nature of the Puerto Rican case, with this group, unlike their European predecessors, coming from a nation politically subordinated to the United States. Even the “radical” critiques of this mainstream research model, such as the critique developed in *Divided Society*, attach the issue of ethnic assimilation too mechanically to factors of economic and social mobility and are thus unable to illuminate the cultural subordination of Puerto Ricans as a colonial minority.

In contrast, the “colonialist” approach of island-based writers such as Eduardo Seda-Bonilla, Manuel Maldonado-Denis, and Luis Nieves-Falcon tends to view assimilation as the forced loss of national culture in an unequal contest with imposed foreign values. There is, of course, a strong tradition of cultural accommodation among other Puerto Rican thinkers. The writings of Eugenio Fernandez Mendez clearly exemplify this tradition, and many supporters of Puerto Rico’s commonwealth status share the same universalizing orientation. But the Puerto Rican intellectuals who have written most about the assimilation process in the United States all advance cultural nationalist views, advocating the preservation of minority cultural distinctions and rejecting what they see as the subjugation of colonial nationalities.

This cultural and political emphasis is appropriate, but the colonialist thinkers misdirect it, overlooking the class relations at work in both Puerto Rican and North American history. They pose the clash of national cultures as an absolute polarity, with each culture understood as static and undifferentiated. Yet both the Puerto Rican and North American traditions have been subjected to constant challenge from cultural forces within their own societies, forces that may move toward each other in ways that cannot be written off as mere “assimilation”. Consider, for example, the indigenous and Afro-Caribbean traditions in Puerto Rican culture and how they influence and are influenced by other Caribbean cultures and Black cultures in the United

States. The elements of coercion and inequality, so central to cultural contact according to the colonialist framework play no role in this kind of convergence of racially and ethnically different elements of the same social class.

- Q.5** The author’s main purpose is to
- (a) criticize the emphasis on social standing in discussions of the assimilation of Puerto Ricans in the United States.
 - (b) support the thesis that assimilation has not been a benign process for Puerto Ricans.
 - (c) defend a view of the assimilation of Puerto Ricans that emphasizes the preservation of national culture.
 - (d) indicate deficiencies in two schools of thought on the assimilation of Puerto Ricans in the United States.
- Q.6** According to the passage, cultural accommodation is promoted by
- (a) many supporters of Puerto Rico’s commonwealth status.
 - (b) Manuel Maldonado-Denis.
 - (c) the author of *Divided Society*.
 - (d) the majority of social scientists writing on immigration.
- Q.7** It can be inferred from the passage that a writer such as Eugenio Fernandez Mendez would most likely agree with which of the following statements concerning members of minority ethnic groups?
- (a) The members of such groups generally encounter a culture that is static and undifferentiated.
 - (b) It is necessary for the members of such groups to adapt to the culture of the majority.
 - (c) Social mobility is the most important feature of the experience of members of such groups.
 - (d) Social scientists should emphasize the cultural and political aspects of the experience of members of such groups.
- Q.8** The author implies that the Puerto Rican writers who have written most about assimilation do not do which of the following?
- (a) Regard assimilation as benign.
 - (b) Resist cultural integration.
 - (c) Describe in detail the process of assimilation.
 - (d) Take into account the colonial nature of the Puerto Rican case.
- Q.9** It can be inferred from the passage that the “colonialist” approach is so-called because its practitioners
- (a) support Puerto Rico’s commonwealth status.
 - (b) have a strong tradition of cultural accommodation.
 - (c) pose the clash of national cultures as an absolute polarity in which each culture is understood as static and undifferentiated.
 - (d) regard the political relation of Puerto Rico to the United States as a significant factor in the experience of Puerto Ricans.

- Q.10** The author regards the emphasis by island-based writers on the cultural and political dimensions of assimilation as:
- (a) Ironic
 - (b) Dangerous
 - (c) Fitting but misdirected
 - (d) Illuminating but easily
- Q.11** The example discussed in last paragraph is intended by the author to illustrate a
- (a) strength of a socio-demographic approach.
 - (b) strength of the “colonists” approach.
 - (c) weakness of the socio-demographic approach.
 - (d) weakness of the “colonists” approach.

Passage 3

A serious critic has to comprehend the particular content, unique structure, and special meaning of a work of art. And here she faces a dilemma. The critic must recognize the artistic element of uniqueness that requires subjective reaction; yet she must not be unduly prejudiced by such reactions. Her likes and dislikes are less important than what the work itself communicates, and her preferences may blind her to certain qualities of the work and thereby prevent an adequate understanding of it. Hence, it is necessary that a critic develop a sensibility informed by familiarity with the history of art and aesthetic theory. On the other hand, it is insufficient to treat the artwork solely historically, in relation to a fixed set of ideas or values. The critic’s knowledge and training are, rather, a preparation of the cognitive and emotional abilities needed for an adequate personal response to an artwork’s own particular qualities.

- Q.12** According to the author, a serious art critic may avoid being prejudiced by her subjective reactions if she

- (a) treats an artwork in relation to a fixed set of ideas and values.
- (b) brings to her observation a knowledge of art history and aesthetic theory.
- (c) allows more time for the observation of each artwork.
- (d) takes into account the preferences of other art critics.

- Q.13** The author implies that it is insufficient to treat a work of art solely historically because
- (a) doing so would lead the critic into a dilemma.
 - (b) doing so can blind the critic to some of the artwork’s unique qualities.
 - (c) doing so can insulate the critic from personally held beliefs.
 - (d) subjective reactions can produce a biased response.

- Q.14** The passage suggests that the author would be most likely to agree with which of the following statements?
- (a) Art speaks to the passions as well as to the intellect.
 - (b) Most works of art express unconscious wishes or desires.
 - (c) The best art is accessible to the greatest number of people.
 - (d) The art produced in the last few decades is of inferior quality.

- Q.15** The author’s argument is developed primarily by the use of
- (a) an attack on sentimentality.
 - (b) an example of successful art criticism.
 - (c) a critique of artists training.
 - (d) a warning against extremes in art criticism.

PRACTICE EXERCISE 8

Direction for questions 1 to 21: *Each passage is followed by questions based on its content. After reading passage, choose the best answer to each question. Answer all questions following a passage on the basis of what is stated or implied in that passage.*

Passage 1

Ragtime is musical form that synthesizes folk melodies and musical techniques into a brief quadrille-like structure, designed to be played – exactly as written – on the piano. A strong analogy exists between European composers like Ralph Vaughan Williams, Edvard Grieg, and Anton Dvorak who combined folk tunes and their own original materials in larger compositions and the pioneer ragtime composers in the United States. Composers like Scott Joplin and James Scott were in a sense collectors or musicologists, collecting dance and folk music in Black communities and consciously

shaping it into brief suites or anthologies called piano rags. It has sometimes been charged that ragtime is mechanical. For instance, Wilfred Mellers comments, “rags were transferred to the pianola roll and, even if not played by a machine, should be played like a machine, with meticulous precision.” However, there is no reason to assume that ragtime is inherently mechanical simply because commercial manufacturers applied a mechanical recording method to ragtime, the only way to record pianos at that date. Ragtime’s is not a mechanical precision, and it is not precision limited to the style of performance. It arises from ragtime’s following a well-defined form and obeying simple rules within that form. The classic formula for the piano rag disposes three to five themes in sixteen-bar strains, often organized with repeats. The rag opens with a bright, memorable strain or theme, followed by a similar theme, leading to a trio of marked lyrical character, with the structure concluded by

a lyrical strain that parallels the rhythmic developments of the earlier themes. The aim of the structure is to rise from one theme to another in a stair-step manner, ending on a note of triumph or exhilaration. Typically, each strain is divided into two 8-bar segments that are essentially alike, so the rhythmic-melodic unit of ragtime is only eight bars of 2/4 measure. Therefore, themes must be brief with clear, sharp melodic figures. Not concerned with development of musical themes, the ragtime composer instead sets a theme down intact, in finished form, and links it to various related themes. Tension in ragtime compositions arises from a polarity between two basic ingredients: a continuous bass—called by jazz musicians a boom-chick bass—in the pianist's left hand, and its melodic, syncopated counterpart in the right hand. Ragtime remains distinct from jazz both as an instrumental style and as a genre. Ragtime style stresses a pattern of repeated rhythms, not the constant inventions and variations of jazz. As a genre, ragtime requires strict attention to structure, not inventiveness or virtuosity. It exists as a tradition, a set of conventions, a body of written scores, separate from the individual players associated with it. In this sense ragtime is more akin to folk music of the nineteenth century than to jazz.

- Q.1** Which of the following best describes the main purpose of the passage?
- To contrast ragtime music and jazz.
 - To acknowledge and counter significant adverse criticisms of ragtime music.
 - To define ragtime music as an art form and describe its structural characteristics.
 - To review the history of ragtime music and analyze ragtime's effect on listeners.
- Q.2** According to the passage, each of the following is a characteristic of ragtime compositions that follow the classic ragtime formula EXCEPT
- well-defined melodic figures.
 - rising rhythmic-melodic intensity.
 - a bass line distinct from the melodic line.
 - full development of musical themes.
- Q.3** According to the passage, Ralph Vaughan Williams, Anton Dvorak, and Scott Joplin are similar in that they all
- conducted research into musicological history.
 - wrote original compositions based on folk tunes.
 - collected and recorded abbreviated piano suites.
 - created intricate sonata-like musical structures.
- Q.4** The author rejects the argument that ragtime is a mechanical music because that argument
- overlooks the precision required of the ragtime player.
 - does not accurately describe the sound of ragtime pianola music.
 - confuses the means of recording and the essential character of the music.
 - exaggerates the influence of the performance style of professional ragtime players on the reputation of the genre.
- Q.5** It can be inferred that the author of the passage believes that the most important feature of ragtime music is its:
- Commercial success
 - Formal structure
 - Emotional range
 - Improvisational opportunities
- Q.6** It can be inferred from the passage that the essential nature of ragtime has been obscured by commentaries based on
- the way ragtime music was first recorded.
 - interpretations of ragtime by jazz musicians.
 - the dance fashions that were contemporary with ragtime.
 - early reviewers' accounts of characteristic structure.
- Q.7** Which of the following is most nearly analogous in source and artistic character to a ragtime composition as described in the passage?
- Symphonic music derived from complex jazz motifs.
 - An experimental novel based on well-known cartoon characters.
 - A dramatic production in which actors invent scenes and improvise lines.
 - A ballet whose disciplined choreography is based on folk-dance steps.

Passage 3

The term "Ice Age" may give a wrong impression. The epoch that geologists know as the Pleistocene and that spanned the 1.5 to 2.0 million years prior to the current geologic epoch was not one long continuous glaciations, but a period of oscillating climate with ice advances punctuated by times of interglacial climate not very different from the climate experienced now. Ice sheets that derived from an ice cap centered on northern Scandinavia reached southward to Central Europe. And Beyond the margins of the ice sheets, climatic oscillations affected most of the rest of the world; for example, in the deserts, periods of wetter conditions (pluvials) contrasted with drier, interpluvial periods. Although the time involved is so short, about 0.04 per cent of the total age of the Earth, the amount of attention devoted to the Pleistocene has been incredibly large, probably because of its immediacy, and because the epoch largely coincides with the appearance on Earth of humans and their immediate ancestors. There is no reliable way of dating much of the Ice Age. Geological dates are usually obtained by using the rates of decay of various radioactive elements found in minerals. Some of these rates are suitable for very old rocks but involve increasing errors when used for young rocks; others are suitable for every young rocks and errors increase rapidly in older rocks. Most of the Ice Age spans a period

of time for which no element has as appropriate decay rate. Nevertheless, researchers of the Pleistocene epoch have developed all sorts of more or less fanciful model schemes of how they would have arranged the Ice Age had they been in charge of events. For example, an each classification of Alpine glaciations suggested the existence there of four glaciations, named the Gunz, Mindel, Riss, and Wurm. This succession was based primarily on a series of deposits and events not directly related to glacial and interglacial periods, rather than on the more usual modern method of studying biological remains found in interglacial beds themselves interstratified within glacial deposits. Yet this succession was forced willy-nilly onto the glaciated parts of Northern Europe, where there are partial successions of true glacial ground moraines and interglacial deposits, with hopes of ultimately piecing them together to provide a complete Pleistocene succession. Eradication of the Alpine nomenclature is still proving a Herculean task. There is no conclusive evidence about the relative length, complexity, and temperatures of the various glacial and interglacial periods. We do not know whether we live in a postglacial period or an interglacial period. The chill truth seems to be that we are already past the optimum climate of postglacial time. Studies of certain fossil distributions and of the pollen of certain temperate plants suggest decreases of a degree or two in both summer and winter temperatures and, therefore, that we may be in the declining climatic phase leading to glaciations and extinction.

- Q.8** In the passage, the author is primarily concerned with
- (a) searching for an accurate method of dating the Pleistocene epoch.
 - (b) discussing problems involved in providing an accurate picture of the Pleistocene epoch.
 - (c) declaring opposition to the use of the term “Ice Age” for the Pleistocene epoch.
 - (d) criticizing fanciful schemes about what happened in the Pleistocene epoch.
- Q.9** The “wrong impression” mentioned in the opening line, to which the author refers, is the idea that the
- (a) climate of the Pleistocene epoch was not very different from the climate we are now experiencing.
 - (b) climate of the Pleistocene epoch was composed of periods of violent storms.
 - (c) Pleistocene epoch consisted of very wet, cold periods mixed with very dry, hot periods.
 - (d) Pleistocene epoch comprised one period of continuous glaciations during which Northern Europe was covered with ice sheets.
- Q.10** According to the passage, one of the reasons for the deficiencies of the “early classification of Alpine glaciations”, is that it was
- (a) derived from evidence that was only tangentially related to times of actual glaciations.

- (b) based primarily on fossil remains rather than on actual living organisms.
- (c) an abstract, imaginative scheme of how the period might have been structured.
- (d) based on unmethodical examinations of randomly chosen glacial biological remains.

- Q.11** Which of the following does the passage imply about the “early classification of Alpine glaciations”?
- (a) It should not have been applied as widely as it was.
 - (b) It represents the best possible scientific practice, given the tools available at the time.
 - (c) It was a valuable tool, in its time, for measuring the length of the four periods of glaciations.
 - (d) It could be useful, but only as a general guide to the events of the Pleistocene epoch.
- Q.12** It can be inferred from the passage that an important result of producing an accurate chronology of events of the Pleistocene epoch would be a
- (a) clearer idea of the origin of the Earth.
 - (b) clearer picture of the Earth during the time that humans developed.
 - (c) clearer understanding of the reasons for the existence of deserts.
 - (d) more detailed understanding of how radioactive dating of minerals works.
- Q.13** The author refers to deserts primarily in order to
- (a) illustrate the idea that an interglacial climate is marked by oscillations of wet and dry periods.
 - (b) illustrate the idea that what happened in the deserts during the Ice Age had far-reaching effects even on the ice sheets of Central and Northern Europe.
 - (c) illustrate the idea that the effects of the Ice Age’s climatic variations extended beyond the areas of ice.
 - (d) support the view that during the Ice Age sheets of ice covered some of the deserts of the world.

- Q.14** The author would regard the idea that we are living in an interglacial period as
- (a) Unimportant
 - (b) Unscientific
 - (c) Self-evident
 - (d) Plausible

Passage 4

Imagine for a moment that you are the manager of a day-care center. You have a clearly stated policy that children are supposed to be picked up by 4 p.m. But very often parents are late. The result: at day’s end, you have some anxious children and at least one teacher who must wait around for the parents to arrive. What to do? A pair of economists who heard of this dilemma—it turned out to be a rather common one—offered a solution: fine the tardy parents. Why, after all,

should the day-care center take care of these kids for free? The economists decided to test their solution by conducting a study of ten day-care centers in Haifa, Israel. The study lasted twenty weeks, but the fine was not introduced immediately. For the first four weeks, the economists simply kept track of the number of parents who came late; there were, on average, eight late pickups per week per day-care center. In the fifth week, the fine was enacted. It was announced that any parent arriving more than ten minutes late would pay \$3 per child for each incident. The fee would be added to the parents' monthly bill, which was roughly \$380. After the fine was enacted, the number of late pickups promptly went up. Before long there were twenty late pickups per week, more than double the original average. The incentive had plainly backfired. Economics is, at root, the study of incentives: how people get what they want, or need, especially when other people want or need the same thing.

Economists love incentives. They love to dream them up and enact them, study them and tinker with them. The typical economist believes the world has not yet invented a problem that he cannot fix if given a free hand to design the proper incentive scheme. His solution may not always be pretty—it may involve coercion or exorbitant penalties or the violation of civil liberties—but the original problem, rest assured, will be fixed. An incentive is a bullet, a lever, a key: an often tiny object with astonishing power to change a situation. We all learn to respond to incentives, negative and positive, from the outset of life. If you toddle over to the hot stove and touch it, you burn a finger. But if you bring home straight A's from school, you get a new bike. If you break curfew, you get grounded. But if you ace your SATs, you get to go to a good college. If you flunk out of law school, you have to go to work at your father's insurance company. But if you perform so well that a rival company comes calling, you become a vice-president and no longer have to work for your father. If you become so excited about your new vice-president job that you drive home at eighty mph, you get pulled over by the police and fined \$100. But if you hit your sales projections and collect a year-end bonus, you not only aren't worried about the \$100 ticket but can also afford to buy that Viking range you've always wanted—and on which your toddler can now burn her own finger. An incentive is simply a means of urging people to do more of a good thing and less of a bad thing.

Q.15 What is primary function of the second paragraph?

- (a) To show the ubiquity of incentives in Economics and beyond.
- (b) To argue against the relevance of incentives in Economics.
- (c) To moot the ineptitude of the traditional economists.
- (d) To illustrate the problem solving ability of the Economics.

Q.16 What does the author believe about the role played by the typical economists?

- (a) Their incentive schemes fail to solve the real problems.
- (b) They are involved in coercion and violation of civil liberties.
- (c) They wield astonishing power to change a situation.
- (d) In their zealotness to solve the main problem, they may create more problems.

Q.17 Why does the author mention the day-care center case in the first paragraph?

- (a) To prove the futility of financial incentive in economics.
- (b) To discuss a dilemma faced by a pair of economists.
- (c) To illustrate the primary goal of Economics.
- (d) To illustrate the role of incentives in Economics.

Q.18 What was the assumption of the economists mentioned in the first paragraph who proposed to fine the tardy parents?

- (a) Imposing fine is the best possible way to modify the behaviour of late coming parents.
- (b) Imposing fine would be profitable for the business in the long run.
- (c) Not fining the parents would ruin the day-center business.
- (d) Imposing fine can be a powerful economic incentive.

Passage 5

The dark regions in the starry night sky are not pockets in the universe that are devoid of stars as had long been thought. Rather, they are dark because of interstellar dust that hides the stars behind it. Although its visual effect is so pronounced, dust is only a minor constituent of the material, extremely low in density, that lies between the stars. Dust accounts for about one per cent of the total mass of interstellar matter. The rest is hydrogen and helium gas, with small amounts of other elements. The interstellar material, rather like terrestrial clouds, comes in all shapes and sizes. The average density of interstellar material in the vicinity of our Sun is 1,000 to 10,000 times less than the best terrestrial laboratory vacuum. It is only because of the enormous interstellar distances that so little material per unit of volume becomes so significant. Optical astronomy is most directly affected, for although interstellar gas is perfectly transparent, the dust is not.

Q.19 According to the passage, which of the following is a direct perceptual consequence of interstellar dust?

- (a) Some stars are rendered invisible to observers on Earth.
- (b) Many visible stars are made to seem brighter than they really are.
- (c) The presence of hydrogen and helium gas is revealed.
- (d) The night sky appears dusty at all times to observers on Earth.

- Q.20** It can be inferred from the passage that the density of interstellar material is
- (a) higher where distances between the stars are shorter.
 - (b) equal to that of interstellar dust.
 - (c) unusually low in the vicinity of our Sun.
 - (d) not homogeneous throughout interstellar space.
- Q.21** It can be inferred from the passage that it is because space is so vast that

- (a) little of the interstellar material in it seems substantial.
- (b) normal units of volume seem futile for measurements of density.
- (c) stars can be far enough from Earth to be obscured even by very sparsely distributed matter.
- (d) interstellar gases can, for all practical purposes, be regarded as transparent.

PRACTICE EXERCISE 9

Direction for questions: *Each passage is followed by questions based on its content. After reading passage, choose the best answer to each question. Answer all questions following a passage on the basis of what is stated or implied in that passage.*

Passage 1

Whether the languages of the ancient American peoples were used for expressing abstract universal concepts can be clearly answered in the case of Nahuatl. Nahuatl, like Greek and German, is a language that allows the formation of extensive compounds. By the combination of radicals or semantic elements, single compound words can express complex conceptual relations, often of an abstract universal character. The *tlamatinime* ("those who know") were able to use this rich stock of abstract terms to express the nuances of their thought. They also availed themselves of other forms of expression with metaphorical meaning, some probably original, some derived from Toltec coinages. Of these forms the most characteristic in Nahuatl is the juxtaposition of two words that, because they are synonyms, associated terms, or even contraries, complement each other to evoke one single idea. Used as metaphor, the juxtaposed terms connote specific or essential traits of the being they refer to, introducing a mode of poetry as an almost habitual form of expression.

- Q.1** A main purpose of the passage is to
- (a) delineate the function of the *tlamatinime* in Nahuatl society.
 - (b) explain the abstract philosophy of the Nahuatl thinkers.
 - (c) argue against a theory of poetic expression by citing evidence about the Nahuatl.
 - (d) describe some conceptual and aesthetic resources of the Nahuatl language.
- Q.2** According to the passage, some abstract universal ideas can be expressed in Nahuatl by
- (a) putting various meaningful elements together in one word.
 - (b) removing a word from its associations with other words.
 - (c) giving a word a new and opposite meaning.

- (d) turning each word of a phrase into a poetic metaphor.

- Q.3** It can be inferred solely from the information in the passage that
- (a) there are many languages that, like Greek or German, allow extensive compounding.
 - (b) all abstract universal ideas are ideas of complex relations.
 - (c) some record or evidence of the thought of the *tlamatinime* exists.
 - (d) metaphors are always used in Nahuatl to express abstract conceptual relationships.

Passage 2

Many theories have been formulated to explain the role of grazers such as zooplankton in controlling the amount of planktonic algae (phytoplankton) in lakes. The first theories of such grazer control were merely based on observations of negative correlations between algal and zooplankton numbers. A low number of algal cells in the presence of a high number of grazers suggested, but did not prove, that the grazers had removed most of the algae. The converse observation, of the absence of grazers in areas of high phytoplankton concentration, led Hardy to propose his principle of animal exclusion, which hypothesized that phytoplankton produced a repellent that excluded grazers from regions of high phytoplankton concentration. This was the first suggestion of algal defences against grazing.

Perhaps the fact that many of these first studies considered only algae of a size that could be collected in a net (net phytoplankton), a practice that overlooked the smaller phytoplankton (nanoplankton) that we now know grazers are most likely to feed on, led to a de-emphasis of the role of grazers in subsequent research. Increasingly, as in the individual studies of Lund, Round, and Reynolds, researchers began to stress the importance of environmental factors such as temperature, light, and water movements in controlling algal numbers. These environmental factors were amenable to field monitoring and to simulation in the laboratory. Grazing was believed to have some effect on algal numbers, especially after phytoplankton growth rates declined at the end of bloom

periods, but grazing was considered a minor component of models that predicted algal population dynamics.

The potential magnitude of grazing pressure on freshwater phytoplankton has only recently been determined empirically. Studies by Hargrave and Geen estimated natural community grazing rates by measuring feeding rates of individual zooplankton species in the laboratory and then computing community grazing rates for field conditions using the known population density of grazers. The high estimates of grazing pressure postulated by these researchers were not fully accepted, however, until the grazing rates of zooplankton were determined directly in the field, by means of new experimental techniques. Using a specially prepared feeding chamber, Haney was able to record zooplankton grazing rates in natural field conditions. In the periods of peak zooplankton abundance, that is, in the late spring and in the summer, Haney recorded maximum daily community grazing rates, for nutrient-poor lakes and bog lakes, respectively, of 6.6 per cent and 114 per cent of daily phytoplankton production. Cladocerans had higher grazing rates than copepods, usually accounting for 80 per cent of the community grazing rate. These rates varied seasonally, reaching the lowest point in the winter and early spring. Haney's thorough research provides convincing field evidence that grazers can exert significant pressure on phytoplankton population.

- Q.4** The author most likely mentions Hardy's principle of animal exclusion in order to
- give an example of one theory about the interaction of grazers and phytoplankton.
 - defend the first theory of algal defenses against grazing.
 - support the contention that phytoplankton numbers are controlled primarily by environmental factors.
 - demonstrate the superiority of laboratory studies of zooplankton feeding rates to other kinds of studies of such rates.
- Q.5** It can be inferred from the passage that the —first theories of grazer control mentioned in the first paragraph would have been more convincing if researchers had been able to
- observe high phytoplankton numbers under natural lake conditions.
 - discover negative correlations between algae and zooplankton numbers from their field research.
 - understand the central importance of environmental factors in controlling the growth rates of phytoplankton.
 - make verifiable correlations of cause and effect between zooplankton and phytoplankton numbers.
- Q.6** Which of the following, if true, would call into question Hardy's principle of animal exclusion?
- Zooplankton are not the only organisms that are affected by phytoplankton repellents.

- Zooplankton exclusion is unrelated to phytoplankton population density.
- Zooplankton population density is higher during some parts of the year than during others.
- Net phytoplankton are more likely to exclude zooplankton than are nanoplankton.

- Q.7** It can be inferred from the passage that one way in which many of the early researchers on grazer control could have improved their data would have been to
- emphasize the effect.
 - disregard nanoplankton in their analysis of phytoplankton numbers.
 - collect phytoplankton of all sizes before analyzing the extent of phytoplankton concentration.
 - recognize that phytoplankton other than net phytoplankton could be collected in a net.

- Q.8** According to the passage, Hargrave and Geen did which of the following in their experiments?
- They estimated the natural community grazing rates of zooplankton by using laboratory data concerning the grazing rates of individual zooplankton species.
 - The hypothesized about the population density of grazers in natural habitats by using data concerning the population density of grazers in the laboratory.
 - They estimated the community grazing rates of zooplankton in the laboratory by using data concerning the natural community grazing rates of zooplankton.
 - They estimated the natural community grazing rates of zooplankton by using data concerning the known population density of phytoplankton.

- Q.9** The author would be likely to agree with which of the following statements regarding the pressure of grazers on phytoplankton numbers?
- Grazing pressure can vary according to the individual type of zooplankton.
 - Grazing pressure can be lower in nutrient-poor lakes than in bog lakes.
 - Grazing tends to exert about the same pressure as does temperature.
- I only
 - III only
 - I and II only
 - I, II, and III

- Q.10** The passage supplies information to indicate that Hargrave and Green's conclusion regarding the grazing pressure exerted by zooplankton on phytoplankton numbers was most similar to the conclusion regarding grazing pressure reached by which of the following researchers?
- Hardy
 - Haney
 - Lund
 - Round

Q.11 Which of the following is a true statement about the zooplankton numbers and zooplankton grazing rates observed in Haney's experiments?

- (a) While zooplankton numbers began to decline in August, zooplankton grazing rates began to increase.
- (b) Although zooplankton numbers were high in May, grazing rates did not become high until January.
- (c) Both zooplankton numbers and grazing rates were higher in December than in November.
- (d) Both zooplankton numbers and grazing rates were lower in March than in June.

Passage 3

Hydrogeology is a science dealing with the properties, distribution, and circulation of water on the surface of the land, in the soil and underlying rocks, and in the atmosphere. The hydrologic cycle, a major topic in this science, is the complete cycle of phenomena through which water passes, beginning as atmospheric water vapour, passing into liquid and solid form as precipitation, thence along and into the ground surface, and finally again returning to the form of atmospheric water vapour by means of evaporation and transpiration.

The term "Geo-hydrology" is sometimes erroneously used as a synonym for "hydrogeology." Geo-hydrology is concerned with underground water. There are many formations that contain water but are not part of the hydrologic cycle because of geologic changes that have isolated them underground. These systems are properly termed as geohydrologic but not hydrogeologic. Only when a system possesses natural or artificial boundaries that associate the water within it with the hydrologic cycle may the entire system properly be termed hydrogeologic.

Q.12 The author's primary purpose is most probably to:

- (a) Present a hypothesis
- (b) Refute an argument
- (c) Correct a misconception
- (d) Predict an occurrence

Q.13 It can be inferred that which of the following is most likely to be the subject of study by a geohydrologist?

- (a) Soft, porous rock being worn away by a waterfall.
- (b) Water depositing minerals on the banks of a gorge through which the water runs.
- (c) The trapping of water in a sealed underground rock cavern through the action of an earthquake.
- (d) Water becoming unfit to drink through the release of pollutants into it from a manufacturing plant.

Q.14 The author refers to "many formations", primarily in order to:

- (a) Clarify a distinction
- (b) Introduce a subject
- (c) Draw an analogy
- (d) Emphasize a similarity

Passage 4

The historian Frederick J. Turner wrote in the 1890's that the agrarian discontent that had been developing steadily in the United States since about 1870 had been precipitated by the closing of the internal frontier—that is, the depletion of available new land needed for further expansion of the American farming system. Not only was Turner's thesis influential at the time, it was later adopted and elaborated by other scholars, such as John D. Hicks in *The Populist Revolt* (1931). Actually, however, new lands were taken up for farming in the United States throughout and beyond the nineteenth century. In the 1890's, when agrarian discontent had become most acute, 1,100,000 new farms were settled, which was 500,000 more than had been settled during the previous decade. After 1890, under the terms of the Homestead Act and its successors, more new land was taken up for farming than had been taken up for this purpose in the United States up until that time. It is true that a high proportion of the newly farmed land was suitable only for grazing and dry farming, but agricultural practices had become sufficiently advanced to make it possible to increase the profitability of farming by utilizing even these relatively barren lands.

The emphasis given by both scholars and statesmen to the presumed disappearance of the American frontier helped to obscure the great importance of changes in the conditions and consequences of international trade that occurred during the second half of the nineteenth century. In 1869 the Suez Canal was opened and the first transcontinental rail-road in the United States was completed. An extensive network of telegraph and telephone communications was spun: Europe was connected by submarine cable with the United States in 1866 and with South America in 1874. By about 1870 improvements in agricultural technology made possible the full exploitation of areas that were most suitable for extensive farming on a mechanized basis. Huge tracts of land were being settled and farmed in Argentina, Australia, Canada, and in the American West, and these areas were joined with one another and with the countries of Europe into an interdependent market system. As a consequence, agrarian depressions no longer were local or national in scope, and they struck several nations whose internal frontiers had not vanished or were not about to vanish. Between the early 1870's and the 1890's, the mounting agrarian discontent in America paralleled the almost uninterrupted decline in the prices of American agricultural products on foreign markets. Those staple-growing farmers in the United States who exhibited the greatest discontent were those who had become most dependent on foreign markets for the sale of their products. Insofar as Americans had been deterred from taking up new land for farming, it was because market conditions had made this period a perilous time in which to do so.

Q.15 The author is primarily concerned with

- (a) showing that a certain interpretation is better supported by the evidence than is an alternative explanation.

- (b) developing an alternative interpretation by using sources of evidence that formerly had been unavailable.
- (c) questioning the accuracy of the evidence that most scholars have used to counter the author's own interpretation.
- (d) reviewing the evidence that formerly had been thought to obscure a valid interpretation.

Q.16 According to the author, changes in the conditions of international trade resulted in an

- (a) underestimation of the amount of new land that was being farmed in the United States.
- (b) underutilization of relatively small but rich plots of land.
- (c) overexpansion of the world transportation network for shipping agricultural products.
- (d) extension of agrarian depressions beyond national boundaries.

Q.17 The author implies that the change in the state of the American farmer's morale during the latter part of the nineteenth century was traceable to the American farmer's increasing perception that the

- (a) proceeds from the sales of American agricultural products on foreign markets were unsatisfactory.
- (b) development of the first transcontinental railroad in the United States occurred at the expense of the American farmer.
- (c) American farming system was about to run out of the new farmland that was required for its expansion.
- (d) prices of American agricultural products were deteriorating especially rapidly on domestic markets.

Q.18 According to the passage, which of the following occurred prior to 1890?

- (a) Frederick J. Turner's thesis regarding the American frontier became influential.
- (b) The Homestead Act led to an increase in the amount of newly farmed land in the United States.
- (c) Technological advances made it fruitful to farm extensively on a mechanized basis.
- (d) Direct lines of communication were constructed between the United States and South America.

Q.19 The author implies that after certain territories and countries had been joined into an interdependent

market system in the nineteenth century, agrarian depressions within that system

- (a) spread to several nations, excluding those in which the internal frontier remained open.
- (b) manifested themselves in several nations, including those in which new land remained available for farming.
- (c) slowed down the pace of new technological developments in international communications and transportation.
- (d) affected the local and national prices of the non-agricultural products of several nations.

Q.20 The author provides information concerning newly farmed lands in the United States as evidence in direct support of which of the following?

- (a) A proposal by Frederick J. Turner that was later disputed by John D. Hicks.
- (b) An elaboration by John D. Hicks of a thesis that formerly had been questioned by Frederick J. Turner.
- (c) The view that the American frontier did not become closed during the nineteenth century or soon thereafter.
- (d) The thesis that important changes occurred in the nature of international trade during the second half of the nineteenth century.

Q.21 The author implies that the cause of the agrarian discontent was

- (a) masked by the vagueness of the official records on newly settled farms.
- (b) overshadowed by disputes on the reliability of the existing historical evidence.
- (c) misidentified as a result of influential but erroneous theorizing.
- (d) overlooked because of a preoccupation with market conditions.

Q.22 The author's argument implies that compared to the yearly price changes that actually occurred on foreign agricultural markets during the 1880's, American farmers would have most preferred yearly price changes that were

- (a) much smaller and in the same direction.
- (b) much smaller but in the opposite direction.
- (c) slightly smaller and in the same direction.
- (d) similar in size but in the opposite direction.

PRACTICE EXERCISE 10

Direction: Read the passage carefully and answer the questions based on it.

Passage 1

Historians have only recently begun to note the increase in demand for luxury goods and services that took place in

the eighteenth-century England. McKendrick has explored the Wedgwood firm's remarkable success in marketing luxury pottery; Plumb has written about the proliferation of provincial theatres, musical festivals, and children's toys and books. While the fact of this consumer revolution is hardly in doubt, three key questions remain: Who were the

consumers? What were their motives? And what were the effects of the new demand for luxuries?

An answer to the first of these has been difficult to obtain. Although it has been possible to infer from the goods and services actually produced what manufactures and servicing trades thought their customers wanted, only a study of relevant personal documents written by actual consumers will provide a precise picture of *who* wanted what. We still need to know how large this consumer market was and how far down the social scale the consumer demand for luxury goods penetrated. With regard to this last question, we might note in passing that Thompson, while rightly restoring labouring people to the stage of the eighteenth-century English history, has probably exaggerated the opposition of these people to the inroads of capitalist consumerism in general; for example, labouring people in the eighteenth-century England readily shifted from home-brewed beer to standardized beer produced by huge, heavily capitalized urban breweries.

To answer the question of why consumers became so eager to buy, some historians have pointed to the ability of the manufacturers to advertise in a relatively uncensored press. This, however, hardly seems a sufficient answer. McKendrick favours a Veblen model of conspicuous consumption stimulated by competition for status. The 'middling sort' bought goods and services because they wanted to follow fashions set by the rich. Again, we may wonder whether this explanation is sufficient. Do people not enjoy buying things as a form of self-gratification? If so, consumerism could be seen as a product of the rise of new concepts of individualism and materialism, but not necessarily of the frenzy for conspicuous competition.

Finally, what were the consequences of this consumer demand for luxuries? McKendrick claims that it goes a long way towards explaining the coming of the Industrial Revolution. But does it? What, for example, does the production of high-quality pottery and toys have to do with the development of iron manufacture or textile mills? It is perfectly possible to have the psychology and reality of a consumer society without a heavy industrial sector.

That future exploration of these key questions is undoubtedly necessary should not, however, diminish the force of the conclusion of recent studies: the insatiable demand in the eighteenth-century England for frivolous as well as useful goods and services foreshadows our own world.

- Q.1** In the first paragraph, the author mentions McKendrick and Plumb most probably in order to:
- (a) contrast their views on the subject of luxury consumerism in the eighteenth-century England.
 - (b) indicate the inadequacy of historiographical approaches to the eighteenth-century English history.
 - (c) give examples of historians who have helped to establish the fact of growing consumerism in the eighteenth-century England.

- (d) support the contention that key questions about the eighteenth-century consumerism remain to be answered.
- (e) compare one historian's interest in luxury goods such as pottery to another historian's interest in luxury services such as musical festivals.

- Q.2** According to the passage, Thompson attributes to labouring people in the eighteenth-century England which of the following attitudes toward capitalist consumerism?
- (a) Enthusiasm
 - (b) Curiosity
 - (c) Ambivalence
 - (d) Stubbornness
 - (e) Hostility
- Q.3** In the third paragraph, the author is primarily concerned with:
- (a) contrasting two theses and offering a compromise.
 - (b) questioning two explanations and proposing a possible alternative to them.
 - (c) paraphrasing the work of two historians and questioning their assumptions.
 - (d) examining two theories and endorsing one over the other.
 - (e) raising several questions but implying that they cannot be answered.
- Q.4** According to the passage, a Veblen model of conspicuous consumption has been used to:
- (a) investigate the extent of the demand for luxury goods amongst social classes in the eighteenth-century England.
 - (b) classify the kinds of luxury goods desired by the eighteenth-century consumers.
 - (c) explain the motivation of the eighteenth-century consumers to buy luxury goods.
 - (d) establish the extent to which the tastes of rich consumers were shaped by the middle classes in the eighteenth-century England.
 - (e) compare luxury consumerism in the eighteenth-century England with such consumerism in the twentieth century.
- Q.5** According to the passage, the eighteenth-century England and the contemporary world of the passage's readers are:
- (a) dissimilar in the extent to which luxury consumerism could be said to be widespread amongst the social classes.
 - (b) dissimilar in their definitions of luxury goods and services.
 - (c) dissimilar in the extent to which luxury goods could be said to be a stimulant of industrial development.
 - (d) similar in their strong demand for a variety of goods and services.

- (e) similar in the extent to which a middle class could be identified as imitating the habits of a wealthier class.

Q.6 It can be inferred from the passage that the author would most probably agree with which of the following statements about the relationship between the Industrial Revolution and the demand for luxury goods and services in the eighteenth-century England?

- (a) The growing demand for luxury goods and services was a major factor in the coming of the Industrial Revolution.
- (b) The Industrial Revolution exploited the already existing demand for luxury goods and services.
- (c) Although the demand for luxury goods may have helped bring about the Industrial Revolution, the demand for luxury services did not.
- (d) There is no reason to believe that the Industrial Revolution was directly driven by a growing demand for luxury goods and services.
- (e) The increasing demand for luxury goods and services was a cultural phenomenon that has been conclusively demonstrated to have been separate from the coming of the Industrial Revolution.

Passage 2

Researchers are finding that in many ways an individual bacterium is more analogous to a component cell of a multicellular organism than it is to a free-living, autonomous organism. *Anabaena*, a freshwater bacterium is a case in point. Amongst the photosynthetic bacteria, *Anabaena* is unusual: it is capable of both photosynthesis and nitrogen fixation. Within a single cell, these two biochemical processes are incompatible: oxygen produced during photosynthesis, inactivates the nitrogenase required for nitrogen fixation. In *Anabaena* communities, however, these processes can coexist. When fixed nitrogen compounds are abundant, *Anabaena* is strictly photosynthetic and its cells are all alike. When nitrogen levels are low, however, specialized cells called heterocysts are produced, which lack chlorophyll (necessary for photosynthesis) but which can fix nitrogen by converting nitrogen gas into a usable form. Submicroscopic channels develop which connect the heterocyst cells with the photosynthetic ones and which are used for transferring cellular products between the two kinds of *Anabaena* cells.

Q.7 According to the passage, which of the following statements is true for the bacteria that engage in photosynthesis?

- (a) They eventually become two autonomous cells.
- (b) They cannot normally also engage in nitrogen fixation.

- (c) Oxygen normally inactivates them.
- (d) Cellular products are constantly transferred between such bacteria.
- (e) They normally lack chlorophyll.

Q.8 It can be inferred from the passage that cell differentiation within '*Anabaena*' is regulated by the:

- (a) amount of Oxygen '*Anabaena*' cells produce.
- (b) season of the year.
- (c) amount of fixed nitrogen compounds available.
- (d) number of microscopic channels uniting '*Anabaena*' cells.
- (e) amount of chlorophyll in '*Anabaena*' cells.

Q.9 The passage supports which of the following inferences about heterocysts?

- (a) Heterocysts do not produce oxygen.
- (b) Nitrogen gas inactivates heterocysts.
- (c) Chlorophyll increases the productivity of heterocysts.
- (d) Heterocysts allow nitrogen fixation and photosynthesis to occur in the same cell.
- (e) Heterocysts are more important for '*Anabaena*'s' functioning than are photosynthetic cells.

Q.10 The author uses the example of *Anabaena* to illustrate the:

- (a) uniqueness of bacteria amongst unicellular organisms.
- (b) inadequacy of an existing view of bacteria.
- (c) ability of unicellular organisms to engage in photosynthesis.
- (d) variability of a freshwater bacteria.
- (e) difficulty of investigating even the simplest unicellular organisms.

Passage 3

Geologists have long known that the Earth's mantle is heterogeneous, but its spatial arrangement remains unresolved—is the mantle essentially layered or irregularly heterogeneous? The best evidence for the layered-mantle thesis is the well-established fact that volcanic rocks found on oceanic islands, islands believed to result from mantle plumes arising from the lower mantle, are composed of material fundamentally different from that of the mid-ocean ridge system, whose source, most geologists contend, is the upper mantle.

Some geologists, however, on the basis of observations concerning mantle xenoliths, argue that the mantle is not layered, but that heterogeneity is created by fluids rich in 'incompatible elements' (elements tending towards liquid rather than solid state) percolating upward and transforming portions of the upper mantle irregularly, according to the vagaries of the fluids' pathways. We believe, perhaps unimaginatively, that this debate can be resolved through further study, and that the underexplored mid-ocean ridge system is the key.

Q.11 It can be inferred from the passage that the supporters of the 'layered-mantle' theory believe which of the following?

- I. The volcanic rocks on oceanic islands are composed of material derived from the lower part of the mantle.
 - II. The materials of which volcanic rocks on oceanic islands and mid-ocean ridges are composed are typical of the layers from which they are thought to originate.
 - III. The differences in composition between volcanic rocks on oceanic islands and the mid-ocean ridges are a result of different concentrations of incompatible elements.
- (a) I only
 - (b) III only
 - (c) I and II only
 - (d) II and III only
 - (e) All three

Q.12 According to the passage, it is believed that oceanic islands are formed from:

- (a) the same material as mantle xenoliths.
- (b) the same material as the mid-ocean ridge system.
- (c) volcanic rocks from the upper mantle.
- (d) incompatible elements percolating up from the lower mantle.
- (e) mantle plumes arising from the lower mantle.

Q.13 The authors suggest that their proposal for determining the nature of the mantle's heterogeneity might be considered by many to be:

- (a) lacking zeal
- (b) controversial
- (c) unrealistic
- (d) novel
- (e) paradoxical

Q.14 Which of the following best expresses the main idea of the passage?

- (a) Current theories regarding the structure of the Earth's mantle cannot account for new discoveries regarding the composition of mantle xenoliths.
- (b) There are conflicting hypotheses about the heterogeneity of the Earth's mantle because few mantle elements have been thoroughly studied.
- (c) Further research is needed to resolve the debate amongst the geologists over the composition of the mid-ocean ridge system.
- (d) There is clear-cut disagreement within the geological community over the structure of the Earth's mantle.
- (e) There has recently been a strong and exciting challenge to geologists' long-standing belief in the heterogeneity of the Earth's mantle.

Passage 4

Many literary detectives have pored over a great puzzle concerning the writer Marcel Proust: what happened in 1909? How did *Contre Saint-Beuve*, an essay attacking the methods of the critic Saint Beuve, turn into the start of the novel *Remembrance of Things Past*? A recently published letter from Proust to the editor Vallette confirms that Fallois, the editor of the 1954 edition of *Contre Saint-Beuve*, made an essentially correct guess about the relationship of the essay to the novel. Fallois proposed that Proust had tried to begin a novel in 1908, abandoned it for what was to be a long demonstration of Saint-Beuve's blindness to the real nature of great writing, found the essay giving rise to personal memories and fictional developments, and allowed these to take over in a steadily developing novel.

Draft passages in Proust's 1909 notebooks indicate that the transition from essay to novel began in *Contre Saint-Beuve*, when Proust introduced several examples to show the powerful influence that involuntary memory exerts over the creative imagination. In effect, in trying to demonstrate that the imagination is more profound and less submissive to the intellect than Saint-Beuve assumed, Proust elicited vital memories of his own and, finding subtle connections between them, began to amass the material for *Remembrance*. By August, Proust was writing to Vallette, informing him of his intention to develop the material as a novel. Maurice Bardeche, in *Marcel Proust, romancier*, has shown the importance in the drafts of *Remembrance* spontaneous and apparently random associations of Proust's subconscious. As incidents and reflections occurred to Proust, he continually inserted new passages altering and expanding his narrative. But he found it difficult to control the drift of his inspiration. The very richness and complexity of the meaningful relationships that kept presenting and rearranging themselves on all levels, from abstract intelligence to profound dreamy feelings, made it difficult for Proust to set them out coherently. The beginning of control came when he saw how to connect the beginning and the end of his novel.

Intrigued by Proust's claim that he had 'begun and finished' *Remembrance* at the same time, Henri Bonnet discovered that parts of *Remembrance's* last book were actually started in 1909. Already in that year, Proust had drafted descriptions of his novel's characters in their old age that would appear in the final book of *Remembrance*, where the permanence of art is set against the ravages of time. The letter to Vallette, drafts of the essay and novel, and Bonnet's researches establish in broad outline the process by which Proust generated his novel out of the ruins of his essay. But those of us who hoped, with Kolb, that Kolb's newly published complete edition of Proust's correspondence for 1909 would document the process in greater detail are disappointed. For until Proust was confident that he was at last in sight of a viable structure for *Remembrance*, he told few correspondents that he was producing anything more ambitious than *Contre Saint-Beuve*.

- Q.15** The passage is primarily concerned with:
- (a) the role of involuntary memory in Proust's writing.
 - (b) evidence concerning the genesis of Proust's novel *Remembrance of Things Past*.
 - (c) conflicting scholarly opinions about the value of studying the drafts of *Remembrance of Things Past*.
 - (d) Proust's correspondence and what it reveals about *Remembrance of Things Past*.
 - (e) the influence of Saint-Beuve's criticism on Proust's novel *Remembrance of Things Past*.

- Q.16** According to the passage, in drafts of *Contre Saint-Beuve* Proust set out to show that Saint-Beuve made which of the following mistakes as a critic?

- I. Saint-Beuve made no effort to study the development of a novel through its drafts and revisions.
- II. Saint-Beuve assigned too great a role in the creative process to a writer's conscious intellect.
- III. Saint-Beuve concentrated too much on plots and not enough on imagery and other elements of style.

- (a) II only
- (b) III only
- (c) I and II only
- (d) I and III only
- (e) I, II, and III

- Q.17** Which of the following best states the author's attitude towards the information that scholars have gathered about Proust's writing in 1909?

- (a) The author is disappointed that no new documents have come to light since Fallois's speculations.
- (b) The author is dissatisfied because there are too many gaps and inconsistencies in the drafts.
- (c) The author is confident that Fallois's 1954 guess has been proved largely correct, but regrets that still more detailed documentation concerning Proust's transition from the essay to the novel has not emerged.
- (d) The author is satisfied that Fallois's judgment was largely correct, but feels that Proust's early work in designing and writing the novel was probably far more deliberate than Fallois's description of the process would suggest.
- (e) The author is satisfied that the facts of Proust's life in 1909 have been thoroughly established, but believes such documents as drafts and correspondence are only of limited value in a critical assessment of Proust's writing.

- Q.18** The author of the passage implies that which of the following would be the LEAST useful source of

information about Proust's transition from working on *Contre Saint-Beuve* to having a viable structure for *Remembrance of Things Past*?

- (a) Fallois's comments in the 1954 edition of *Contre Saint-Beuve*.
- (b) Proust's 1909 notebooks, including the drafts of *Remembrance of Things Past*.
- (c) Proust's 1909 correspondence, excluding the letter to Vallette.
- (d) Bardeche's Marcel Proust, romancier.
- (e) Bonnet's researches concerning Proust's drafts of the final book of *Remembrance of Things Past*.

- Q.19** The passage offers information to answer which of the following questions?

- (a) Precisely when in 1909 did Proust decide to abandon *Contre Saint-Beuve*?
- (b) Precisely when in 1909 did Proust decide to connect the beginning and the end of *Remembrance of Things Past*?
- (c) What was the subject of the novel that Proust attempted in 1908?
- (d) What specific criticisms of Saint-Beuve appear, in fictional form, in *Remembrance of Things Past*?
- (e) What is a theme concerning art that appears in the final book of *Remembrance of Things Past*?

- Q.20** Which of the following best describes the relationship between *Contre Saint-Beuve* and *Remembrance of Things Past* as it is explained in the passage?

- (a) Immediately after abandoning *Contre Saint-Beuve*, at Vallette's suggestion, Proust started *Remembrance* as a fictional demonstration that Saint-Beuve was wrong about the imagination.
- (b) Immediately after abandoning *Contre Saint-Beuve*, at Vallette's suggestion, Proust turned his attention to *Remembrance*, starting with incidents that had occurred to him while planning the essay.
- (c) Despondent that he could not find a coherent structure for *Contre Saint-Beuve*, an essay about the role of memory in fiction, Proust began instead to write *Remembrance*, a novel devoted to important early memories.
- (d) While developing his argument about the imagination in *Contre Saint-Beuve*, Proust described and began to link together personal memories that became a foundation for *Remembrance*.
- (e) While developing his argument about memory and imagination in *Contre Saint-Beuve*, Proust created fictional characters to embody the abstract themes in his essay.

PREVIOUS YEARS' QUESTIONS

CAT 2019 (MORNING SLOT)

PASSAGE 1

As defined by the geographer Yi-Fu Tuan, topophilia is the affective bond between people and place. His 1974 book set forth a wide-ranging exploration of how the emotive ties with the material environment vary greatly from person to person and in intensity, subtlety, and mode of expression. Factors influencing one's depth of response to the environment include cultural background, gender, race, and historical circumstance, and Tuan also argued that there is a biological and sensory element. Topophilia might not be the strongest of human emotions—indeed, many people feel utterly indifferent toward the environments that shape their lives—but when activated it has the power to elevate a place to become the carrier of emotionally charged events or to be perceived as a symbol.

Aesthetic appreciation is one way in which people respond to the environment. A brilliantly colored rainbow after gloomy afternoon showers, a busy city street alive with human interaction—one might experience the beauty of such landscapes that had seemed quite ordinary only moments before or that are being newly discovered. This is quite the opposite of a second topophilic bond, namely that of the acquired taste for certain landscapes and places that one knows well. When a place is home, or when a space has become the locus of memories or the means of gaining a livelihood, it frequently evokes a deeper set of attachments than those predicated purely on the visual. A third response to the environment also depends on the human senses but may be tactile and olfactory, namely a delight in the feel and smell of air, water, and the earth.

Topophilia—and its very close conceptual twin, sense of place—is an experience that, however elusive, has inspired recent architects and planners. Most notably, new urbanism seeks to counter the perceived placelessness of modern suburbs and the decline of central cities through neo-traditional design motifs. Although motivated by good intentions, such attempts to create places rich in meaning are perhaps bound to disappoint. As Tuan noted, purely aesthetic responses often are suddenly revealed, but their intensity rarely is longlasting. Topophilia is difficult to design for and impossible to quantify, and its most articulate interpreters have been self-reflective philosophers such as Henry David Thoreau, evoking a marvelously intricate sense of place at Walden Pond, and Tuan, describing his deep affinity for the desert.

Topophilia connotes a positive relationship, but it often is useful to explore the darker affiliations between people and place. Patriotism, literally meaning the love of one's terra patria or homeland, has long been cultivated by governing elites for a range of nationalist projects,

including war preparation and ethnic cleansing. Residents of upscale residential developments have disclosed how important it is to maintain their community's distinct identity, often by casting themselves in a superior social position and by reinforcing class and racial differences. And just as a beloved landscape is suddenly revealed, so too may landscapes of fear cast a dark shadow over a place that makes one feel a sense of dread or anxiety—or topophobia.

- Q.1** The word “topophobia” in the passage is used:
- (a) to represent a feeling of dread towards particular spaces and places.
 - (b) to signify the fear of studying the complex discipline of topography.
 - (c) as a metaphor expressing the failure of the homeland to accommodate non-citizens.
 - (d) to signify feelings of fear or anxiety towards topophilic people.
- Q.2** Which of the following statements, if true, could be seen as not contradicting the arguments in the passage?
- (a) The most important, even fundamental, response to our environment is our tactile and olfactory response.
 - (b) Generally speaking, in a given culture, the ties of the people to their environment vary little in significance or intensity.
 - (c) Patriotism, usually seen as a positive feeling, is presented by the author as a darker form of topophilia.
 - (d) New Urbanism succeeded in those designs where architects collaborated with their clients.
- Q.3** In the last paragraph, the author uses the example of “Residents of upscale residential developments” to illustrate the:
- (a) introduction of nationalist projects by such elites to produce a sense of dread or topophobia.
 - (b) social exclusivism practised by such residents in order to enforce a sense of racial or class superiority.
 - (c) manner in which environments are designed to minimise the social exclusion of their clientele.
 - (d) sensitive response to race and class problems in upscale residential developments

- Q.4** Which one of the following best captures the meaning of the statement, “Topophilia is difficult to design for and impossible to quantify . . .”?
- (a) People’s responses to their environment are usually subjective and so cannot be rendered in design.
 - (b) The deep anomie of modern urbanisation led to new urbanism’s intricate sense of place.
 - (c) Architects have to objectively quantify spaces and hence cannot be topophilic.
 - (d) Philosopher-architects are uniquely suited to develop topophilic design.
- Q.5** Which one of the following comes closest in meaning to the author’s understanding of topophilia?

- (a) The tendency of many cultures to represent their land as “motherland” or “fatherland” may be seen as an expression of their topophilia
- (b) Nomadic societies are known to have the least affinity for the lands through which they traverse because they tend to be topophobic.
- (c) The French are not overly patriotic, but they will refuse to use English as far as possible, even when they know it well.
- (d) Scientists have found that most creatures, including humans, are either born with or cultivate a strong sense of topography.

PASSAGE 2

“Free of the taint of manufacture”—that phrase, in particular, is heavily loaded with the ideology of what the Victorian socialist William Morris called the “anti-scrape”, or an anticapitalist conservationism (not conservatism) that solaced itself with the vision of a preindustrial golden age. In Britain, folk may often appear a cosy, fossilised form, but when you look more closely, the idea of folk – who has the right to sing it, dance it, invoke it, collect it, belong to it or appropriate it for political or cultural ends – has always been contested territory. . . .

In our own time, though, the word “folk” . . . has achieved the rare distinction of occupying fashionable and unfashionable status simultaneously. Just as the effusive floral prints of the radical William Morris now cover genteel sofas, so the revolutionary intentions of many folk historians and revivalists have led to music that is commonly regarded as parochial and conservative. And yet – as newspaper columns periodically rejoice – folk is hip again, influencing artists, clothing and furniture designers, celebrated at music festivals, awards ceremonies and on TV, reissued on countless record labels. Folk is a sonic “shabby chic”, containing elements of the uncanny and eerie, as well as an antique veneer, a whiff of Britain’s heathen dark ages. The very obscurity and anonymity of folk music’s origins open up space for rampant imaginative fancies. . .

[Cecil Sharp, who wrote about this subject, believed that] folk songs existed in constant transformation, a living example of an art form in a perpetual state of renewal. “One man sings a song, and then others sing it after him, changing what they do not like” is the most concise summary of his conclusions on its origins. He compared each rendition of a ballad to an acorn falling from an oak tree; every subsequent iteration sows the song anew. But there is tension in newness. In the late 1960s, purists were suspicious of folk songs recast in rock idioms. Electrification, however, comes in many forms. For the early-20th-century composers such as Vaughan Williams and Holst, there were thunderbolts of inspiration from oriental mysticism, angular modernism and the body blow of the first world

war, as well as input from the rediscovered folk tradition itself.

For the second wave of folk revivalists, such as Ewan MacColl and AL Lloyd, starting in the 40s, the vital spark was communism’s dream of a post-revolutionary New Jerusalem. For their younger successors in the 60s, who thronged the folk clubs set up by the old guard, the lyrical freedom of Dylan and the unchained melodies of psychedelia created the conditions for folkrock’s own golden age, a brief Indian summer that lasted from about 1969 to 1971. . . . Four decades on, even that progressive period has become just one more era ripe for fashionable emulation and pastiche. The idea of a folk tradition being exclusively confined to oral transmission has become a much looser, less severely guarded concept. Recorded music and television, for today’s metropolitan generation, are where the equivalent of folk memories are seeded. . . .

- Q.6** All of the following are causes for plurality and diversity within the British folk tradition EXCEPT:
- (a) paradoxically, folk forms are both popular and unpopular.
 - (b) that British folk continues to have traces of pagan influence from the dark ages.
 - (c) that British folk forms can be traced to the remote past of the country.
 - (d) the fluidity of folk forms owing to their history of oral mode of transmission.
- Q.7** Which of the following statements about folk revivalism of the 1940s and 1960s cannot be inferred from the passage?
- (a) Even though it led to folk-rock’s golden age, it wasn’t entirely free from critique.
 - (b) Electrification of music would not have happened without the influence of rock music.
 - (c) Freedom and rebellion were popular themes during the second wave of folk revivalism.
 - (d) It reinforced Cecil Sharp’s observation about folk’s constant transformation.

- Q.8** The author says that folk “may often appear a cosy, fossilised form” because:
- (a) it has been arrogated for various political and cultural purposes.
 - (b) folk is a sonic “shabby chic” with an antique veneer.
 - (c) the notion of folk has led to several debates and disagreements.
 - (d) of its nostalgic association with a pre-industrial past.
- Q.9** The primary purpose of the reference to William Morris and his floral prints is to show:
- (a) the pervasive influence of folk on contemporary art, culture, and fashion.
 - (b) that what was once derided as genteel is now considered revolutionary.
 - (c) that what is once regarded as radical in folk, can later be seen as conformist.

- (d) that despite its archaic origins, folk continues to remain a popular tradition.

- Q.10** At a conference on folk forms, the author of the passage is least likely to agree with which one of the following views?
- (a) The power of folk resides in its contradictory ability to influence and be influenced by the present while remaining rooted in the past.
 - (b) Folk forms, despite their archaic origins, remain intellectually relevant in contemporary times.
 - (c) Folk forms, in their ability to constantly adapt to the changing world, exhibit an unusual poise and homogeneity with each change.
 - (d) The plurality and democratising impulse of folk forms emanate from the improvisation that its practitioners bring to it.

PASSAGE 3

Contemporary internet shopping conjures a perfect storm of choice anxiety. Research has consistently held that people who are presented with a few options make better, easier decisions than those presented with many. . . . Helping consumers figure out what to buy amid an endless sea of choice online has become a cottage industry unto itself. Many brands and retailers now wield marketing buzzwords such as curation, differentiation, and discovery as they attempt to sell an assortment of stuff targeted to their ideal customer. Companies find such shoppers through the data gold mine of digital advertising, which can catalog people by gender, income level, personal interests, and more. Since Americans have lost the ability to sort through the sheer volume of the consumer choices available to them, a ghost now has to be in the retail machine, whether it’s an algorithm, an influencer, or some snazzy ad tech to help a product follow you around the internet. Indeed, choice fatigue is one reason so many people gravitate toward lifestyle influencers on Instagram—the relentlessly chic young moms and perpetually vacationing 20-somethings—who present an aspirational worldview, and then recommend the products and services that help achieve it. . . .

For a relatively new class of consumer-products start-ups, there’s another method entirely. Instead of making sense of a sea of existing stuff, these companies claim to disrupt stuff as Americans know it. Casper (mattresses), Glossier (makeup), Away (suitcases), and many others have sprouted up to offer consumers freedom from choice: The companies have a few aesthetically pleasing and supposedly highly functional options, usually at mid-range prices. They’re selling nice things, but maybe more importantly, they’re selling a confidence in those things, and an ability to opt out of the stuff rat race. . . .

One-thousand-dollar mattresses and \$300 suitcases might solve choice anxiety for a certain tier of consumer, but

the companies that sell them, along with those that attempt to massage the larger stuff economy into something navigable, are still just working within a consumer market that’s broken in systemic ways. The presence of so much stuff in America might be more valuable if it were more evenly distributed, but stuff’s creators tend to focus their energy on those who already have plenty. As options have expanded for people with disposable income, the opportunity to buy even basic things such as fresh food or quality diapers has contracted for much of America’s lower classes.

For start-ups that promise accessible simplicity, their very structure still might eventually push them toward overwhelming variety. Most of these companies are based on hundreds of millions of dollars of venture capital, the investors of which tend to expect a steep growth rate that can’t be achieved by selling one great mattress or one great sneaker. Casper has expanded into bedroom furniture and bed linens. Glossier, after years of marketing itself as no-makeup makeup that requires little skill to apply, recently launched a full line of glittering color cosmetics. There may be no way to opt out of stuff by buying into the right thing.

- Q.11** Which one of the following best sums up the overall purpose of the examples of Casper and Glossier in the passage?
- (a) They are facilitating a uniform distribution of commodities in the market.
 - (b) They might transform into what they were exceptions to.
 - (c) They are exceptions to a dominant trend in consumer markets.
 - (d) They are increasing the purchasing power of poor Americans.

- Q.12** A new food brand plans to launch a series of products in the American market. Which of the following product plans is most likely to be supported by the author of the passage?
- (a) A range of 25 products priced between \$10 and \$25.
 - (b) A range of 10 products priced between \$5 and \$10.
 - (c) A range of 10 products priced between \$10 and \$25.
 - (d) A range of 25 products priced between \$5 and \$10.
- Q.13** Based on the passage, all of the following can be inferred about consumer behavior EXCEPT that:
- (a) too many options have made it difficult for consumers to trust products.
 - (b) consumers tend to prefer products by start-ups over those by established companies.
 - (c) having too many product options can be overwhelming for consumers.
 - (d) consumers are susceptible to marketing images that they see on social media.
- Q.14** All of the following, IF TRUE, would weaken the author's claims EXCEPT:
- (a) product options increased market competition, bringing down the prices of commodities, which, in turn, increased purchasing power of the poor.

- (b) the annual sales growth of companies with fewer product options were higher than that of companies which curated their products for target consumers.
- (c) the empowerment felt by purchasers in buying a commodity were directly proportional to the number of options they could choose from.
- (d) the annual sale of companies that hired lifestyle influencers on Instagram for marketing their products were 40% less than those that did not.

- Q.15** Which of the following hypothetical statements would add the least depth to the author's prediction of the fate of start-ups offering few product options?
- (a) With Casper and Glossier venturing into new product ranges, their regular customers start losing trust in the companies and their products.
 - (b) Start-ups with few product options are no exception to the American consumer market that is deeply divided along class lines.
 - (c) An exponential surge in their sales enables start-ups to meet their desired profit goals without expanding their product catalogue.
 - (d) With the motive of promoting certain rival companies, the government decides to double the tax-rates for these start-ups.

PASSAGE 4

In the past, credit for telling the tale of Aladdin has often gone to Antoine Galland . . . the first European translator of . . . Arabian Nights [which] started as a series of translations of an incomplete manuscript of a medieval Arabic story collection. . . But, though those tales were of medieval origin, Aladdin may be a more recent invention. Scholars have not found a manuscript of the story that predates the version published in 1712 by Galland, who wrote in his diary that he first heard the tale from a Syrian storyteller from Aleppo named Hanna Diyab . . .

Despite the fantastical elements of the story, scholars now think the main character may actually be based on a real person's real experiences. . . . Though Galland never credited Diyab in his published translations of the Arabian Nights stories, Diyab wrote something of his own: a travelogue penned in the mid-18th century. In it, he recalls telling Galland the story of Aladdin [and] describes his own hard-knocks upbringing and the way he marveled at the extravagance of Versailles. The descriptions he uses were very similar to the descriptions of the lavish palace that ended up in Galland's version of the Aladdin story. *Therefore, author Paulo Lemos+ Horta believes that "Aladdin might be the young Arab Maronite from Aleppo, marveling at the jewels and riches of Versailles." . . .

For 300 years, scholars thought that the rags-to-riches story of Aladdin might have been inspired by the plots of French fairy tales that came out around the same time, or that the story was invented in that 18th century period as a byproduct of French Orientalism, a fascination with stereotypical exotic Middle Eastern luxuries that was prevalent then. The idea that Diyab might have based it on his own life—the experiences of a Middle Eastern man encountering the French, not vice-versa—flips the script. *According to Horta,+ "Diyab was ideally placed to embody the overlapping world of East and West, blending the storytelling traditions of his homeland with his youthful observations of the wonder of 18th-century France." . . .

To the scholars who study the tale, its narrative drama isn't the only reason storytellers keep finding reason to return to Aladdin. It reflects not only "a history of the French and the Middle East, but also [a story about] Middle Easterners coming to Paris and that speaks to our world today," as Horta puts it. "The day Diyab told the story of Aladdin to Galland, there were riots due to food shortages during the winter and spring of 1708 to 1709, and Diyab was sensitive to those people in a way that Galland is not. When you read this diary, you see this solidarity among the Arabs who were in Paris at the time. . . . There is little in the writings of Galland that

would suggest that he was capable of developing a character like Aladdin with sympathy, but Diyab's memoir reveals a narrator adept at capturing the distinctive psychology of a young protagonist, as well as recognizing the kinds of injustices and opportunities that can transform the path of any youthful adventurer."

- Q.16** Which of the following does not contribute to the passage's claim about the authorship of Aladdin?
- (a) The depiction of the affluence of Versailles in Diyab's travelogue.
 - (b) The narrative sensibility of Diyab's travelogue.
 - (c) The story-line of many French fairy tales of the 18th century.
 - (d) Galland's acknowledgment of Diyab in his diary.
- Q.17** The author of the passage is most likely to agree with which of the following explanations for the origins of the story of Aladdin?
- (a) Basing it on his own life experiences, Diyab transmitted the story of Aladdin to Galland who included it in *Arabian Nights*.
 - (b) Galland received the story of Aladdin from Diyab who, in turn, found it in an incomplete medieval manuscript.
 - (c) The story of Aladdin has its origins in an undiscovered, incomplete manuscript of a medieval Arabic collection of stories.
 - (d) Galland derived the story of Aladdin from Diyab's travelogue in which he recounts his fascination with the wealth of Versailles.
- Q.18** Which of the following is the primary reason for why storytellers are still fascinated by the story of Aladdin?

- (a) The story of Aladdin is evidence of the eighteenth century French Orientalist attitude.
- (b) The traveller's experience that inspired the tale of Aladdin resonates even today.
- (c) The tale of Aladdin documents the history of Europe and Middle East.
- (d) The archetype of the rags-to-riches story of Aladdin makes it popular even today.

- Q.19** All of the following serve as evidence for the character of Aladdin being based on Hanna Diyab EXCEPT:
- (a) Diyab's cosmopolitanism and cross-cultural experience.
 - (b) Diyab's humble origins and class struggles, as recounted in his travelogue.
 - (c) Diyab's narration of the original story to Galland.
 - (d) Diyab's description of the wealth of Versailles in his travelogue.

- Q.20** Which of the following, if true, would invalidate the inversion that the phrase "flips the script" refers to?
- (a) Galland acknowledged in the published translations of *Arabian Nights* that he heard the story of Aladdin from Diyab.
 - (b) Diyab's travelogue described the affluence of the French city of Bordeaux, instead of Versailles.
 - (c) The French fairy tales of the eighteenth century did not have rags-to-riches plot lines like that of the tale of Aladdin.
 - (d) The description of opulence in Hanna Diyab's and Antoine Galland's narratives bore no resemblance to each other.

PASSAGE 5

Scientists recently discovered that Emperor Penguins—one of Antarctica's most celebrated species—employ a particularly unusual technique for surviving the daily chill. As detailed in an article published today in the journal *Biology Letters*, the birds minimize heat loss by keeping the outer surface of their plumage below the temperature of the surrounding air. At the same time, the penguins' thick plumage insulates their body and keeps it toasty. . . .

The researchers analyzed thermographic images ... taken over roughly a month during June 2008. During that period, the average air temperature was 0.32 degrees Fahrenheit. At the same time, the majority of the plumage covering the penguins' bodies was even colder: the surface of their warmest body part, their feet, was an average 1.76 degrees Fahrenheit, but the plumage on their heads, chests and backs were -1.84, -7.24 and -9.76 degrees Fahrenheit respectively. Overall, nearly the entire outer surface of the penguins' bodies was below freezing at all times, except for their eyes

and beaks. The scientists also used a computer simulation to determine how much heat was lost or gained from each part of the body—and discovered that by keeping their outer surface below air temperature, the birds might paradoxically be able to draw very slight amounts of heat from the air around them. The key to their trick is the difference between two different types of heat transfer: radiation and convection.

The penguins do lose internal body heat to the surrounding air through thermal radiation, just as our bodies do on a cold day. Because their bodies (but not surface plumage) are warmer than the surrounding air, heat gradually radiates outward over time, moving from a warmer material to a colder one. To maintain body temperature while losing heat, penguins, like all warm-blooded animals, rely on the metabolism of food. The penguins, though, have an additional strategy. Since their outer plumage is even colder than the air, the simulation showed that they might gain back a little of this heat through thermal convection—the transfer

of heat via the movement of a fluid (in this case, the air). As the cold Antarctic air cycles around their bodies, slightly warmer air comes into contact with the plumage and donates minute amounts of heat back to the penguins, then cycles away at a slightly colder temperature.

Most of this heat, the researchers note, probably doesn't make it all the way through the plumage and back to the penguins' bodies, but it could make a slight difference. At the very least, the method by which a penguin's plumage wicks heat from the bitterly cold air that surrounds it helps to cancel out some of the heat that's radiating from its interior. And given the Emperors' unusually demanding breeding cycle, every bit of warmth counts. . . . Since *penguins trek as far as 75 miles to the coast to breed and male penguins+ don't eat anything during [the incubation period of 64 days], conserving calories by giving up as little heat as possible is absolutely crucial.

Q.21 In the last sentence of paragraph 3, "slightly warmer air" and "at a slightly colder temperature" refer to _____ AND _____ respectively:

- (a) the air inside penguins' bodies kept warm because of metabolism of food AND the fall in temperature of the body air after it transfers some heat to the plumage.
- (b) the cold Antarctic air whose temperature is higher than that of the plumage AND the fall in temperature of the Antarctic air after it has transmitted some heat to the plumage.
- (c) the air trapped in the plumage which is warmer than the Antarctic air AND the fall in temperature of the trapped plumage air after it radiates out some heat.
- (d) the cold Antarctic air which becomes warmer because of the heat radiated out from pen-

guins' bodies AND the fall in temperature of the surrounding air after thermal convection.

Q.22 Which of the following best explains the purpose of the word "paradoxically" as used by the author?

- (a) Keeping a part of their body colder helps penguins keep their bodies warmer.
- (b) Heat loss through radiation happens despite the heat gain through convection.
- (c) Keeping their body colder helps penguins keep their plumage warmer.
- (d) Heat gain through radiation happens despite the heat loss through convection.

Q.23 Which of the following can be responsible for Emperor Penguins losing body heat?

- (a) Reproduction process.
- (b) Thermal convection.
- (c) Food metabolism.
- (d) Plumage.

Q.24 All of the following, if true, would negate the findings of the study reported in the passage EXCEPT:

- (a) the average air temperature recorded during the month of June 2008 in the area of study were -10 degrees Fahrenheit.
- (b) the average temperature of the feet of penguins in the month of June 2008 were found to be 2.76 degrees Fahrenheit.
- (c) the temperature of the plumage on the penguins' heads, chests and backs were found to be 1.84, 7.24 and 9.76 degrees Fahrenheit respectively.
- (d) the penguins' plumage were made of a material that did not allow any heat transfer through convection or radiation.

CAT 2019 (EVENING SLOT)

PASSAGE 1

The magic of squatter cities is that they are improved steadily and gradually by their residents. To a planner's eye, these cities look chaotic. I trained as a biologist and to my eye, they look organic. Squatter cities are also unexpectedly green. They have maximum density—1 million people per square mile in some areas of Mumbai—and have minimum energy and material use. People get around by foot, bicycle, rickshaw, or the universal shared taxi.

Not everything is efficient in the slums, though. In the Brazilian favelas where electricity is stolen and therefore free, people leave their lights on all day. But in most slums recycling is literally a way of life. The Dharavi slum in Mumbai has 400 recycling units and 30,000 rag pickers. Six thousand tons of rubbish are sorted every day. In 2007, the Economist reported that in Vietnam and Mozambique, "Waves of gleaners sift the sweepings of Hanoi's streets, just

as Mozambiquan children pick over the rubbish of Maputo's main tip. Every city in Asia and Latin America has an industry based on gathering up old cardboard boxes." . . .

In his 1985 article, Calthorpe made a statement that still jars with most people: "The city is the most environmentally benign form of human settlement. Each city dweller consumes less land, less energy, less water, and produces less pollution than his counterpart in settlements of lower densities." "Green Manhattan" was the inflammatory title of a 2004 New Yorker article by David Owen. "By the most significant measures," he wrote, "New York is the greenest community in the United States, and one of the greenest cities in the world . . . The key to New York's relative environmental benignity is its extreme compactness. . . . Placing one and a half million people on a twenty-three-square-mile island sharply reduces their opportunities to be wasteful." He went

on to note that this very compactness forces people to live in the world's most energy-efficient apartment buildings. . . .

Urban density allows half of humanity to live on 2.8 per cent of the land. . . . Consider just the infrastructure efficiencies. According to a 2004 UN report: "The concentration of population and enterprises in urban areas greatly reduces the unit cost of piped water, sewers, drains, roads, electricity, garbage collection, transport, health care, and schools." . . .

The nationally subsidised city of Manaus in northern Brazil "answers the question" of how to stop deforestation: give people decent jobs. Then they can afford houses, and gain security. One hundred thousand people who would otherwise be deforesting the jungle around Manaus are now prospering in town making such things as mobile phones and televisions. . . .

Of course, fast-growing cities are far from an unmitigated good. They concentrate crime, pollution, disease and injustice as much as business, innovation, education and entertainment. . . . But if they are overall a net good for those who move there, it is because cities offer more than just jobs. They are transformative: in the slums, as well as the office towers and leafy suburbs, the progress is from hick to metropolitan to cosmopolitan . . .

Q.1 From the passage it can be inferred that cities are good places to live in for all of the following reasons EXCEPT that they:

- (a) help prevent destruction of the environment.
- (b) have suburban areas as well as office areas.
- (c) offer employment opportunities.
- (d) contribute to the cultural transformation of residents.

Q.2 Which one of the following statements would undermine the author's stand regarding the greenness of cities?

- (a) The compactness of big cities in the West increases the incidence of violent crime.
- (b) The high density of cities leads to an increase in carbon dioxide and global warming.
- (c) Over the last decade the cost of utilities has been increasing for city dwellers.
- (d) Sorting through rubbish contributes to the rapid spread of diseases in the slums.

Q.3 We can infer that Calthorpe's statement "still jars" with most people because most people:

- (a) do not regard cities as good places to live in.
- (b) consider cities to be very crowded and polluted.
- (c) regard cities as places of disease and crime.
- (d) do not consider cities to be eco-friendly places.

Q.4 In the context of the passage, the author refers to Manaus in order to:

- (a) explain where cities source their labour for factories.
- (b) promote cities as employment hubs for people.
- (c) explain how urban areas help the environment.
- (d) describe the infrastructure efficiencies of living in a city.

Q.5 According to the passage, squatter cities are environment-friendly for all of the following reasons EXCEPT:

- (a) they recycle material.
- (b) their transportation is energy efficient.
- (c) they sort out garbage.
- (d) their streets are kept clean.

PASSAGE 2

British colonial policy . . . went through two policy phases, or at least there were two strategies between which its policies actually oscillated, sometimes to its great advantage. At first, the new colonial apparatus exercised caution, and occupied India by a mix of military power and subtle diplomacy, the high ground in the middle of the circle of circles. This, however, pushed them into contradictions. For, whatever their sense of the strangeness of the country and the thinness of colonial presence, the British colonial state represented the great conquering discourse of Enlightenment rationalism, entering India precisely at the moment of its greatest unchecked arrogance. As inheritors and representatives of this discourse, which carried everything before it, this colonial state could hardly adopt for long such a self-denying attitude. It had restructured everything in Europe—the productive system, the political regimes, the moral and cognitive orders—and would do the same in India, particularly

as some empirically inclined theorists of that generation considered the colonies a massive laboratory of utilitarian or other theoretical experiments. Consequently, the colonial state could not settle simply for eminence at the cost of its marginality; it began to take initiatives to introduce the logic of modernity into Indian society. But this modernity did not enter a passive society. Sometimes, its initiatives were resisted by pre-existing structural forms. At times, there was a more direct form of collective resistance. Therefore the map of continuity and discontinuity that this state left behind at the time of independence was rather complex and has to be traced with care.

Most significantly, of course, initiatives for . . . modernity came to assume an external character. The acceptance of modernity came to be connected, ineradicably, with subjection. This again points to two different problems, one theoretical, the other political. Theoretically, because modernity was

externally introduced, it is explanatorily unhelpful to apply the logical format of the ‘transition process’ to this pattern of change. Such a logical format would be wrong on two counts. First, however subtly, it would imply that what was proposed to be built was something like European capitalism. (And, in any case, historians have forcefully argued that what it was to replace was not like feudalism, with or without modificatory adjectives.) But, more fundamentally, the logical structure of endogenous change does not apply here. Here transformation agendas attack as an external force. This externality is not something that can be casually mentioned and forgotten. It is inscribed on every move, every object, every proposal, every legislative act, each line of causality. It comes to be marked on the epoch itself. This repetitive emphasis on externality should not be seen as a nationalist initiative that is so well rehearsed in Indian social science. . . .

Quite apart from the externality of the entire historical proposal of modernity, some of its contents were remarkable. . . . Economic reforms, or rather alterations . . . did not foreshadow the construction of a classical capitalist economy, with its necessary emphasis on extractive and transport sectors. What happened was the creation of a degenerate version of capitalism —what early dependency theorists called the ‘development of underdevelopment’.

Q.6 All of the following statements, if true, could be seen as supporting the arguments in the passage, EXCEPT:

- (a) the change in British colonial policy was induced by resistance to modernity in Indian society.
- (b) modernity was imposed upon India by the British and, therefore, led to underdevelopment.
- (c) throughout the history of colonial conquest, natives have often been experimented on by the colonisers.
- (d) the introduction of capitalism in India was not through the transformation of feudalism, as happened in Europe.

Q.7 All of the following statements about British colonialism can be inferred from the first paragraph, EXCEPT that it:

- (a) allowed the treatment of colonies as experimental sites.
- (b) faced resistance from existing structural forms of Indian modernity.
- (c) was at least partly shaped by the project of European modernity.
- (d) was at least partly an outcome of Enlightenment rationalism.

Q.8 “Consequently, the colonial state could not settle simply for eminence at the cost of its marginality; it began to take initiatives to introduce the logic of modernity into Indian society.” Which of the following best captures the sense of this statement?

- (a) The cost of the colonial state’s eminence was not settled; therefore, it took the initiative of introducing modernity into Indian society.
- (b) The colonial enterprise was a costly one; so to justify the cost it began to take initiatives to introduce the logic of modernity into Indian society.
- (c) The colonial state’s eminence was unsettled by its marginal position; therefore, it developed Indian society by modernising it.
- (d) The colonial state felt marginalised from Indian society because of its own modernity; therefore, it sought to address that marginalisation by bringing its modernity to change Indian society.

Q.9 Which of the following observations is a valid conclusion to draw from the author’s statement that “the logical structure of endogenous change does not apply here. Here transformation agendas attack as an external force”?

- (a) Colonised societies cannot be changed through logic; they need to be transformed with external force.
- (b) The transformation of Indian society did not happen organically, but was forced by colonial agendas.
- (c) Indian society is not endogamous; it is more accurately characterised as aggressively exogamous.
- (d) The endogenous logic of colonialism can only bring change if it attacks and transforms external forces.

Q.10 Which one of the following 5-word sequences best captures the flow of the arguments in the passage?

- (a) Colonial policy—arrogant rationality—resistance—independence—development.
- (b) Military power—colonialism—restructuring—feudalism—capitalism.
- (c) Military power—arrogance—laboratory—modernity—capitalism.
- (d) Colonial policy—Enlightenment—external modernity—subjection—underdevelopment.

PASSAGE 3

Around the world, capital cities are disgorging bureaucrats. In the post-colonial fervour of the 20th century, coastal capitals picked by trade-focused empires were spurned for “regionally neutral” new ones But decamping

wholesale is costly and unpopular; governments these days prefer piecemeal dispersal. The trend reflects how the world has changed. In past eras, when information travelled at a snail’s pace, civil servants had to cluster

together. But now desk-workers can ping emails and video-chat around the world. Travel for face-to-face meetings may be unavoidable, but transport links, too, have improved. . . .

Proponents of moving civil servants around promise countless benefits. It disperses the risk that a terrorist attack or natural disaster will cripple an entire government. Wonks in the sticks will be inspired by new ideas that walled-off capitals cannot conjure up. Autonomous regulators perform best far from the pressure and lobbying of the big city. Some even hail a cure for ascendant cynicism and populism. The unloved bureaucrats of faraway capitals will become as popular as firefighters once they mix with regular folk.

Beyond these sunny visions, dispersing central-government functions usually has three specific aims: to improve the lives of both civil servants and those living in clogged capitals; to save money; and to redress regional imbalances. The trouble is that these goals are not always realised.

The first aim—improving living conditions—has a long pedigree. After the second world war Britain moved thousands of civil servants to “agreeable English country towns” as London was rebuilt. But swapping the capital for somewhere smaller is not always agreeable. Attrition rates can exceed 80%. . . . The second reason to pack bureaucrats off is to save money. Office space costs far more in capitals. . . . Agencies that are moved elsewhere can often recruit better workers on lower salaries than in capitals, where well-paying multinationals mop up talent.

The third reason to shift is to rebalance regional inequality. . . . Norway treats federal jobs as a resource every region deserves to enjoy, like profits from oil. Where government jobs go, private ones follow. . . . Sometimes the aim is to fulfil the potential of a country’s second-tier cities. Unlike poor, remote places, bigger cities can make the most of relocated government agencies, linking them to local universities and businesses and supplying a better-educated workforce. The decision in 1946 to set up America’s Centres for Disease Control in Atlanta rather than Washington, D.C., has transformed the city into a hub for health-sector research and business.

The dilemma is obvious. Pick small, poor towns, and areas of high unemployment get new jobs, but it is hard to attract the most qualified workers; opt for larger cities with infrastructure and better-qualified residents, and the country’s most deprived areas see little benefit. . . . Others contend that decentralisation begets corruption by making government agencies less accountable. . . . A study in America found that state-government corruption is worse when the state capital is isolated—journalists, who tend to live in the bigger cities, become less watchful of those in power.

Q.11 According to the author, relocating government agencies has not always been a success for all of the following reasons EXCEPT:

- (a) high staff losses, as people may not be prepared to move to smaller towns.
- (b) the difficulty of attracting talented, well-skilled people in more remote areas.
- (c) increased avenues of corruption away from the capital city.
- (d) a rise in pollution levels and congestion in the new locations.

Q.12 According to the passage, colonial powers located their capitals:

- (a) based on political expediency.
- (b) to promote their trading interests.
- (c) where they had the densest populations.
- (d) to showcase their power and prestige.

Q.13 The “long pedigree” of the aim to shift civil servants to improve their living standards implies that this move:

- (a) takes a long time to achieve its intended outcomes.
- (b) has become common practice in several countries worldwide.
- (c) is supported by politicians and the ruling elites.
- (d) is not a new idea and has been tried in the past.

Q.14 The “dilemma” mentioned in the passage refers to:

- (a) relocating government agencies to boost growth in remote areas with poor amenities or to relatively larger cities with good amenities.
- (b) keeping government agencies in the largest city with good infrastructure or moving them to a remote area with few amenities.
- (c) concentrating on decongesting large cities or focusing on boosting employment in relatively larger cities.
- (d) encouraging private enterprises to relocate to smaller towns or not incentivising them in order to keep government costs in those towns low.

Q.15 People who support decentralising central government functions are LEAST likely to cite which of the following reasons for their view?

- (a) It reduces expenses as infrastructure costs and salaries are lower in smaller cities.
- (b) Policy makers may benefit from fresh thinking in a new environment.
- (c) More independence could be enjoyed by regulatory bodies located away from political centres.
- (d) It could weaken the nexus between bureaucrats and media in the capital.

PASSAGE 4

For two years, I tracked down dozens of . . . Chinese in Upper Egypt [who were] selling lingerie. In a deeply conservative region, where Egyptian families rarely allow women to work or own businesses, the Chinese flourished because of their status as outsiders. They didn't gossip, and they kept their opinions to themselves. In a New Yorker article entitled "Learning to Speak Lingerie," I described the Chinese use of Arabic as another non-threatening characteristic. I wrote, "Unlike Mandarin, Arabic is inflected for gender, and Chinese dealers, who learn the language strictly by ear, often pick up speech patterns from female customers. I've come to think of it as the lingerie dialect, and there's something disarming about these Chinese men speaking in the feminine voice." . . .

When I wrote about the Chinese in the New Yorker, most readers seemed to appreciate the unusual perspective. But as I often find with topics that involve the Middle East, some people had trouble getting past the black-and-white quality of a byline. "This piece is so orientalist I don't know what to do," Aisha Gani, a reporter who worked at The Guardian, tweeted. Another colleague at the British paper, Iman Amrani, agreed: "I wouldn't have minded an article on the subject written by an Egyptian woman—probably would have had better insight." . . .

As an MOL (man of language), I also take issue with this kind of essentialism. Empathy and understanding are not inherited traits, and they are not strictly tied to gender and race. An individual who wrestles with a difficult language can learn to be more sympathetic to outsiders and open to different experiences of the world. This learning process—the embarrassments, the frustrations, the gradual sense of understanding and connection—is invariably transformative. In Upper Egypt, the Chinese experience of struggling to learn Arabic and local culture had made them much more thoughtful. In the same way, I was interested in their lives not because of some kind of voyeurism, but because I had also experienced Egypt and Arabic as an outsider. And both the Chinese and the Egyptians welcomed me because I spoke their languages. My identity as a white male was far less important than my ability to communicate.

And that easily lobbed word—"Orientalist"—hardly captures the complexity of our interactions. What exactly is the dynamic when a man from Missouri observes a Zhejiang native selling lingerie to an Upper Egyptian woman? . . . If all of us now stand beside the same river, speaking in ways we all understand, who's looking east and who's looking west? Which way is Oriental?

For all of our current interest in identity politics, there's no corresponding sense of identity linguistics. You are what you speak—the words that run throughout your mind are at

least as fundamental to your selfhood as is your ethnicity or your gender. And sometimes it's healthy to consider human characteristics that are not inborn, rigid, and outwardly defined. After all, you can always learn another language and change who you are.

Q.16 Which of the following can be inferred from the author's claim, "Which way is Oriental?"

- (a) Goodwill alone mitigates cultural hierarchies and barriers.
- (b) Learning another language can mitigate cultural hierarchies and barriers.
- (c) Globalisation has mitigated cultural hierarchies and barriers.
- (d) Orientalism is a discourse of the past, from colonial times, rarely visible today.

Q.17 According to the passage, which of the following is not responsible for language's ability to change us?

- (a) Language's intrinsic connection to our notions of self and identity.
- (b) Language's ability to mediate the impact of identity markers one is born with.
- (c) The twists and turns in the evolution of language over time.
- (d) The ups and downs involved in the course of learning a language.

Q.18 A French ethnographer decides to study the culture of a Nigerian tribe. Which of the following is most likely to be the view of the author of the passage?

- (a) The author would discourage the ethnographer from conducting the study as Nigerian ethnographers can better understand the tribe.
- (b) The author would encourage the ethnographer and recommend him/her to hire a good translator for the purpose of holding interviews.
- (c) The author would encourage the ethnographer, but ask him/her to first learn the language of the Nigerian tribe s/he wishes to study.
- (d) The author would encourage the ethnographer, but ask him/her to be mindful of his/her racial and gender identity in the process.

Q.19 The author's critics would argue that:

- (a) Linguistic politics can be erased.
- (b) Empathy can overcome identity politics.
- (c) Language is insufficient to bridge cultural barriers.
- (d) Orientalism cannot be practiced by Egyptians.

PASSAGE 5

War, natural disasters and climate change are destroying some of the world's most precious cultural sites. Google is trying to help preserve these archaeological wonders by allowing users access to 3D images of these treasures through its site.

But the project is raising questions about Google's motivations and about who should own the digital copyrights. Some critics call it a form of "digital colonialism."

When it comes to archaeological treasures, the losses have been mounting. ISIS blew up parts of the ancient city of Palmyra in Syria and an earthquake hit Bagan, an ancient city in Myanmar, damaging dozens of temples, in 2016. In the past, all archaeologists and historians had for restoration and research were photos, drawings, remnants and intuition.

But that's changing. Before the earthquake at Bagan, many of the temples on the site were scanned. . . . [These] scans . . . are on Google's Arts & Culture site. The digital renditions allow viewers to virtually wander the halls of the temple, look up-close at paintings and turn the building over, to look up at its chambers. . . . [Google Arts & Culture] works with museums and other nonprofits . . . to put high-quality images online.

The images of the temples in Bagan are part of a collaboration with CyArk, a nonprofit that creates the 3D scanning of historic sites. . . . Google . . . says [it] doesn't make money off this website, but it fits in with Google's mission to make the world's information available and useful.

Critics say the collaboration could be an attempt by a large corporation to wrap itself in the sheen of culture. Ethan Watrall, an archaeologist, professor at Michigan State University and a member of the Society for American Archaeology, says he's not comfortable with the arrangement between CyArk and Google. . . . Watrall says this project is just a way for Google to promote Google. "They want to make this material accessible so people will browse it and be filled with wonder by it," he says. "But at its core, it's all about advertisements and driving traffic." Watrall says these images belong on the site of a museum or educational institution, where there is serious scholarship and a very different mission. . . .

There's another issue for some archaeologists and art historians. CyArk owns the copyrights of the scans — not the countries where these sites are located. That means the countries need CyArk's permission to use these images for commercial purposes.

Erin Thompson, a professor of art crime at John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York City, says it's the latest example of a Western nation appropriating a foreign culture, a centuries-long battle. . . . CyArk says it copyrights the scans so no one can use them in an inappropriate way. The company says it works closely with authorities during the process, even training local people to help. But critics like Thompson are not persuaded. . . . She would prefer the scans to be owned by the countries and people where these sites are located.

- Q.20** In Dr. Thompson's view, CyArk owning the copyright of its digital scans of archaeological sites is akin to:
- (a) the illegal downloading of content from the internet.
 - (b) the seizing of ancient Egyptian artefacts by a Western museum.
 - (c) tourists uploading photos of monuments onto social media.
 - (d) digital platforms capturing users' data for market research.
- Q.21** Based on his views mentioned in the passage, one could best characterise Dr. Watrall as being:
- (a) dismissive of laypeople's access to specialist images of archaeological and cultural sites.
 - (b) opposed to the use of digital technology in archaeological and cultural sites in developing countries.
 - (c) uneasy about the marketing of archaeological images for commercial use by firms such as Google and CyArk.
 - (d) critical about the links between a non-profit and a commercial tech platform for distributing archaeological images.
- Q.22** Of the following arguments, which one is LEAST likely to be used by the companies that digitally scan cultural sites?
- (a) It provides images free of cost to all users.
 - (b) It helps preserve precious images in case the sites are damaged or destroyed.
 - (c) It allows a large corporation to project itself as a protector of culture.
 - (d) It enables people who cannot physically visit these sites to experience them.
- Q.23** Which of the following, if true, would most strongly invalidate Dr. Watrall's objections?
- (a) CyArk uploads its scanned images of archaeological sites onto museum websites only.
 - (b) There is a ban on CyArk scanning archaeological sites located in other countries.
 - (c) CyArk does not own the copyright on scanned images of archaeological sites.
 - (d) Google takes down advertisements on its website hosting CyArk's scanned images.
- Q.24** By "digital colonialism", critics of the CyArk–Google project are referring to the fact that:
- (a) countries where the scanned sites are located do not own the scan copyrights.
 - (b) CyArk and Google have not shared the details of digitisation with the host countries.
 - (c) the scanning process can damage delicate frescos and statues at the sites.
 - (d) CyArk and Google have been scanning images without copyright permission from host countries.

PASSAGE 1

“Everybody pretty much agrees that the relationship between elephants and people has dramatically changed,” [says psychologist Gay] Bradshaw. . . . “Where for centuries humans and elephants lived in relatively peaceful coexistence, there is now hostility and violence. Now, I use the term ‘violence’ because of the intentionality associated with it, both in the aggression of humans and, at times, the recently observed behavior of elephants.” . . .

Typically, elephant researchers have cited, as a cause of aggression, the high levels of testosterone in newly matured male elephants or the competition for land and resources between elephants and humans. But. . . Bradshaw and several colleagues argue. . . that today’s elephant populations are suffering from a form of chronic stress, a kind of species-wide trauma. Decades of poaching and culling and habitat loss, they claim, have so disrupted the intricate web of familial and societal relations by which young elephants have traditionally been raised in the wild, and by which established elephant herds are governed, that what we are now witnessing is nothing less than a precipitous collapse of elephant culture. . . .

Elephants, when left to their own devices, are profoundly social creatures. . . . Young elephants are raised within an extended, multi-tiered network of doting female caregivers that includes the birth mother, grandmothers, aunts and friends. These relations are maintained over a life span as long as 70 years. Studies of established herds have shown that young elephants stay within 15 feet of their mothers for nearly all of their first eight years of life, after which young females are socialized into the matriarchal network, while young males go off for a time into an all-male social group before coming back into the fold as mature adults. . . .

This fabric of elephant society, Bradshaw and her colleagues [demonstrate], has effectively been frayed by years of habitat loss and poaching, along with systematic culling by government agencies to control elephant numbers and translocations of herds to different habitats. . . . As a result of such social upheaval, calves are now being born to and raised by ever younger and inexperienced mothers. Young orphaned elephants, meanwhile, that have witnessed the death of a parent at the hands of poachers are coming of age in the absence of the support system that defines traditional elephant life. “The loss of elephant elders,” [says] Bradshaw . . . “and the traumatic experience of witnessing the massacres of their family, impairs normal brain and behavior development in young elephants.”

What Bradshaw and her colleagues describe would seem to be an extreme form of anthropocentric conjecture if the evidence that they’ve compiled from various elephant researchers. . . weren’t so compelling. The elephants of decimated herds, especially orphans who’ve watched the

death of their parents and elders from poaching and culling, exhibit behavior typically associated with post-traumatic stress disorder and other trauma-related disorders in humans: abnormal startle response, unpredictable asocial behavior, inattentive mothering and hyper-aggression. . . .

[According to Bradshaw], “Elephants are suffering and behaving in the same ways that we recognize in ourselves as a result of violence. . . . Except perhaps for a few specific features, brain organization and early development of elephants and humans are extremely similar.”

Q.1 The passage makes all of the following claims EXCEPT:

- (a) elephant mothers are evolving newer ways of rearing their calves to adapt to emerging threats.
- (b) the elephant response to deeply disturbing experiences is similar to that of humans.
- (c) human actions such as poaching and culling have created stressful conditions for elephant communities.
- (d) elephants establish extended and enduring familial relationships as do humans.

Q.2 Which of the following statements best expresses the overall argument of this passage?

- (a) Recent elephant behaviour could be understood as a form of species-wide trauma-related response.
- (b) Elephants, like the humans they are in conflict with, are profoundly social creatures.
- (c) The relationship between elephants and humans has changed from one of coexistence to one of hostility.
- (d) The brain organisation and early development of elephants and humans are extremely similar.

Q.3 Which of the following measures is Bradshaw most likely to support to address the problem of elephant aggression?

- (a) Funding of more studies to better understand the impact of testosterone on male elephant aggression.
- (b) The development of treatment programmes for elephants drawing on insights gained from treating post-traumatic stress disorder in humans.
- (c) Studying the impact of isolating elephant calves on their early brain development, behaviour and aggression.
- (d) Increased funding for research into the similarity of humans and other animals drawing on insights gained from human-elephant similarities.

- Q.4** In paragraph 4, the phrase, “The fabric of elephant society . . . has(s) effectively been frayed by . . .” is:
- (a) an accurate description of the condition of elephant herds today.
 - (b) a metaphor for the effect of human activity on elephant communities.
 - (c) an exaggeration aimed at bolstering Bradshaw’s claims.
 - (d) an ode to the fragility of elephant society today.

- Q.5** In the first paragraph, Bradshaw uses the term “violence” to describe the recent change in the human-elephant relationship because, according to him:
- (a) there is a purposefulness in human and elephant aggression towards each other.
 - (b) elephant herds and their habitat have been systematically destroyed by humans.
 - (c) human-elephant interactions have changed their character over time.
 - (d) both humans and elephants have killed members of each other’s species.

PASSAGE 2

The only thing worse than being lied to is not knowing you’re being lied to. It’s true that plastic pollution is a huge problem, of planetary proportions. And it’s true we could all do more to reduce our plastic footprint. The lie is that blame for the plastic problem is wasteful consumers and that changing our individual habits will fix it.

Recycling plastic is to saving the Earth what hammering a nail is to halting a falling skyscraper. You struggle to find a place to do it and feel pleased when you succeed. But your effort is wholly inadequate and distracts from the real problem of why the building is collapsing in the first place. The real problem is that single-use plastic—the very idea of producing plastic items like grocery bags, which we use for an average of 12 minutes but can persist in the environment for half a millennium—is an incredibly reckless abuse of technology. Encouraging individuals to recycle more will never solve the problem of a massive production of single-use plastic that should have been avoided in the first place.

As an ecologist and evolutionary biologist, I have had a disturbing window into the accumulating literature on the hazards of plastic pollution. Scientists have long recognized that plastics biodegrade slowly, if at all, and pose multiple threats to wildlife through entanglement and consumption. More recent reports highlight dangers posed by absorption of toxic chemicals in the water and by plastic odors that mimic some species’ natural food. Plastics also accumulate up the food chain, and studies now show that we are likely ingesting it ourselves in seafood. . . .

Beginning in the 1950s, big beverage companies like Coca-Cola and Anheuser-Busch, along with Phillip Morris and others, formed a non-profit called Keep America Beautiful. Its mission is/was to educate and encourage environmental stewardship in the public. . . . At face value, these efforts seem benevolent, but they obscure the real problem, which is the role that corporate polluters play in the plastic problem. This clever misdirection has led journalist and author Heather Rogers to describe Keep America Beautiful as the first corporate greenwashing front, as it has helped shift the public focus to consumer recycling behavior and actively thwarted legislation that would increase extended producer responsibility for waste management. . . . The greatest success of Keep America Beautiful has been to

shift the onus of environmental responsibility onto the public while simultaneously becoming a trusted name in the environmental movement. . . .

So what can we do to make responsible use of plastic a reality? First: reject the lie. Litterbugs are not responsible for the global ecological disaster of plastic. Humans can only function to the best of their abilities, given time, mental bandwidth and systemic constraints. Our huge problem with plastic is the result of a permissive legal framework that has allowed the uncontrolled rise of plastic pollution, despite clear evidence of the harm it causes to local communities and the world’s oceans. Recycling is also too hard in most parts of the U.S. and lacks the proper incentives to make it work well.

- Q.6** In the second paragraph, the phrase “what hammering a nail is to halting a falling skyscraper” means:
- (a) relying on emerging technologies to mitigate the ill-effects of plastic pollution.
 - (b) encouraging the responsible production of plastics by firms.
 - (c) focusing on consumer behaviour to tackle the problem of plastics pollution.
 - (d) focusing on single-use plastic bags to reduce the plastics footprint.

- Q.7** In the first paragraph, the author uses “lie” to refer to the:
- (a) blame assigned to consumers for indiscriminate use of plastics.
 - (b) understatement of the enormity of the plastics pollution problem.
 - (c) understatement of the effects of recycling plastics.
 - (d) fact that people do not know they have been lied to.

- Q.8** The author lists all of the following as negative effects of the use of plastics EXCEPT the:
- (a) slow pace of degradation or non-degradation of plastics in the environment.
 - (b) air pollution caused during the process of recycling plastics.

- (c) adverse impacts on the digestive systems of animals exposed to plastic.
- (d) poisonous chemicals released into the water and food we consume.

Q.9 Which of the following interventions would the author most strongly support:

- (a) completely banning all single-use plastic bags.
- (b) having all consumers change their plastic consumption habits.
- (c) recycling all plastic debris in the seabed.

- (d) passing regulations targeted at producers that generate plastic products.

Q.10 It can be inferred that the author considers the Keep America Beautiful organisation:

- (a) an innovative example of a collaborative corporate social responsibility initiative.
- (b) a sham as it diverted attention away from the role of corporates in plastics pollution.
- (c) an important step in sensitising producers to the need to tackle plastics pollution.
- (d) a “greenwash” because it was a benevolent attempt to improve public recycling habits.

PASSAGE 3

Economists have spent most of the 20th century ignoring psychology, positive or otherwise. But today there is a great deal of emphasis on how happiness can shape global economies, or — on a smaller scale — successful business practice. This is driven, in part, by a trend in “measuring” positive emotions, mostly so they can be optimized. Neuroscientists, for example, claim to be able to locate specific emotions, such as happiness or disappointment, in particular areas of the brain. Wearable technologies, such as Spire, offer data-driven advice on how to reduce stress.

We are no longer just dealing with “happiness” in a philosophical or romantic sense — it has become something that can be monitored and measured, including by our behavior, use of social media and bodily indicators such as pulse rate and facial expressions.

There is nothing automatically sinister about this trend. But it is disquieting that the businesses and experts driving the quantification of happiness claim to have our best interests at heart, often concealing their own agendas in the process. In the workplace, happy workers are viewed as a “win-win.” Work becomes more pleasant, and employees, more productive. But this is now being pursued through the use of performance-evaluating wearable technology, such as Humanyze or Virgin Pulse, both of which monitor physical signs of stress and activity toward the goal of increasing productivity.

Cities such as Dubai, which has pledged to become the “happiest city in the world,” dream up ever-more elaborate and intrusive ways of collecting data on well-being — to the point where there is now talk of using CCTV cameras to monitor facial expressions in public spaces. New ways of detecting emotions are hitting the market all the time: One company, Beyond Verbal, aims to calculate moods conveyed in a phone conversation, potentially without the knowledge of at least one of the participants. And Facebook [has] demonstrated . . . that it could influence our emotions through tweaking our news feeds — opening the door to ever-more targeted manipulation in advertising and influence.

As the science grows more sophisticated and technologies become more intimate with our thoughts and bodies,

a clear trend is emerging. Where happiness indicators were once used as a basis to reform society, challenging the obsession with money that G.D.P. measurement entrenches, they are increasingly used as a basis to transform or discipline individuals.

Happiness becomes a personal project, that each of us must now work on, like going to the gym. Since the 1970s, depression has come to be viewed as a cognitive or neurological defect in the individual, and never a consequence of circumstances. All of this simply escalates the sense of responsibility each of us feels for our own feelings, and with it, the sense of failure when things go badly. A society that deliberately removed certain sources of misery, such as precarious and exploitative employment, may well be a happier one. But we won’t get there by making this single, often fleeting emotion, the over-arching goal.

Q.11 In the author’s opinion, the shift in thinking in the 1970s:

- (a) introduced greater stress into people’s lives as they were expected to be responsible for their own happiness.
- (b) was a welcome change from the earlier view that depression could be cured by changing circumstances.
- (c) put people in touch with their own feelings rather than depending on psychologists.
- (d) reflected the emergence of neuroscience as the authority on human emotions.

Q.12 The author’s view would be undermined by which of the following research findings?

- (a) There is a definitive move towards the adoption of wearable technology that taps into emotions.
- (b) A proliferation of gyms that are collecting data on customer well-being.
- (c) Individuals worldwide are utilising technologies to monitor and increase their well-being.
- (d) Stakeholders globally are moving away from collecting data on the well-being of individuals.

- Q.13** According to the author, Dubai:
- (a) develops sophisticated technologies to monitor its inhabitants' states of mind.
 - (b) incentivises companies that prioritise worker welfare.
 - (c) collaborates with Facebook to selectively influence its inhabitants' moods.
 - (d) is on its way to becoming one of the world's happiest cities.
- Q.14** According to the author, wearable technologies and social media are contributing most to:
- (a) happiness as a "personal project".
 - (b) disciplining individuals to be happy.

- (c) depression as a thing of the past.
- (d) making individuals aware of stress in their lives.

- Q.15** From the passage we can infer that the author would like economists to:
- (a) correlate measurements of happiness with economic indicators.
 - (b) measure the effectiveness of Facebook and social media advertising.
 - (c) incorporate psychological findings into their research cautiously.
 - (d) work closely with neuroscientists to understand human behaviour.

PASSAGE 4

When researchers at Emory University in Atlanta trained mice to fear the smell of almonds (by pairing it with electric shocks), they found, to their consternation, that both the children and grandchildren of these mice were spontaneously afraid of the same smell. That is not supposed to happen. Generations of schoolchildren have been taught that the inheritance of acquired characteristics is impossible. A mouse should not be born with something its parents have learned during their lifetimes, any more than a mouse that loses its tail in an accident should give birth to tailless mice. . . .

Modern evolutionary biology dates back to a synthesis that emerged around the 1940s-60s, which married Charles Darwin's mechanism of natural selection with Gregor Mendel's discoveries of how genes are inherited. The traditional, and still dominant, view is that adaptations – from the human brain to the peacock's tail – are fully and satisfactorily explained by natural selection (and subsequent inheritance). Yet [new evidence] from genomics, epigenetics and developmental biology [indicates] that evolution is more complex than we once assumed. . . .

In his book *On Human Nature* (1978), the evolutionary biologist Edward O Wilson claimed that human culture is held on a genetic leash. The metaphor [needs revision]. . . . Imagine a dog-walker (the genes) struggling to retain control of a brawny mastiff (human culture). The pair's trajectory (the pathway of evolution) reflects the outcome of the struggle. Now imagine the same dog-walker struggling with multiple dogs, on leashes of varied lengths, with each dog tugging in different directions. All these tugs represent the influence of developmental factors, including epigenetics, antibodies and hormones passed on by parents, as well as the ecological legacies and culture they bequeath. . . .

The received wisdom is that parental experiences can't affect the characters of their offspring. Except they do. The way that genes are expressed to produce an organism's phenotype – the actual characteristics it ends up with – is affected by chemicals that attach to them. Everything from diet to air pollution to parental behaviour can influence the addition

or removal of these chemical marks, which switches genes on or off. Usually these so-called 'epigenetic' attachments are removed during the production of sperm and eggs cells, but it turns out that some escape the resetting process and are passed on to the next generation, along with the genes. This is known as 'epigenetic inheritance', and more and more studies are confirming that it really happens. Let's return to the almond-fearing mice. The inheritance of an epigenetic mark transmitted in the sperm is what led the mice's offspring to acquire an inherited fear. . . .

Epigenetics is only part of the story. Through culture and society, [humans and other animals] inherit knowledge and skills acquired by [their] parents. . . . All this complexity . . . points to an evolutionary process in which genomes (over hundreds to thousands of generations), epigenetic modifications and inherited cultural factors (over several, perhaps tens or hundreds of generations), and parental effects (over single-generation timespans) collectively inform how organisms adapt. These extra-genetic kinds of inheritance give organisms the flexibility to make rapid adjustments to environmental challenges, dragging genetic change in their wake – much like a rowdy pack of dogs.

- Q.16** The Emory University experiment with mice points to the inheritance of:
- (a) psychological markers
 - (b) acquired characteristics
 - (c) personality traits
 - (d) acquired parental fears
- Q.17** Which of the following best describes the author's argument?
- (a) Darwin's and Mendel's theories together best explain evolution.
 - (b) Mendel's theory of inheritance is unfairly underestimated in explaining evolution.
 - (c) Wilson's theory of evolution is scientifically superior to either Darwin's or Mendel's.
 - (d) Darwin's theory of natural selection cannot fully explain evolution.

- Q.18** Which of the following, if found to be true, would negate the main message of the passage?
- (a) A study affirming the influence of socio-cultural markers on evolutionary processes.
 - (b) A study highlighting the criticality of epigenetic inheritance to evolution.
 - (c) A study indicating the primacy of ecological impact on human adaptation.
 - (d) A study affirming the sole influence of natural selection and inheritance on evolution.

- Q.19** The passage uses the metaphor of a dog walker to argue that evolutionary adaptation is most comprehensively understood as being determined by:
- (a) extra genetic, genetic, epigenetic and genomic legacies.
 - (b) socio-cultural, genetic, epigenetic, and genomic legacies
 - (c) ecological, hormonal, extra genetic and genetic legacies.
 - (d) genetic, epigenetic, developmental factors, and ecological legacies.

PASSAGE 5

The Indian government has announced an international competition to design a National War Memorial in New Delhi, to honour all of the Indian soldiers who served in the various wars and counter-insurgency campaigns from 1947 onwards. The terms of the competition also specified that the new structure would be built adjacent to the India Gate – a memorial to the Indian soldiers who died in the First World War. Between the old imperialist memorial and the proposed nationalist one, India's contribution to the Second World War is airbrushed out of existence.

The Indian government's conception of the war memorial was not merely absent-minded. Rather, it accurately reflected the fact that both academic history and popular memory have yet to come to terms with India's Second World War, which continues to be seen as little more than mood music in the drama of India's advance towards independence and partition in 1947. Further, the political trajectory of the postwar subcontinent has militated against popular remembrance of the war. With partition and the onset of the India-Pakistan rivalry, both of the new nations needed fresh stories for self-legitimation rather than focusing on shared wartime experiences.

However, the Second World War played a crucial role in both the independence and partition of India. . . . The Indian army recruited, trained and deployed some 2.5 million men, almost 90,000 of which were killed and many more injured. Even at the time, it was recognised as the largest volunteer force in the war. . . .

India's material and financial contribution to the war was equally significant. India emerged as a major military-industrial and logistical base for Allied operations in south-east Asia and the Middle East. This led the United States to take considerable interest in the country's future, and ensured that this was no longer the preserve of the British government.

Other wartime developments pointed in the direction of India's independence. In a stunning reversal of its long-standing financial relationship with Britain, India finished the war as one of the largest creditors to the imperial power.

Such extraordinary mobilization for war was achieved at great human cost, with the Bengal famine the most extreme manifestation of widespread wartime deprivation. The costs on India's home front must be counted in millions of lives.

Indians signed up to serve on the war and home fronts for a variety of reasons. . . . Many were convinced that their contribution would open the doors to India's freedom. . . . The political and social churn triggered by the war was evident in the massive waves of popular protest and unrest that washed over rural and urban India in the aftermath of the conflict. This turmoil was crucial in persuading the Attlee government to rid itself of the incubus of ruling India. . . .

Seventy years on, it is time that India engaged with the complex legacies of the Second World War. Bringing the war into the ambit of the new national memorial would be a fitting – if not overdue – recognition that this was India's War.

- Q.20** In the first paragraph, the author laments the fact that:
- (a) there is no recognition of the Indian soldiers who served in the Second World War.
 - (b) the new war memorial will be built right next to India Gate.
 - (c) India lost thousands of human lives during the Second World War.
 - (d) funds will be wasted on another war memorial when we already have the India Gate memorial.
- Q.21** The phrase "mood music" is used in the second paragraph to indicate that the Second World War is viewed as:
- (a) setting the stage for the emergence of the India-Pakistan rivalry in the subcontinent.
 - (b) a tragic period in terms of loss of lives and national wealth.
 - (c) a backdrop to the subsequent independence and partition of the region.
 - (d) a part of the narrative on the ill-effects of colonial rule on India.
- Q.22** The author lists all of the following as outcomes of the Second World War EXCEPT:
- (a) independence of the subcontinent and its partition into two countries.
 - (b) US recognition of India's strategic location and role in the War.
 - (c) large-scale deaths in Bengal as a result of deprivation and famine.

- (d) the large financial debt India owed to Britain after the War.

Q.23 The author claims that omitting mention of Indians who served in the Second World War from the new National War Memorial is:

- (a) a reflection of the academic and popular view of India's role in the War.
- (b) appropriate as their names can always be included in the India Gate memorial.
- (c) a reflection of misplaced priorities of the post-independence Indian governments.
- (d) is something which can be rectified in future by constructing a separate memorial.

Q.24 The author suggests that a major reason why India has not so far acknowledged its role in the Second World War is that it:

- (a) blames the War for leading to the momentous partition of the country.
- (b) wants to forget the human and financial toll of the War on the country.
- (c) has been focused on building an independent, non-colonial political identity.
- (d) views the War as a predominantly Allied effort, with India playing only a supporting role.

CAT 2018 (EVENING SLOT)

PASSAGE 1

The complexity of modern problems often precludes any one person from fully understanding them. Factors contributing to rising obesity levels, for example, include transportation systems and infrastructure, media, convenience foods, changing social norms, human biology and psychological factors. . . . The multidimensional or layered character of complex problems also undermines the principle of meritocracy: the idea that the 'best person' should be hired. There is no best person. When putting together an oncological research team, a biotech company such as Gilead or Genentech would not construct a multiple-choice test and hire the top scorers, or hire people whose resumes score highest according to some performance criteria. Instead, they would seek diversity. They would build a team of people who bring diverse knowledge bases, tools and analytic skills. . . .

Believers in a meritocracy might grant that teams ought to be diverse but then argue that meritocratic principles should apply within each category. Thus the team should consist of the 'best' mathematicians, the 'best' oncologists, and the 'best' biostatisticians from within the pool. That position suffers from a similar flaw. Even with a knowledge domain, no test or criteria applied to individuals will produce the best team. Each of these domains possesses such depth and breadth, that no test can exist. Consider the field of neuroscience. Upwards of 50,000 papers were published last year covering various techniques, domains of enquiry and levels of analysis, ranging from molecules and synapses up through networks of neurons. Given that complexity, any attempt to rank a collection of neuroscientists from best to worst, as if they were competitors in the 50-metre butterfly, must fail. What could be true is that given a specific task and the composition of a particular team, one scientist would be more likely to contribute than another. Optimal hiring depends on context. Optimal teams will be diverse.

Evidence for this claim can be seen in the way that papers and patents that combine diverse ideas tend to rank as high-impact. It can also be found in the structure

of the so-called random decision forest, a state-of-the-art machine-learning algorithm. Random forests consist of ensembles of decision trees. If classifying pictures, each tree makes a vote: is that a picture of a fox or a dog? A weighted majority rules. Random forests can serve many ends. They can identify bank fraud and diseases, recommend ceiling fans and predict online dating behaviour. When building a forest, you do not select the best trees as they tend to make similar classifications. You want diversity. Programmers achieve that diversity by training each tree on different data, a technique known as bagging. They also boost the forest 'cognitively' by training trees on the hardest cases – those that the current forest gets wrong. This ensures even more diversity and accurate forests.

Yet the fallacy of meritocracy persists. Corporations, non-profits, governments, universities and even preschools test, score and hire the 'best'. This all but guarantees not creating the best team. Ranking people by common criteria produces homogeneity. . . . That's not likely to lead to breakthroughs.

Q.1 Which of the following conditions, if true, would invalidate the passage's main argument?

- (a) If top-scorers possessed multidisciplinary knowledge that enabled them to look at a problem from several perspectives.
- (b) If assessment tests were made more extensive and rigorous.
- (c) If it were proven that teams characterised by diversity end up being conflicted about problems and take a long time to arrive at a solution.
- (d) If a new machine-learning algorithm were developed that proved to be more effective than the random decision forest.

Q.2 The author critiques meritocracy for all the following reasons EXCEPT that:

- (a) an ideal team comprises of best individuals from diverse fields of knowledge.
- (b) modern problems are multifaceted and require varied skill-sets to be solved.
- (c) criteria designed to assess merit are insufficient to test expertise in any field of knowledge.
- (d) diversity and context-specificity are important for making major advances in any field.

Q.3 Which of the following conditions would weaken the efficacy of a random decision forest?

- (a) If a large number of decision trees in the ensemble were trained on data derived from easy cases.
- (b) If the types of decision trees in each ensemble of the forest were doubled.
- (c) If a large number of decision trees in the ensemble were trained on data derived from easy and hard cases.
- (d) If the types of ensembles of decision trees in the forest were doubled.

Q.4 On the basis of the passage, which of the following teams is likely to be most effective in solving the problem of rising obesity levels?

- (a) A team comprised of nutritionists, psychologists, urban planners and media personnel,

who have each scored a distinction in their respective subject tests.

- (b) A team comprised of nutritionists, psychologists, urban planners and media personnel, who have each performed well in their respective subject tests.
- (c) A specialised team of nutritionists from various countries, who are also trained in the machine-learning algorithm of random decision forest.
- (d) A specialised team of top nutritionists from various countries, who also possess some knowledge of psychology.

Q.5 Which of the following best describes the purpose of the example of neuroscience?

- (a) Unlike other fields of knowledge, neuroscience is an exceptionally complex field, making a meaningful assessment of neuroscientists impossible.
- (b) In narrow fields of knowledge, a meaningful assessment of expertise has always been possible.
- (c) Neuroscience is an advanced field of science because of its connections with other branches of science like oncology and biostatistics.
- (d) In the modern age, every field of knowledge is so vast that a meaningful assessment of merit is impossible.

PASSAGE 2

Grove snails as a whole are distributed all over Europe, but a specific variety of the snail, with a distinctive white-lipped shell, is found exclusively in Ireland and in the Pyrenees mountains that lie on the border between France and Spain. The researchers sampled a total of 423 snail specimens from 36 sites distributed across Europe, with an emphasis on gathering large numbers of the white-lipped variety. When they sequenced genes from the mitochondrial DNA of each of these snails and used algorithms to analyze the genetic diversity between them, they found that . . . a distinct lineage (the snails with the white-lipped shells) was indeed endemic to the two very specific and distant places in question.

Explaining this is tricky. Previously, some had speculated that the strange distributions of creatures such as the white-lipped grove snails could be explained by convergent evolution—in which two populations evolve the same trait by coincidence—but the underlying genetic similarities between the two groups rules that out. Alternately, some scientists had suggested that the white-lipped variety had simply spread over the whole continent, then been wiped out everywhere besides Ireland and the Pyrenees, but the researchers say their sampling and subsequent DNA analysis eliminate that possibility too. “If the snails naturally colonized Ireland, you would expect to find some of the same genetic type in other areas of Europe, especially Britain.

We just don’t find them,” Davidson, the lead author, said in a press statement.

Moreover, if they’d gradually spread across the continent, there would be some genetic variation within the white-lipped type, because evolution would introduce variety over the thousands of years it would have taken them to spread from the Pyrenees to Ireland. That variation doesn’t exist, at least in the genes sampled. This means that rather than the organism gradually expanding its range, large populations instead were somehow moved en masse to the other location within the space of a few dozen generations, ensuring a lack of genetic variety.

“There is a very clear pattern, which is difficult to explain except by involving humans,” Davidson said. Humans, after all, colonized Ireland roughly 9,000 years ago, and the oldest fossil evidence of grove snails in Ireland dates to roughly the same era. Additionally, there is archaeological evidence of early sea trade between the ancient peoples of Spain and Ireland via the Atlantic and even evidence that humans routinely ate these types of snails before the advent of agriculture, as their burnt shells have been found in Stone Age trash heaps.

The simplest explanation, then? Boats. These snails may have inadvertently traveled on the floor of the small, coast-hugging skiffs these early humans used for travel, or they may have been intentionally carried to Ireland by the

seafarers as a food source. “The highways of the past were rivers and the ocean—as the river that flanks the Pyrenees was an ancient trade route to the Atlantic, what we’re actually seeing might be the long lasting legacy of snails that hitched a ride...as humans travelled from the South of France to Ireland 8,000 years ago,” Davidson said.

Q.6 All of the following evidence supports the passage’s explanation of sea travel/trade EXCEPT:

- (a) archaeological evidence of early sea trade between the ancient peoples of Spain and Ireland via the Atlantic Ocean.
- (b) the oldest fossil evidence of white-lipped grove snails in Ireland dates back to roughly 9,000 years ago, the time when humans colonised Ireland.
- (c) absence of genetic variation within the white-lipped grove snails of Ireland and the Pyrenees, whose genes were sampled.
- (d) the coincidental existence of similar traits in the white-lipped grove snails of Ireland and the Pyrenees because of convergent evolution.

Q.7 In paragraph 4, the evidence that “humans routinely ate these types of snails before the advent of agriculture” can be used to conclude that:

- (a) 9,000 years ago, during the Stone Age, humans traveled from the South of France to Ireland via the Atlantic Ocean.
- (b) white-lipped grove snails may have inadvertently traveled from the Pyrenees to Ireland on the floor of the small, coast-hugging skiffs that early seafarers used for travel.
- (c) the seafarers who traveled from the Pyrenees to Ireland might have carried white-lipped grove snails with them as edibles.

(d) rivers and oceans in the Stone Age facilitated trade in white-lipped grove snails.

Q.8 Which one of the following makes the author eliminate convergent evolution as a probable explanation for why white-lipped grove snails are found in Ireland and the Pyrenees?

- (a) The absence of genetic similarities between white-lipped grove snails of Ireland and snails from other parts of Europe, especially Britain.
- (b) The distinct lineage of white-lipped grove snails found specifically in Ireland and the Pyrenees.
- (c) The absence of genetic variation between white-lipped grove snails of Ireland and the Pyrenees.
- (d) The coincidental evolution of similar traits (white-lipped shell) in the grove snails of Ireland and the Pyrenees.

Q.9 The passage outlines several hypotheses and evidence related to white-lipped grove snails to arrive at the most convincing explanation for:

- (a) how the white-lipped variety of grove snails independently evolved in Ireland and the Pyrenees.
- (b) how the white-lipped variety of grove snails might have migrated from the Pyrenees to Ireland.
- (c) why the white-lipped variety of grove snails are found only in Ireland and the Pyrenees.
- (d) why the white-lipped variety of grove snails were wiped out everywhere except in Ireland and the Pyrenees.

PASSAGE 3

More and more companies, government agencies, educational institutions and philanthropic organisations are today in the grip of a new phenomenon: ‘metric fixation’. The key components of metric fixation are the belief that it is possible – and desirable – to replace professional judgment (acquired through personal experience and talent) with numerical indicators of comparative performance based upon standardised data (metrics); and that the best way to motivate people within these organisations is by attaching rewards and penalties to their measured performance.

The rewards can be monetary, in the form of pay for performance, say, or reputational, in the form of college rankings, hospital ratings, surgical report cards and so on. But the most dramatic negative effect of metric fixation is its propensity to incentivise gaming: that is, encouraging professionals to maximise the metrics in ways that are at odds with the larger purpose of the organisation. If the rate of major crimes in a district becomes the metric according

to which police officers are promoted, then some officers will respond by simply not recording crimes or downgrading them from major offences to misdemeanours. Or take the case of surgeons. When the metrics of success and failure are made public – affecting their reputation and income – some surgeons will improve their metric scores by refusing to operate on patients with more complex problems, whose surgical outcomes are more likely to be negative. Who suffers? The patients who don’t get operated upon.

When reward is tied to measured performance, metric fixation invites just this sort of gaming. But metric fixation also leads to a variety of more subtle unintended negative consequences. These include goal displacement, which comes in many varieties: when performance is judged by a few measures, and the stakes are high (keeping one’s job, getting a pay rise or raising the stock price at the time that stock options are vested), people focus on satisfying those measures – often at the expense of other, more important

organisational goals that are not measured. The best-known example is ‘teaching to the test’, a widespread phenomenon that has distorted primary and secondary education in the United States since the adoption of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

Short-termism is another negative. Measured performance encourages what the US sociologist Robert K Merton in 1936 called ‘the imperious immediacy of interests ... where the actor’s paramount concern with the foreseen immediate consequences excludes consideration of further or other consequences’. In short, advancing short-term goals at the expense of long-range considerations. This problem is endemic to publicly traded corporations that sacrifice long-term research and development, and the development of their staff, to the perceived imperatives of the quarterly report.

To the debit side of the ledger must also be added the transactional costs of metrics: the expenditure of employee time by those tasked with compiling and processing the metrics in the first place – not to mention the time required to actually read them. . . .

Q.10 What main point does the author want to convey through the examples of the police officer and the surgeon?

- (a) Some professionals are likely to be significantly influenced by the design of performance measurement systems.
- (b) Metrics-linked rewards may encourage unethical behaviour among some professionals.
- (c) The actions of police officers and surgeons have a significantly impact on society.
- (d) Critical public roles should not be evaluated on metrics-based performance measures.

Q.11 Which of the following is NOT a consequence of the ‘metric fixation’ phenomenon mentioned in the passage?

- (a) Improving cooperation among employees leading to increased organisational effectiveness in the long run.
- (b) Short-term orientation induced by frequent measurement of performance.
- (c) Finding a way to show better results without actually improving performance.

- (d) Deviating from organisationally important objectives to measurable yet less important objectives.

Q.12 Of the following, which would have added the least depth to the author’s argument?

- (a) An analysis of the reasons why metrics fixation is becoming popular despite its drawbacks.
- (b) More real-life illustrations of the consequences of employees and professionals gaming metrics-based performance measurement systems.
- (c) A comparative case study of metrics- and non-metrics-based evaluation, and its impact on the main goals of an organisation.
- (d) Assessment of the pros and cons of a professional judgment-based evaluation system.

Q.13 All of the following can be a possible feature of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, EXCEPT:

- (a) standardised test scores can be critical in determining a student’s educational future.
- (b) the focus is more on test-taking skills than on higher order thinking and problem-solving.
- (c) school funding and sanctions are tied to yearly improvement shown on tests.
- (d) assessment is dependent on the teacher’s subjective evaluation of students’ class participation.

Q.14 What is the main idea that the author is trying to highlight in the passage?

- (a) All kinds of organisations are now relying on metrics to measure performance and to give rewards and punishments.
- (b) Long-term organisational goals should not be ignored for short-term measures of organisational success.
- (c) Performance measurement needs to be precise and cost-effective to be useful for evaluating organisational performance.
- (d) Evaluating performance by using measurable performance metrics may misguide organisational goal achievement.

PASSAGE 4

NOT everything looks lovelier the longer and closer its inspection. But Saturn does. It is gorgeous through Earthly telescopes. However, the 13 years of close observation provided by Cassini, an American spacecraft, showed the planet, its moons and its remarkable rings off better and better, revealing finer structures, striking novelties and greater drama. . . .

By and large the big things in the solar system—planets and moons—are thought of as having been around since the beginning. The suggestion that rings and moons are

new is, though, made even more interesting by the fact that one of those moons, Enceladus, is widely considered the most promising site in the solar system on which to look for alien life. If Enceladus is both young and bears life, that life must have come into being quickly. This is also believed to have been the case on Earth. Were it true on Enceladus, that would encourage the idea that life evolves easily when conditions are right.

One reason for thinking Saturn’s rings are young is that they are bright. The solar system is suffused with comet dust,

and comet dust is dark. Leaving Saturn's ring system (which Cassini has shown to be more than 90% water ice) out in such a mist is like leaving laundry hanging on a line downwind from a smokestack: it will get dirty. The lighter the rings are, the faster this will happen, for the less mass they contain, the less celestial pollution they can absorb before they start to discolour. . . . Jeff Cuzzi, a scientist at America's space agency, NASA, who helped run Cassini, told the Lunar and Planetary Science Conference in Houston that combining the mass estimates with Cassini's measurements of the density of comet-dust near Saturn suggests the rings are no older than the first dinosaurs, nor younger than the last of them—that is, they are somewhere between 200m and 70m years old.

That timing fits well with a theory put forward in 2016, by Matija Cuk of the SETI Institute, in California and his colleagues. They suggest that at around the same time as the rings came into being an old set of moons orbiting Saturn destroyed themselves, and from their remains emerged not only the rings but also the planet's current suite of inner moons—Rhea, Dione, Tethys, Enceladus and Mimas. . . .

Dr Cuk and his colleagues used computer simulations of Saturn's moons' orbits as a sort of time machine. Looking at the rate at which tidal friction is causing these orbits to lengthen they extrapolated backwards to find out what those orbits would have looked like in the past. They discovered that about 100m years ago the orbits of two of them, Tethys and Dione, would have interacted in a way that left the planes in which they orbit markedly tilted. But their orbits are untilted. The obvious, if unsettling, conclusion was that this interaction never happened—and thus that at the time when it should have happened, Dione and Tethys were simply not there. They must have come into being later. . . .

- Q.15** Data provided by Cassini challenged the assumption that:
- (a) Saturn's ring system is composed mostly of water ice.
 - (b) there was life on earth when Saturn's rings were being formed.

- (c) new celestial bodies can form from the destruction of old celestial bodies.
- (d) all big things in the solar system have been around since the beginning.

- Q.16** The main objective of the passage is to:
- (a) establish that Saturn's rings and inner moons have been around since the beginning of time.
 - (b) demonstrate how the orbital patterns of Saturn's rings and moons change over time.
 - (c) highlight the beauty, finer structures and celestial drama of Saturn's rings and moons.
 - (d) provide evidence that Saturn's rings and moons are recent creations.

- Q.17** Based on information provided in the passage, we can infer that, in addition to water ice, Saturn's rings might also have small amounts of:
- (a) methane and rock particles.
 - (b) helium and methane.
 - (c) helium and comet dust.
 - (d) rock particles and comet dust.

- Q.18** The phrase "leaving laundry hanging on a line downwind from a smokestack" is used to explain how the ringed planet's:
- (a) atmosphere absorbs comet dust.
 - (b) rings discolour and darken over time.
 - (c) rings lose mass over time.
 - (d) moons create a gap between the rings.

- Q.19** Based on information provided in the passage, we can conclude all of the following EXCEPT:
- (a) Saturn's lighter rings discolour faster than rings with greater mass.
 - (b) Saturn's rings were created from the remains of older moons.
 - (c) none of Saturn's moons ever had suitable conditions for life to evolve.
 - (d) Tethys and Dione are less than 100 million years old.

PASSAGE 5

Will a day come when India's poor can access government services as easily as drawing cash from an ATM? . . . [N]o country in the world has made accessing education or health or policing or dispute resolution as easy as an ATM, because the nature of these activities requires individuals to use their discretion in a positive way. Technology can certainly facilitate this in a variety of ways if it is seen as one part of an overall approach, but the evidence so far in education, for instance, is that just adding computers alone doesn't make education any better. . . .

The dangerous illusion of technology is that it can create stronger, top down accountability of service providers in implementation-intensive services within existing public

sector organisations. One notion is that electronic management information systems (EMIS) keep better track of inputs and those aspects of personnel that are 'EMIS visible' can lead to better services. A recent study examined attempts to increase attendance of Auxiliary Nurse Midwife (ANMs) at clinics in Rajasthan, which involved high-tech time clocks to monitor attendance. The study's title says it all: Band-Aids on a Corpse . . . e-governance can be just as bad as any other governance when the real issue is people and their motivation.

For services to improve, the people providing the services have to want to do a better job with the skills they have. A study of medical care in Delhi found that even though providers, in the public sector had much better skills than

private sector providers their provision of care in actual practice was much worse.

In implementation-intensive services the key to success is face-to-face interactions between a teacher, a nurse, a policeman, an extension agent and a citizen. This relationship is about power. Amartya Sen's . . . report on education in West Bengal had a supremely telling anecdote in which the villagers forced the teacher to attend school, but then, when the parents went off to work, the teacher did not teach, but forced the children to massage his feet. . . . As long as the system empowers providers over citizens, technology is irrelevant.

The answer to successfully providing basic services is to create systems that provide both autonomy and accountability. In basic education for instance, the answer to poor teaching is not controlling teachers more . . . The key . . . is to hire teachers who want to teach and let them teach, expressing their professionalism and vocation as a teacher through autonomy in the classroom. This autonomy has to be matched with accountability for results—not just narrowly measured through test scores, but broadly for the quality of the education they provide.

A recent study in Uttar Pradesh showed that if, somehow, all civil service teachers could be replaced with contract teachers, the state could save a billion dollars a year in revenue and double student learning. Just the additional autonomy and accountability of contracts through local groups—even without complementary system changes in information and empowerment—led to that much improvement. The first step to being part of the solution is to create performance information accessible to those outside of the government. . . .

Q.20 The main purpose of the passage is to:

- (a) argue that some types of services can be improved by providing independence and requiring accountability.
- (b) find a solution to the problem of poor service delivery in education by examining different strategies.
- (c) analyse the shortcomings of government-appointed nurses and their management through technology.
- (d) critique the government's involvement in educational activities and other implementation-intensive services.

Q.21 In the context of the passage, we can infer that the title "Band Aids on a Corpse" (in paragraph 2) suggests that:

- (a) the nurses who attended the clinics were too poorly trained to provide appropriate medical care.
- (b) the electronic monitoring system was a superficial solution to a serious problem.
- (c) the clinics were better funded, but performance monitoring did not result in any improvement.
- (d) the nurses attended the clinics, but the clinics were ill-equipped.

Q.22 The author questions the use of monitoring systems in services that involve face-to-face interaction between service providers and clients because such systems:

- (a) are ineffective because they are managed by the government.
- (b) are not as effective in the public sector as they are in the private sector.
- (c) do not improve services that need committed service providers.
- (d) improve the skills but do not increase the motivation of service providers.

Q.23 According to the author, service delivery in Indian education can be improved in all of the following ways EXCEPT through:

- (a) use of technology.
- (b) access to information on the quality of teaching.
- (c) recruitment of motivated teachers.
- (d) elimination of government involvement.

Q.24 Which of the following, IF TRUE, would undermine the passage's main argument?

- (a) Empowerment of service providers leads to increased complacency and rigged performance results.
- (b) If absolute instead of moderate technological surveillance is exercised over the performance of service providers.
- (c) If it were proven that service providers in the private sector have better skills than those in the public sector.
- (d) If it were proven that increase in autonomy of service providers leads to an exponential increase in their work ethic and sense of responsibility.

PASSAGE 1

Directions for the question: *Read the passage and answer the question based on it.*

Understanding where you are in the world is a basic survival skill, which is why we, like most species come hard-wired with specialized brain areas to create cognitive maps of our surroundings. Where humans are unique, though, with the possible exception of honeybees, is that we try to communicate this understanding the world with others. We have along history of doing this by drawing maps – the earliest version yet discovered were scrawled on cave walls 14,000 years ago. Human cultures have been drawing them on stone tablets, papyrus, paper and now computer screens ever since.

Given such a long history of human map-making, it perhaps surprising that is only within the last few hundred years that north has been consistently considered to be at the top. In fact, for much of human history, north almost never appeared at the top, according to Jerry Brotton, a map historian... “North was rarely put at the top for the simple fact that north is where darkness comes from,” he says. “West is also very unlikely to be put at the top because west is where the sun disappears.”

Confusingly, early Chinese maps seem to buck this trend. But, Brotton, says, even though they did have compasses at the time, that isn't the reason that they placed north at the top. Early Chinese compasses were actually oriented to point south, which was considered to be more desirable than deepest darkest north. But in Chinese maps, the emperor, who lived in the north of the country was always put at the top of the map, with everyone else, his loyal subjects, looking up towards him. “In Chinese culture the Emperor looks south because it's where the winds come from, it's a good direction. North is not very good but you are in a position of the subjection to the emperor, so you look up to him,” says Brotton.

Given that each culture has a very different idea of who, or what, they should look upto it's perhaps not surprising that there is very little consistency in which way early maps pointed. In ancient Egyptian times the top of the world was east, the position of sunrise. Early Islamic maps favoured south at the top because most of the early Muslim cultures were north of Mecca, so they imagined looking up (south) towards it Christian maps from the same era (called Mappa Mundi) put east at the top, towards the Garden of Eden and with Jerusalem in the centre.

So when did everyone get together and decide that north was the top? It's tempting to put it down to European explorers like Christopher Columbus and Ferdinand Megellan who were navigating by the North Star. But Brotton argues that these early explorers didn't think of the world like that at all. “When Columbus describes the world it is in accordance with east being at the top,” he says “Columbus says he is going towards paradise, so his mentality is from a medieval

mappa mundi.” We've got to remember, adds Brotton, that at the time, “no one knows what they are doing and where they are going.”

- Q.1** Which one of the following best describes what the passage is trying to do?
- It questions on explanation about how maps are designed.
 - It corrects a misconception about the way maps are designed.
 - It critiques a methodology used to create maps
 - It explores some myths about maps
- Q.2** Early maps did NOT put north at the top for all the following reasons EXCEPT
- North was the source of darkness
 - South was favoured by some emperors.
 - East and south were more important for religious reasons for some civilisations
 - East was considered by some civilisations to be a more positive direction
- Q.3** According to the passage, early Chinese maps placed north at the top because Options:
- the Chinese invented the compass and were aware of magnetic north
 - they wanted to show respect to the emperor.
 - the Chinese emperor appreciated the winds from the south.
 - north was considered the most desirable direction.
- Q.4** It can be inferred from the passage that European explorers like Columbus and Megellan Options:
- set the precedent for north-up maps.
 - navigated by the compass.
 - used an eastward orientation for religious reasons.
 - navigated with the help of early maps
- Q.5** Which one of the following about the northern orientation of modern maps is asserted in the passage?
- The biggest contributory factor was the understanding of magnetic north
 - The biggest contributory factor was the role of European explorers
 - The biggest contributory factor was the influence of Christian maps
 - The biggest contributory factor is not stated in the passage
- Q.6** The role of natural phenomena in influencing map-making conventions is seen most clearly in
- early Egyptian maps
 - early Islamic maps
 - early Chinese maps
 - early Christian maps

PASSAGE 2

Directions for the question: *Read the passage and answer the question based on it.*

I used a smartphone GPS to find my way through the cobblestoned maze of Geneva's Old Town, in search of a hand-made machine that changed the world more than any other invention. Near a 13th-century cathedral in this Swiss city on the shores of a lovely lake, I found what I was looking for: a Gutenberg printing press. "This was the Internet of its day — at least as influential as the iPhone," said Gabriel de Montmollin, the director of the Museum of the Reformation, toying with the replica of Johann Gutenberg's great invention. [Before the invention of the printing press] it used to take four monks...up to a year to produce a single book. With the advance in movable type in 15th-century Europe, one press could crank out 3,000 pages a day. Before long, average people could travel to places that used to be unknown to them — with maps! Medical information passed more freely and quickly, diminishing the sway of quacks...The printing press offered the prospect that tyrants would never be able to kill a book or suppress an idea. Gutenberg's brainchild broke the monopoly that clerics had on scripture. And later, stirred by pamphlets from a version of that same press, the American colonies rose up against a king and gave birth to a nation.

So, a question in the summer of this 10th anniversary of the iPhone: has the device that is perhaps the most revolutionary of all time given us a single magnificent idea? Nearly every advancement of the written word through new technology has also advanced humankind. Sure, you can say the iPhone changed everything. By putting the world's recorded knowledge in the palm of a hand, it revolutionized work, dining, travel and socializing. It made us more narcissistic — here's more of me doing cool stuff! — and it unleashed an army of awful trolls. We no longer have the patience to sit through a baseball game without that reach to the pocket. And one more casualty of Apple selling more than a billion phones in a decade's time: daydreaming has become a lost art.

For all of that, I'm still waiting to see if the iPhone can do what the printing press did for religion and democracy...the Geneva museum makes a strong case that the printing press opened more minds than anything else...it's hard to imagine the French or American revolutions without those enlightened voices in print...

Not long after Steve Jobs introduced his iPhone, he said the bound book was probably headed for history's attic. Not so fast. After a period of rapid growth in e-books, something closer to the medium for Chaucer's volumes has made a great comeback.

The hope of the iPhone, and the Internet in general, was that it would free people in closed societies. But the failure of the Arab Spring, and the continued suppression of ideas in North Korea, China and Iran, has not borne that out...The iPhone is still young. It has certainly been "one of the most important, world-changing and successful products in history," as Apple CEO Tim Cook said. But I'm not sure if

the world changed for the better with the iPhone — as it did with the printing press — or merely, changed.

- Q.7** The printing press has been likened to the Internet for which one of the following reasons?
- (a) It enabled rapid access to new information and the sharing of new ideas
 - (b) It represented new and revolutionary technology compared to the past
 - (c) It encouraged reading among people by giving them access to thousands of books
 - (d) It gave people access to pamphlets and literature in several languages
- Q.8** According to the passage, the invention of the printing press did all of the following EXCEPT
- (a) Promoted the spread of enlightened political views across countries
 - (b) Gave people direct access to authentic medical information and religious texts
 - (c) shortened the time taken to produce books and pamphlets.
 - (d) enabled people to perform various tasks simultaneously.
- Q.9** Steve Jobs predicted which one of the following with the introduction of the iPhone?
- (a) People would switch from reading on the Internet to reading on their iPhones.
 - (b) People would lose interest in historical and traditional classics.
 - (c) Reading printed books would become a thing of the past.
 - (d) The production of e-books would eventually fall.
- Q.10** "I'm still waiting to see if the iPhone can do what the printing press did for religion and democracy." The author uses which one of the following to indicate his uncertainty?
- (a) The rise of religious groups in many parts of the world.
 - (b) The expansion in trolling and narcissism among users of the Internet
 - (c) The continued suppression of free speech in closed societies
 - (d) The decline in reading habits among those who use the device
- Q.11** The author attributes the French and American revolutions to the invention of the printing press because
- (a) maps enabled large numbers of Europeans to travel and settle in the American continent.
 - (b) the rapid spread of information exposed people to new ideas on freedom and democracy
 - (c) it encouraged religious freedom among the people by destroying the monopoly of religious leaders on the scriptures.

- (d) it made available revolutionary strategies and opinions to the people.

Q.12 The main conclusion of the passage is that the new technology has

(a) some advantages, but these are outweighed by its disadvantages.

- (b) so far not proved as successful as the printing press in opening people's minds
- (c) been disappointing because it has changed society too rapidly
- (d) been more wasteful than the printing press because people spend more time daydreaming or surfing.

PASSAGE 3

Directions for the question: Read the passage and answer the question based on it.

This year alone, more than 8,600 stores could close, according to industry estimates, many of them the brand-name anchor outlets that real estate developers once stumbled over themselves to court. Already there have been 5,300 retail closings this year... Sears Holdings—which owns Kmart—said in March that there's "substantial doubt" it can stay in business altogether, and will close 300 stores this year. So far this year, nine national retail chains have filed for bankruptcy.

Local jobs are a major casualty of what analysts are calling, with only a hint of hyperbole, the retail apocalypse. Since 2002, department stores have lost 448,000 jobs, a 25% decline, while the number of store closures this year is on pace to surpass the worst depths of the Great Recession. The growth of online retailers, meanwhile, has failed to offset those losses, with the ecommerce sector adding just 178,000 jobs over the past 15 years. Some of those jobs can be found in the massive distribution centers Amazon has opened across the country, often not too far from malls the company helped shutter.

But those are workplaces, not gathering places. The mall is both. And in the 61 years since the first enclosed one opened in suburban Minneapolis, the shopping mall has been where a huge swath of middle-class America went for far more than shopping. It was the home of first jobs and blind dates, the place for family photos and ear piercings, where goths and grandmothers could somehow walk through the same doors and find something they all liked. Sure, the food was lousy for you and the oceans of parking lots encouraged car-heavy development, something now scorned by contemporary planners. But for better or worse, the mall has been America's public square for the last 60 years.

So what happens when it disappears?

Think of your mall. Or think of the one you went to as a kid. Think of the perfume clouds in the department stores. The fountains splashing below the skylights. The cinnamon wafting from the food court. As far back as ancient Greece, societies have congregated around a central marketplace. In medieval Europe, they were outside cathedrals. For half of the 20th century and almost 20 years into the new one, much of America has found their agora on the terrazzo between Orange Julius and Sbarro, Waldenbooks and the Gap, Sun-glass Hut and Hot Topic.

That mall was an ecosystem unto itself, a combination of community and commercialism peddling everything you needed and everything you didn't: Magic Eye posters, wind catchers. Air Jordans. ...

A growing number of Americans, however, don't see the need to go to any Macy's at all. Our digital lives are frictionless and ruthlessly efficient, with retail and romance available at a click. Malls were designed for leisure, abundance, ambling. You parked and planned to spend some time. Today, much of that time has been given over to busier lives and second jobs and apps that let you swipe right instead of haunt the food court. ' Malls, says Harvard business professor Leonard Schlesinger, "were built for patterns of social interaction that increasingly don't exist."

Q.13 The central idea of this passage is that:

- (a) the closure of malls has affected the economic and social life of middle-class America
- (b) the advantages of malls outweigh their disadvantages.
- (c) malls used to perform a social function that has been lost
- (d) malls are closing down because people have found alternate ways to shop.

Q.14 Why does the author say in paragraph 2, 'the massive distribution centers Amazon has opened across the country, often not too far from malls the company helped shutter'?

- (a) To highlight the irony of the situation
- (b) To indicate that malls and distribution centres are located in the same area
- (c) To show that Amazon is helping certain brands go online
- (d) To indicate that the shopping habits of the American middle class have changed.

Q.15 In paragraph 1, the phrase "real estate developers once stumbled over themselves to court" suggests that they

- (a) took brand-name anchor outlets to court
- (b) collaborated with one another to get brand-name anchor outlets
- (c) were eager to get brand-name anchor outlets to set up shop in their mall
- (d) malls are closing down because people have found alternate ways to shop.

- Q.16** The author calls the mall an ecosystem unto itself because
- (a) people of all ages and from all walks of life went there
 - (b) people could shop as well as eat in one place
 - (c) it was a commercial space as well as a gathering place.
 - (d) it sold things that were needed as well as those that were not.
- Q.17** Why does the author say that the mall has been America's public square?
- (a) Malls did not bar anybody from entering the space
 - (b) Malls were a great place to shop for a huge section of the middle class

- (c) Malls were a hangout place where families grew close to each other
- (d) Malls were a great place for everyone to gather and interact.

- Q.18** The author describes 'Perfume clouds in the department stores' in order to
- (a) evoke memories by painting a picture of malls
 - (b) describe the smells and sights of malls
 - (c) emphasise that all brands were available under one roof.
 - (d) show that malls smelt good because of the various stores and food court.

PASSAGE 4

Directions for the question: Read the passage and answer the question based on it.

Scientists have long recognised the incredible diversity within a species. But they thought it reflected evolutionary changes that unfolded imperceptibly, over millions of years. That divergence between populations within a species was enforced, according to Ernst Mayr, the great evolutionary biologist of the 1940s, when a population was separated from the rest of the species by a mountain range or a desert, preventing breeding across the divide over geologic scales of time. Without the separation, gene flow was relentless. But as the separation persisted, the isolated population grew apart and speciation occurred.

In the mid-1960s, the biologist Paul Ehrlich - author of *The Population Bomb* (1968) - and his Stanford University colleague Peter Raven challenged Mayr's ideas about speciation. They had studied checkerspot butterflies living in the Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve in California, and it soon became clear that they were not examining a single population. Through years of capturing, marking and then recapturing the butterflies, they were able to prove that within the population, spread over just 50 acres of suitable checkerspot habitat, there were three groups that rarely interacted despite their very close proximity.

Among other ideas, Ehrlich and Raven argued in a now classic paper from 1969 that gene flow was not as predictable and ubiquitous as Mayr and his cohort maintained, and thus evolutionary divergence between neighbouring groups in a population was probably common. They also asserted that isolation and gene flow were less important to evolutionary divergence than natural selection (when factors such as mate choice, weather, disease or predation cause better-adapted individuals to survive and pass on their successful genetic traits). For example, Ehrlich and Raven suggested that, without the force of natural selection, an isolated popula-

tion would remain unchanged and that, in other scenarios, natural selection could be strong enough to overpower gene flow...

- Q.19** Which of the following best sums up Ehrlich and Raven's argument in their classic 1969 paper?
- (a) Ernst Mayr was wrong in identifying physical separation as the cause of species diversity
 - (b) Checkerspot butterflies in the 50-acre Jasper Ridge Preserve formed three groups that rarely interacted with each other
 - (c) While a factor, isolation was not as important to speciation as natural selection
 - (d) Gene flow is less common and more erratic than Mayr and his colleagues claimed.
- Q.20** All of the following statements are true according to the passage EXCEPT
- (a) Gene flow contributes to evolutionary divergence.
 - (b) The Population Bomb questioned dominant ideas about species diversity
 - (c) Evolutionary changes unfold imperceptibly over time.
 - (d) Checkerspot butterflies are known to exhibit speciation while living in close proximity
- Q.21** The author discusses Mayr, Ehrlich and Raven to demonstrate that
- (a) evolution is a sensitive and controversial topic
 - (b) Ehrlich and Raven's ideas about evolutionary divergence are widely accepted by scientists.
 - (c) the causes of speciation are debated by scientists
 - (d) checkerspot butterflies offer the best example of Ehrlich and Raven's ideas about speciation

PASSAGE 5

Directions for the question: *Read the passage and answer the question based on it.*

Do sports mega events like the summer Olympic Games benefit the host city economically? It depends, but the prospects are less than rosy. The trick is converting...several billion dollars in operating costs during the 17-day fiesta of the Games into a basis for long-term economic returns. These days, the summer Olympic Games themselves generate total revenue of \$4 billion to \$5 billion, but the lion's share of this goes to the International Olympics Committee, the National Olympics Committees and the International Sports Federations. Any economic benefit would have to flow from the value of the Games as an advertisement for the city, the new transportation and communications infrastructure that was created for the Games, or the ongoing use of the new facilities.

Evidence suggests that the advertising effect is far from certain. The infrastructure benefit depends on the initial condition of the city and the effectiveness of the planning. The facilities benefit is dubious at best for buildings such as velodromes or natatoriums and problematic for 100,000-seat Olympic stadiums. The latter require a conversion plan for future use, the former are usually doomed to near vacancy. Hosting the summer Games generally requires 30-plus sports venues and dozens of training centers. Today, the Bird's Nest in Beijing sits virtually empty, while the Olympic Stadium in Sydney costs some \$30 million a year to operate.

Part of the problem is that Olympics planning takes place in a frenzied and time-pressured atmosphere of intense competition with the other prospective host cities — not optimal conditions for contemplating the future shape of an urban landscape. Another part of the problem is that urban land is generally scarce and growing scarcer. The new facilities often stand for decades or longer. Even if they have future use, are they the best use of precious urban real estate?

Further, cities must consider the human cost. Residential areas often are razed and citizens relocated (without adequate

preparation or compensation). Life is made more hectic and congested. There are, after all, other productive uses that can be made of vanishing fiscal resources.

- Q.22** The central point in the first paragraph is that the economic benefits of the Olympic Games
- (a) are shared equally among the three organising committees
 - (b) accrue mostly through revenue from advertisements and ticket sales
 - (c) accrue to host cities, if at all, only in the long term
 - (d) are usually eroded by expenditure incurred by the host city
- Q.23** Sports facilities built for the Olympics are not fully utilised after the Games are over because
- (a) their scale and the costs of operating them are large
 - (b) their location away from the city centre usually limits easy access.
 - (c) the authorities do not adapt them to local conditions.
 - (d) they become outdated having being built with little planning and under time pressure
- Q.24** The author feels that the Games place a burden on the host city for all of the following reasons EXCEPT that
- (a) they divert scarce urban land from more productive uses
 - (b) they involve the demolition of residential structures to accommodate sports facilities and infrastructure
 - (c) the finances used to fund the Games could be better used for other purposes.
 - (d) the influx of visitors during the Games places a huge strain on the urban infrastructure.

CAT 2017 (EVENING SLOT)

PASSAGE 1

Directions for the question: *Read the passage and answer the question based on it.*

Creativity is at once our most precious resource and our most inexhaustible one. As anyone who has ever spent any time with children knows, every single human being is born creative; every human being is innately endowed with the ability to combine and recombine data, perceptions, materials and ideas, and devise new ways of thinking and doing. What fosters creativity? More than anything else: the presence of other creative people. The big myth is that creativity is the province of great individual geniuses. In fact creativity is

a social process. Our biggest creative breakthroughs come when people learn from, compete with, and collaborate with other people.

Cities are the true fonts of creativity... With their diverse populations, dense social networks, and public spaces where people can meet spontaneously and serendipitously, they spark and catalyze new ideas. With their infrastructure for finance, organization and trade, they allow those ideas to be swiftly actualized.

As for what stanches creativity, that's easy, if ironic. It's the very institutions that we build to manage, exploit and perpetuate the fruits of creativity — our big bureaucracies,

and sad to say, too many of our schools. Creativity is disruptive; schools and organizations are regimented, standardized and stultifying.

The education expert Sir Ken Robinson points to a 1968 study reporting on a group of 1,600 children who were tested over time for their ability to think in out-of-the-box ways. When the children were between 3 and 5 years old, 98 percent achieved positive scores. When they were 8 to 10, only 32 percent passed the same test, and only 10 percent at 13 to 15. When 280,000 25-year-olds took the test, just 2 percent passed. By the time we are adults, our creativity has been wrung out of us.

I once asked the great urbanist Jane Jacobs what makes some places more creative than others. She said, essentially, that the question was an easy one. All cities, she said, were filled with creative people; that's our default state as people. But some cities had more than their shares of leaders, people and institutions that blocked out that creativity. She called them "squelchers."

Creativity (or the lack of it) follows the same general contours of the great socio-economic divide - our rising inequality - that plagues us. According to my own estimates, roughly a third of us across the United States, and perhaps as much as half of us in our most creative cities - are able to do work which engages our creative faculties to some extent, whether as artists, musicians, writers, techies, innovators, entrepreneurs, doctors, lawyers, journalists or educators - those of us who work with our minds. That leaves a group that I term "the other 66 percent," who toil in low-wage rote and rotten jobs - if they have jobs at all - in which their creativity is subjugated, ignored or wasted.

Creativity itself is not in danger. It's flourishing is all around us - in science and technology, arts and culture, in our rapidly revitalizing cities. But we still have a long way to go if we want to build a truly creative society that supports and rewards the creativity of each and every one of us.

- Q.1** In the author's view, cities promote human creativity for all the following reasons EXCEPT that they
- (a) contain spaces that enable people to meet and share new ideas.
 - (b) expose people to different and novel ideas, because they are home to varied groups of people.
 - (c) provide the financial and institutional networks that enable ideas to become reality.
 - (d) provide access to cultural activities that promote new and creative ways of thinking.

- Q.2** The author uses 'ironic' in the third paragraph to point out that

- (a) people need social contact rather than isolation to nurture their creativity
- (b) institutions created to promote creativity eventually stifle it
- (c) the larger the creative population in a city, the more likely it is to be stifled
- (d) large bureaucracies and institutions are the inevitable outcome of successful cities.

- Q.3** The central idea of this passage is that

- (a) social interaction is necessary to nurture creativity
- (b) creativity and ideas are gradually declining in all societies
- (c) the creativity divide is widening in societies in line with socio-economic trends
- (d) more people should work in jobs that engage their creative faculties

- Q.4** Jane Jacobs believed that cities that are more creative

- (a) have to struggle to retain their creativity
- (b) have to 'squelch' unproductive people and promote creative ones
- (c) have leaders and institutions that do not block creativity
- (d) typically do not start off as creative hubs

- Q.5** The 1968 study is used here to show that

- (a) as they get older, children usually learn to be more creative
- (b) schooling today does not encourage creative thinking in children
- (c) the more children learn, the less creative they become
- (d) technology today prevents children from being creative.

- Q.6** The author's conclusions about the most 'creative cities' in the US (paragraph 6) are based on his assumption that

- (a) people who work with their hands are not doing creative work.
- (b) more than half the population works in non-creative jobs.
- (c) only artists, musicians., writers., and so on should be valued in a society.
- (d) most cities ignore or waste the creativity of low-wage workers

PASSAGE 2

Read the passage and answer the question based on it.

During the frigid season...it's often necessary to nestle under a blanket to try to stay warm. The temperature difference between the blanket and the air outside is so palpable that we often have trouble leaving our warm refuge. Many

plants and animals similarly hunker down, relying on snow cover for safety from winter's harsh conditions. The small area between the snowpack and the ground, called the subnivium...might be the most important ecosystem that you have never heard of.

The subnivium is so well-insulated and stable that its temperature holds steady at around 32 degree Fahrenheit (0 degree Celsius). Although that might still sound cold, a constant temperature of 32 degree Fahrenheit can often be 30 to 40 degrees warmer than the air temperature during the peak of winter. Because of this large temperature difference, a wide variety of species...depend on the subnivium for winter protection.

For many organisms living in temperate and Arctic regions, the difference between being under the snow or outside it is a matter of life and death. Consequently, disruptions to the subnivium brought about by climate change will affect everything from population dynamics to nutrient cycling through the ecosystem.

The formation and stability of the subnivium requires more than a few flurries. Winter ecologists have suggested that eight inches of snow is necessary to develop a stable layer of insulation. Depth is not the only factor, however. More accurately, the stability of the subnivium depends on the interaction between snow depth and snow density. Imagine being under a stack of blankets that are all flattened and pressed together. When compressed, the blankets essentially form one compacted layer. In contrast, when they are lightly placed on top of one another, their insulative capacity increases because the air pockets between them trap heat. Greater depths of low-density snow are therefore better at insulating the ground.

Both depth and density of snow are sensitive to temperature. Scientists are now beginning to explore how climate change will affect the subnivium, as well as the species that depend on it. At first glance, warmer winters seem beneficial for species that have difficulty surviving subzero temperatures; however, as with most ecological phenomena, the consequences are not so straightforward. Research has shown that the snow season (the period when snow is more likely than rain) has become shorter since 1970. When rain falls on snow, it increases the density of the snow and reduces its insulative capacity. Therefore, even though winters are expected to become warmer overall from future climate change, the subnivium will tend to become colder and more variable with less protection from the above-ground temperatures.

The effects of a colder subnivium are complex...For example, shrubs such as crowberry and alpine azalea that grow along the forest floor tend to block the wind and so retain higher depths of snow around them. This captured snow helps to keep soils insulated and in turn increases plant decomposition and nutrient release. In field experiments, researchers removed a portion of the snow cover to investigate the importance of the subnivium's insulation. They found that soil frost in the snow-free area resulted in damage to plant roots and sometimes even the death of the plant.

- Q.7** The purpose of this passage is to
- (a) introduce readers to a relatively unknown ecosystem: the subnivium
 - (b) explain how the subnivium works to provide shelter and food to several species.

- (c) outline the effects of climate change on the subnivium.
- (d) draw an analogy between the effect of blankets on humans and of snow cover on species living in the subnivium.

- Q.8** All of the following statements are true EXCEPT
- (a) Snow depth and snow density both influence the stability of the subnivium.
 - (b) Climate change has some positive effects on the subnivium.
 - (c) The subnivium maintains a steady temperature that can be 30 to 40 degrees warmer than the winter air temperature.
 - (d) Researchers have established the adverse effects of dwindling snow cover on the subnivium.

- Q.9** Based on this extract, the author would support which one of the following actions?
- (a) The use of snow machines in winter to ensure snow cover of at least eight inches.
 - (b) Government action to curb climate change.
 - (c) Adding nutrients to the soil in winter.
 - (d) Planting more shrubs in areas of short snow season.

- Q.10** In paragraph 6, the author provides the examples of crowberry and alpine azalea to demonstrate that
- (a) Despite frigid temperatures, several species survive in temperate and Arctic regions.
 - (b) Due to frigid temperatures in the temperate and Arctic regions, plant species that survive tend to be shrubs rather than trees.
 - (c) The crowberry and alpine azalea are abundant in temperate and Arctic regions.
 - (d) The stability of the subnivium depends on several interrelated factors, including shrubs on the forest floor.

- Q.11** Which one of the following statements can be inferred from the passage?
- (a) In an ecosystem, altering any one element has a ripple effect on all others.
 - (b) Climate change affects temperate and Arctic regions more than equatorial or arid ones.
 - (c) A compact layer of wool is warmer than a similarly compact layer of goose down.
 - (d) The loss of the subnivium, while tragic, will affect only temperate and Arctic regions.

- Q.12** In paragraph 1, the author uses blankets as a device to
- (a) evoke the bitter cold of winter in the minds of readers.
 - (b) explain how blankets work to keep us warm.
 - (c) draw an analogy between blankets and the snowpack.
 - (d) alert readers to the fatal effects of excessive exposure to the cold.

PASSAGE 3

Read the passage and answer the question based on it.

The end of the age of the internal combustion engine is in sight. There are small signs everywhere: the shift to hybrid vehicles is already under way among manufacturers. Volvo has announced it will make no purely petrol-engined cars after 2019...and Tesla has just started selling its first electric car aimed squarely at the middle classes: the Tesla 3 sells for \$35,000 in the US, and 400,000 people have put down a small, refundable deposit towards one. Several thousand have already taken delivery, and the company hopes to sell half a million more next year. This is a remarkable figure for a machine with a fairly short range and a very limited number of specialised charging stations.

Some of it reflects the remarkable abilities of Elon Musk, the company's founder, as a salesman, engineer, and a man able to get the most out of his factory workers and the governments he deals with...Mr Musk is selling a dream that the world wants to believe in.

This last may be the most important factor in the story. The private car is...a device of immense practical help and economic significance, but at the same time a theatre for myths of unattainable self-fulfilment. The one thing you will never see in a car advertisement is traffic, even though that is the element in which drivers spend their lives. Every single driver in a traffic jam is trying to escape from it, yet it is the inevitable consequence of mass car ownership.

The sleek and swift electric car is at one level merely the most contemporary fantasy of autonomy and power. But it might also disrupt our exterior landscapes nearly as much as the fossil fuel-engined car did in the last century. Electrical cars would of course pollute far less than fossil fuel-driven ones; instead of oil reserves, the rarest materials for batteries would make undeserving despots and their dynasties fantastically rich. Petrol stations would disappear. The air in cities would once more be breathable and their streets as quiet as those of Venice. This isn't an unmixed good. Cars that were as silent as bicycles would still be as dangerous as they are now to anyone they hit without audible warning.

The dream goes further than that. The electric cars of the future will be so thoroughly equipped with sensors and reaction mechanisms that they will never hit anyone. Just as brakes don't let you skid today, the steering wheel of tomorrow will swerve you away from danger before you have even noticed it...

This is where the fantasy of autonomy comes full circle. The logical outcome of cars which need no driver is that they will become cars which need no owner either. Instead, they will work as taxis do, summoned at will but only for the journeys we actually need. This the future towards which Uber...is working. The ultimate development of the private car will be to reinvent public transport. Traffic jams will be abolished only when the private car becomes a public utility. What then will happen to our fantasies of

independence? We'll all have to take to electrically powered bicycles.

Q.13 Which of the following statements best reflects the author's argument?

- (a) Hybrid and electric vehicles signal the end of the age of internal combustion engines.
- (b) Elon Musk is a remarkably gifted salesman.
- (c) The private car represents an unattainable myth of independence.
- (d) The future Uber car will be environmentally friendlier than even the Tesla.

Q.14 The author points out all of the following about electric cars EXCEPT

- (a) Their reliance on rare materials for batteries will support despotic rule.
- (b) They will reduce air and noise pollution.
- (c) They will not decrease the number of traffic jams.
- (d) They will ultimately undermine rather than further driver autonomy.

Q.15 According to the author, the main reason for Tesla's remarkable sales is that

- (a) in the long run, the Tesla is more cost effective than fossil fuel-driven cars.
- (b) the US government has announced a tax subsidy for Tesla buyers.
- (c) the company is rapidly upscaling the number of specialised charging stations for customer convenience.
- (d) people believe in the autonomy represented by private cars.

Q.16 The author comes to the conclusion that

- (a) car drivers will no longer own cars but will have to use public transport.
- (b) cars will be controlled by technology that is more efficient than car drivers.
- (c) car drivers dream of autonomy but the future may be public transport.
- (d) electrically powered bicycles are the only way to achieve autonomy in transportation.

Q.17 In paragraphs 5 and 6, the author provides the example of Uber to argue that

- (a) in the future, electric cars will be equipped with mechanisms that prevent collisions.
- (b) in the future, traffic jams will not exist.
- (c) in the future, the private car will be transformed into a form of public transport.
- (d) in the future, Uber rides will outstrip Tesla sales.

Q.18 In paragraph 6, the author mentions electrically powered bicycles to argue that

- (a) if Elon Musk were a true visionary, he would invest funds in developing electric bicycles.
- (b) our fantasies of autonomy might unexpectedly require us to consider electric bicycles.

- (c) in terms of environmental friendliness and safety, electric bicycles rather than electric cars are the future.
- (d) electric buses are the best form of public transport.

PASSAGE 4

Directions for the question: *Read the passage and answer the question based on it.*

Typewriters are the epitome of a technology that has been comprehensively rendered obsolete by the digital age. The ink comes off the ribbon, they weigh a ton, and second thoughts are a disaster. But they are also personal, portable and, above all, private. Type a document and lock it away and more or less the only way anyone else can get it is if you give it to them. That is why the Russians have decided to go back to typewriters in some government offices, and why in the US, some departments have never abandoned them. Yet it is not just their resistance to algorithms and secret surveillance that keeps typewriter production lines - well one, at least - in business (the last British one closed a year ago). Nor is it only the nostalgic appeal of the metal body and the stout well-defined keys that make them popular on eBay. A typewriter demands something particular: attentiveness. By the time the paper is loaded, the ribbon tightened, the carriage returned, the spacing and the margins set, there's a big premium on hitting the right key. That means sorting out ideas, pulling together a kind of order and organizing details before actually striking off. There can be no thinking on screen with a typewriter. Nor are there any easy distractions. No online shopping. No urgent emails. No Twitter. No need even for electricity - perfect for writing in a remote hideaway. The thinking process is accompanied by the encouraging clack of keys, and the ratchet of the carriage return. Ping!

Q.19 Which one of the following best describes what the passage is trying to do?

- (a) It describes why people continue to use typewriters even in the digital age.
- (b) It argues that typewriters will continue to be used even though they are an obsolete technology.
- (c) It highlights the personal benefits of using typewriters.
- (d) It shows that computers offer fewer options than typewriters.

Q.20 According to the passage, some governments still use typewriters because:

- (a) they do not want to abandon old technologies that may be useful in the future.
- (b) they want to ensure that typewriter production lines remain in business.
- (c) they like the nostalgic appeal of typewriter.
- (d) they can control who reads the document.

Q.21 The writer praises typewriters for all the following reasons EXCEPT

- (a) Unlike computers, they can only be used for typing.
- (b) You cannot revise what you have typed on a typewriter.
- (c) Typewriters are noisier than computers.
- (d) Typewriters are messier to use than computers.

PASSAGE 5

Directions for the question: *Read the passage and answer the question based on it.*

Despite their fierce reputation, Vikings may not have always been the plunderers and pillagers popular culture imagines them to be. In fact, they got their start trading in northern European markets, researchers suggest.

Combs carved from animal antlers, as well as comb manufacturing waste and raw antler material has turned up at three archaeological sites in Denmark, including a medieval marketplace in the city of Ribe. A team of researchers from Denmark and the U.K. hoped to identify the species of animal to which the antlers once belonged by analyzing collagen proteins in the samples and comparing them across the animal kingdom, Laura Geggel reports for LiveScience. Somewhat surprisingly, molecular analysis of

the artifacts revealed that some combs and other material had been carved from reindeer antlers.... Given that reindeer (*Rangifer tarandus*) don't live in Denmark, the researchers posit that it arrived on Viking ships from Norway. Antler craftsmanship, in the form of decorative combs, was part of Viking culture. Such combs served as symbols of good health, Geggel writes. The fact that the animals shed their antlers also made them easy to collect from the large herds that inhabited Norway.

Since the artifacts were found in marketplace areas at each site it's more likely that the Norsemen came to trade rather than pillage. Most of the artifacts also date to the 780s, but some are as old as 725. That predates the beginning of Viking raids on Great Britain by about 70 years. (Traditionally, the so-called "Viking Age" began

with these raids in 793 and ended with the Norman conquest of Great Britain in 1066.) Archaeologists had suspected that the Vikings had experience with long maritime voyages [that] might have preceded their raiding days. Beyond Norway, these combs would have been a popular industry in Scandinavia as well. It's possible that the antler combs represent a larger trade network, where the Norsemen supplied raw material to craftsmen in Denmark and elsewhere.

- Q.22** The primary purpose of the passage is:
- (a) to explain the presence of reindeer antler combs in Denmark.
 - (b) to contradict the widely-accepted beginning date for the Viking Age in Britain, and propose an alternate one.
 - (c) to challenge the popular perception of Vikings as raiders by using evidence that suggests their early trade relations with Europe.
 - (d) to argue that besides being violent pillagers, Vikings were also skilled craftsmen and efficient traders.

- Q.23** The evidence - "Most of the artifacts also date to the 780s, but some are as old as 725" - has been used in the passage to argue that:
- (a) the beginning date of the Viking Age should be changed from 793 to 725.
 - (b) the Viking raids started as early as 725.
 - (c) some of the antler artifacts found in Denmark and Great Britain could have come from Scandinavia.
 - (d) the Vikings' trade relations with Europe pre-dates the Viking raids.
- Q.24** All of the following hold true for Vikings EXCEPT
- (a) Vikings brought reindeer from Norway to Denmark for trade purposes.
 - (b) Before becoming the raiders of northern Europe, Vikings had trade relations with European nations.
 - (c) Antler combs, regarded by the Vikings as a symbol of good health, were part of the Viking culture.
 - (d) Vikings, once upon a time, had trade relations with Denmark and Scandinavia.

ANSWER KEYS

PRACTICE EXERCISES

PRACTICE EXERCISE 1

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. (b) | 2. (a) | 3. (c) | 4. (b) | 5. (b) | 6. (a) | 7. (d) | 8. (d) | 9. (b) | 10. (b) |
| 11. (b) | 12. (a) | 13. (c) | 14. (b) | 15. (a) | 16. (b) | 17. (c) | 18. (a) | 19. (d) | 20. (a) |
| 21. (d) | 22. (b) | 23. (a) | 24. (d) | 25. (c) | | | | | |

PRACTICE EXERCISE 2

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. (a) | 2. (c) | 3. (c) | 4. (d) | 5. (c) | 6. (b) | 7. (a) | 8. (b) | 9. (c) | 10. (d) |
| 11. (b) | 12. (b) | 13. (a) | 14. (b) | 15. (d) | 16. (d) | 17. (b) | 18. (a) | 19. (c) | 20. (c) |
| 21. (a) | 22. (c) | 23. (d) | | | | | | | |

PRACTICE EXERCISE 3

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. (d) | 2. (b) | 3. (c) | 4. (a) | 5. (c) | 6. (a) | 7. (d) | 8. (a) | 9. (b) | 10. (d) |
| 11. (b) | 12. (a) | 13. (c) | 14. (a) | 15. (b) | 16. (b) | 17. (a) | 18. (c) | 19. (b) | 20. (d) |
| 21. (d) | 22. (a) | 23. (d) | 24. (c) | 25. (b) | | | | | |

PRACTICE EXERCISE 4

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. (b) | 2. (a) | 3. (b) | 4. (b) | 5. (b) | 6. (c) | 7. (c) | 8. (a) | 9. (a) | 10. (b) |
| 11. (b) | 12. (d) | 13. (a) | 14. (d) | 15. (c) | 16. (d) | 17. (a) | 18. (b) | 19. (b) | 20. (c) |

PRACTICE EXERCISE 5

1. (b)	2. (d)	3. (a)	4. (c)	5. (b)	6. (a)	7. (d)	8. (c)	9. (a)	10. (b)
11. (c)	12. (b)	13. (b)	14. (d)	15. (c)	16. (a)	17. (d)	18. (b)	19. (c)	20. (c)
21. (a)	22. (d)								

PRACTICE EXERCISE 6

1. (a)	2. (d)	3. (d)	4. (b)	5. (b)	6. (b)	7. (c)	8. (a)	9. (b)	10. (c)
11. (b)	12. (d)	13. (c)	14. (a)	15. (b)	16. (b)	17. (d)	18. (a)	19. (d)	20. (c)
21. (b)	22. (d)	23. (b)	24. (a)	25. (c)					

PRACTICE EXERCISE 7

1. (d)	2. (c)	3. (a)	4. (b)	5. (d)	6. (a)	7. (b)	8. (a)	9. (d)	10. (c)
11. (d)	12. (b)	13. (b)	14. (a)	15. (d)					

PRACTICE EXERCISE 8

1. (c)	2. (d)	3. (b)	4. (c)	5. (b)	6. (a)	7. (d)	8. (b)	9. (d)	10. (a)
11. (a)	12. (b)	13. (c)	14. (d)	15. (a)	16. (d)	17. (d)	18. (a)	19. (a)	20. (d)
21. (c)									

PRACTICE EXERCISE 9

1. (d)	2. (a)	3. (c)	4. (a)	5. (d)	6. (b)	7. (c)	8. (a)	9. (c)	10. (b)
11. (d)	12. (c)	13. (c)	14. (a)	15. (a)	16. (d)	17. (a)	18. (c)	19. (b)	20. (c)
21. (c)	22. (d)								

PRACTICE EXERCISE 10

1. (c)	2. (e)	3. (b)	4. (c)	5. (d)	6. (d)	7. (b)	8. (c)	9. (a)	10. (b)
11. (c)	12. (e)	13. (a)	14. (d)	15. (b)	16. (a)	17. (c)	18. (c)	19. (e)	20. (d)

PREVIOUS YEARS' QUESTIONS

CAT 2019 (MORNING SLOT)

1. (a)	2. (c)	3. (b)	4. (a)	5. (a)	6. (a)	7. (b)	8. (d)	9. (c)	10. (c)
11. (b)	12. (b)	13. (b)	14. (b)	15. (c)	16. (c)	17. (a)	18. (b)	19. (c)	20. (d)
21. (d)	22. (a)	23. (a)	24. (b)						

CAT 2019 (EVENING SLOT)

1. (b)	2. (b)	3. (d)	4. (c)	5. (d)	6. (a)	7. (b)	8. (d)	9. (d)	10. (d)
11. (d)	12. (b)	13. (d)	14. (a)	15. (d)	16. (b)	17. (c)	18. (c)	19. (c)	20. (b)
21. (d)	22. (c)	23. (a)	24. (a)						

CAT 2018 (MORNING SLOT)

1. (a)	2. (a)	3. (b)	4. (b)	5. (a)	6. (c)	7. (a)	8. (b)	9. (d)	10. (b)
11. (a)	12. (d)	13. (a)	14. (b)	15. (c)	16. (b)	17. (a)	18. (d)	19. (d)	20. (a)
21. (c)	22. (d)	23. (a)	24. (c)						

CAT 2018 (EVENING SLOT)

1. (a)	2. (a)	3. (a)	4. (b)	5. (d)	6. (d)	7. (c)	8. (c)	9. (c)	10. (b)
11. (a)	12. (b)	13. (d)	14. (d)	15. (d)	16. (d)	17. (d)	18. (b)	19. (c)	20. (a)
21. (b)	22. (c)	23. (d)	24. (a)						

CAT 2017 (MORNING SLOT)

1. (b)	2. (b)	3. (b)	4. (c)	5. (a)	6. (a)	7. (a)	8. (d)	9. (c)	10. (c)
11. (b)	12. (b)	13. (c)	14. (a)	15. (b)	16. (c)	17. (d)	18. (a)	19. (c)	20. (b)
21. (c)	22. (c)	23. (a)	24. (d)						

CAT 2017 (EVENING SLOT)

1. (d)	2. (b)	3. (a)	4. (c)	5. (b)	6. (a)	7. (c)	8. (b)	9. (b)	10. (d)
11. (a)	12. (c)	13. (c)	14. (d)	15. (d)	16. (c)	17. (c)	18. (b)	19. (a)	20. (d)
21. (d)	22. (c)	23. (d)	24. (a)						

HINTS AND EXPLANATIONS

PRACTICE EXERCISES

PRACTICE EXERCISE 1

1. Author considers the contentions made by the recent historians discussed in the passage to be partially justified, as it is given in the passage that- looking at the rebel side, we find little evidence for the contention that lower-class rebels were in conflict with the upper-class rebels. All other options are incorrect as they are not related to the passage above.
Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.
2. The author most likely refers to “historians such as Beard and Becker” in order to point out historians whose views of history anticipated some of the views of the recent historians mentioned in the passage which is option (a) and is direct from the passage. So, no need to see all other options.
Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.
3. The answer is option (c), as Loyatism, thus, operated as a safety valve to remove socio-economic discontent that exists among the rebels is given in the passage which is related to absorbing members of socio-economic groups on the rebel side who felt themselves in contention with members of other socio-economic groups. Option (a) is incorrect, as eliminating the disputes ... is not mentioned in the passage. Similarly, options (b) and (d) are incorrect as per the passage given.
Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.
4. Information I and IV is not mentioned in the passage but II and III is present. So, option (b) is correct, rest all are incorrect.
Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.
5. Here option (b) is correct, as it given that identifying a person as a member of the rebel or of the Loyalist side does necessarily reveal that person’s particular socio-economic class which is true as per the passage. Whereas, option (a) is incorrect as the content in it is not related to passage. Similarly, options (c) and (d) are incorrect.
Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.
6. The author suggests the governments inadequately represented the interests of people in western regions as a representative of colonial or state governments in America from 1763 to 1789 which is option (a). Option (b) is incorrect, as it is not mentioned in the passage. Similarly, options (c) and (d) are incorrect.
Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.
7. The answer is option (d), as it is mentioned about the sectional conflicts in America between 1763 and 1789. Whereas, options (a), (b) and (c) are incorrect.
Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.
8. According to the first sentence, the first part of the novel tends to confirm the “romantic” reading more strongly than the second. Therefore, option (d) is correct are incorrect, as nothing in the passage suggests that critics have paid more attention to the second part, that the two parts have little relation, or that the second part is better.
Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.
9. The fourth sentence implies that James represents a very high degree of authorial awareness of novelistic construction and that no such claim is necessarily being made for Bronte. Thus, option (b) is correct. Option (a) is incorrect, since the passage does not imply that there are particular difficulties that James understood uniquely among novelists. Option (c) is also incorrect, as it is not mentioned in the passage, similarly option (d).
Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.
10. Here option (a) is incorrect, as the author does not indicate that the unification of different elements is to be avoided in interpretation generally. By contrast, the author’s parenthetical statement about rigidity does present a general warning against inflexibility of interpretation, and is that it supports option (b). Option (c) is incorrect, as the passage does not include that, also option (d) is incorrect.
Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.
11. The answer is option (b), as *Hamlet* is mentioned only in the final sentence of the passage, which refers to “this respect” in which *Hamlet* and *Wuthering Heights* are similar. Option (a) is incorrect, as the passage does not provide information about the characteristics of the usual critical interpretations of *Hamlet*. Option (c) is also no true as it does not suggest anything about a difference in their openness, similarly option (d).
Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.
12. The author’s primary purpose in the passage is to describe the formation and nature of singularities which is direct from the passage above. Option (b) cannot be the primary purpose of the passage as the author is concerned with much more than the reason of starts becoming singularities. Similarly, options (c) and (d) are the sub-parts of the passage and not the main theme.
Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.
13. Here information I and II is mentioned in the passage but information III not. So, option (c) is correct.
Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

14. The last sentence of the passage is - **Unfortunately in most cases a distant observer cannot see the singularity; outgoing light rays are dragged back by gravity so forcefully that even if they could start out within a few kilometers of the singularity, they would end up in the singularity itself.** According to this, option (b) is most probably follow the sentence. Options (a), (c) and (d) are not true.
Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.
15. The author of the passage is primarily concerned with discussing two categories of factors that control population growth and assessing their relative importance which is directly given in the passage. Options (b), (c) and (d) are not true.
Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.
16. Author considers the dichotomy (division) as useful, but not only if its limitations are recognized, which is mentioned in the passage in line 15.
Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.
17. It is sometimes possible to infer the existence of a density-dependent factor controlling population growth without understanding its causative mechanism, can be inferred from last paragraph which is given in the passage above.
Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.
18. As it is given in the passage that - **No matter how severely or unpredictably birth, death, and migration rates may be fluctuating around their long-term averages, if there were no density-dependent effects, the population would, in the long run, either increase or decrease without bound,** this depicts to option (a) as an answer. All other options are incorrect.
Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.
19. The answer is option (d) which is not mentioned in the passage. Whereas, the content in options (a), (b) and (c) are already mentioned in the passage.
Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.
20. The answer is option (a), which is clearly mentioned. Other options are not mentioned.
Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.
21. The author does not describe the result of a particular study at all so answer is option (d) as per the question given. All other options are somewhere mentioned in the passage.
Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.
22. The author's primary purpose in this passage is to affirm the thematic coherence underlying *Raisin in the Sun*, that is option (b) as the passage **includes thematic conflicts as mere confusion, contradiction, or eclecticism.** Whereas all other options are not best suited.
Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.
23. The answer is option (a) as it is mentioned in the passage that - **once we recognize this dual vision, we can accept the play's ironic nuances as deliberate social commentaries by Hansberry rather than as the "unintentional" irony that Bigsby attributes to the work.**
Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.
24. The answer is option (d), as it is mentioned in last of the passage, whereas all other options are not related to Isaacs' criticism.
Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.
25. The answer is option (c) as all other options are not true as per the condition given in the question.
Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

PRACTICE EXERCISE 2

1. The synthesis is unlikely to occur under current atmospheric conditions be inferred about the process by which the chemical constituents of life were synthesized under primitive Earth conditions that is option (a) as per the passage given above. Other options are not supported as per the passage given.
Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.
2. The answer is option (c) as it is mentioned in first line of the passage **that since 1953, many experimental attempts to synthesize the chemical constituents of life under "primitive Earth conditions" have been performed,** with this it is clear that option (a) cannot be the answer, similarly options (c) and (d).
Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.
3. The answer is option (c) as all other options are related to larger, more complex molecules.
Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.
4. Skepticism means **doubt** which is best suited to explain the development of the first self-duplicating organisms. Other options are not at all true for the passage.
Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.
5. The central idea of the passage is the War of Independence exposed to many Americans the contradiction of slavery in a country seeking its freedom and resulted in efforts to resolve that contradiction that is option (c). Option (a) cannot be the best idea of the passage. Similarly, options (b) and (d) are not true.
Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.
6. The answer is option (b) as per the 1st line given in the passage which clearly defines the colonies.
Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

7. The answer is option (a), as information II and III is not mentioned in the passage and Information I is partially mentioned according to the passage.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

8. Here the answer is option (b) as it is mentioned in the passage, 2nd paragraph about Americans. Other options are supported in the passage.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

9. Option (c) is the answer as it mentions clearly in the passage about the evolutionarily stable strategy - a one-to-one sex ratio is the only stable ratio; it is an "evolutionarily stable strategy." Options (a), (b) and (d) do not present similar work and results in case of both the scientists.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

10. Here option (d) is the answer as it is given in the passage that- Like Fisher, Hamilton looked for an evolutionarily stable strategy, but he went a step further in recognizing that he was looking for a strategy. So, it is direct answer from the passage.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

11. Information I and III are not mentioned in the passage at all, whereas information I is mentioned in the passage.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

12. The author believes that the genetic theory is more accurate than the group selection theory as for group selection it is given that **the sex ratio will evolve so as to maximize the number of meetings between individuals of the opposite sex** and for genetic it is given that **sex ratio will be favoured which maximizes the number of descendants an individual will have and hence the number of gene copies transmitted**, which is accurate that is option (b).

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

13. Following line is mentioned in the passage - **theory of games had been developed, theory incorporates the essential feature of a game – that the best strategy to adopt depends on what others are doing**. This is exactly what is mentioned in option (a).

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

14. Entire passage talks about the biological phenomenon. Besides, the author also mentioned about the game theory. It is mentioned in option ((b) Other options are not supported by this theory.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

15. According to the passage it is given that - **the sex ratios in certain parasitic wasp species that have a**

large excess of females. In these species, fertilized eggs develop into females and unfertilized eggs into males, which contradict the question given.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

16. Following lines are mentioned as the 2nd last line of the passage - **His most controlled novel**, Under the Greenwood Tree, **prominently exhibits two different but reconcilable impulses – a desire to be a realist-historian and a desire to be a psychologist of love – but the slight interlocking of plot are not enough to bind the two completely together. Thus even this book splits into two distinct parts**, clearly state that the answer must be option (d). Other options are not most appropriate title of the passage.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

17. Here the answer is option (b), as it is mentioned that - **Finally, he wanted to be more than a realist**, the word finally gives (b) as the answer directly.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

18. The author of the passage considers a writer's style to be a reliable means by which to measure the writer's literary merit as per given in the passage. Whereas, option (b) is not true if we take from the author's point of view, options (c) and (d) are also no true.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

19. The answer is option (c), 'wordy' as this is to describe author's Hardy writing style as Hardy uses larger bulk of words rather than author's short cuts. All other options are not fall into this category.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

20. Here the answer is option (c), as it can often be a way of writing to appeal to a wide range of audience to communicate the stories across with ease of the readers of their book. Other options are not true about the novelists Flaubert and James.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

21. The answer is option (a), as author shows his distaste for Hardy's writing style using words like 'he did not care' this gives the first case of the two writing styles.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

22. As it is mentioned in the passage - **Occasionally he felt the impulse to comedy (in all its detached coldness) as well as the impulse to farce, but he was more often inclined to see tragedy and record it**, according to this the answer is option (c). Whereas all other options are not best suited.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

PRACTICE EXERCISE 3

1. The answer is option (d), which would answer the information in the passage as the explanation of racism is given in the 1st line of the passage. All other options are sub-parts of the passage which the author has talked about.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

2. The author defines the sociologist's argument from capitalism, however, he then argues that "since prejudice against these latter peoples was not inspired by capitalists, he has no reason that such antagonisms were not really based on race". Hence he points out a flaw in the argument. He then claims the author "disposes thusly (albeit unconvincingly) of both the intolerance faced by Jews before the rise of capitalism and the early twentieth-century discrimination against Oriental people in California, which, inconveniently, was instigated by workers." Thus, the author is clearly skeptical of the argument, and the reason is that the argument is unpersuasive means baseless.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

3. The answer is option (c), which can be directly inferred from the 1st line of the passage. Whereas all other options does not match with the author's view.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

4. In last line of the passage the tone of author is such that this theory is not able to explain the occurrence of racial discrimination in other communities such as Jews and Chinese, therefore options (b), (c) and D are out of the question.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

5. The answer is option (c) as it is given in passage that By 1950, the results of attempts relate brain processes to mental experience appeared rather discouraging, which is related to pessimism. Whereas option (a), indignation means distress which is not related to discouragement, also option (d), defiance means opposition which the author is not talking about.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

6. Author in the passage stated that "The nerve impulses are essentially homogeneous in quality and are transmitted as "common currency" throughout the nervous system. The different areas of the brain into which they discharge, and there is some evidence for this view." This brings the answer as option (a) that is lack of differentiation among nerve impulses in human beings. Whereas all other options are not related to "common currency".

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

7. In an experiment, it is given that, when an electric stimulus was applied to a given sensory field of the cerebral cortex of a conscious human subject, it produced a sensation of the appropriate modality for

that particular locus, that is, a visual sensation from the auditory cortex, which is related to option (d). Whereas in option (a), is not true according to the experiment, also options (b) and (c) are not true.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

8. The answer is option (a), as it is clearly given in 2nd paragraph of the passage that sensory field of the cerebral cortex of a conscious human subject, it produced a sensation of the appropriate modality for that particular locus, that is, a visual sensation from the auditory cortex. Other two parts are not as per the passage.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

9. The most accurately described as a discussion concerning historical views be the physiological correlates of mental experience, that is option (b). Other options are not concerning the historical view.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

10. The answer is option (d), as it is given in the passage – "To match the multiple dimensions of mental experience psychologists could only point to a limitless variation in the spatio-temporal patterning of nerve impulses". Other options cannot be termed as the summary of the passage.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

11. The primary purpose of the passage is to describe a phenomenon which is option (b). According to the passage, option (a) cannot be the answer as it is about the controversy which the author is not talking about. Options (c) and (d) are not true as these can be at best sub-parts of the passage, and not the primary purpose of the passage.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

12. The answer is option (a), as per the content given in the passage about wind over energy which causes relatively cool, dry air to come into proximity with the ocean surface. Whereas, option (b) is not true as wind speed increases, so does turbulence, and thus the rate of heat and moisture transfer is given in the passage. Options (c) and (d) are also cannot be the answer.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

13. The author regards current knowledge about heat and moisture transfer from the ocean to air as incomplete that is option (c) as it is clearly mentioned in the passage that – *detailed understanding of this phenomenon awaits further study*. Other options are not supported as per the passage given.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

14. Consider the lines mentioned as the opening statement of the passage – *the transfer of heat and water vapour from the ocean to the air above it depends on disequilibrium at the interface of the water and the air*. Within

about a millimeter of the water, air temperature is close to that of the surface water, and the air is nearly saturated with water vapour, therefore the answer is option (a). Option (b) is not mentioned in the passage, also options (c) and (d) are not true as per the question given.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

15. The primary purpose of the passage is to discuss the significance of increasing the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere and that is mentioned in option (b). Opening statement of 2nd paragraph mentions “burning of fossil fuels” more as a comparison with respect to what was the scenario before. Even if we consider it a warning, but that is not what author intends to discuss as the main theme in the passage. Hence option (a) is not the answer. Similarly, option (c) and option (d) cannot be the primary purpose of the passage.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

16. The answer is option (b), which is mentioned in 1st paragraph, whereas option (a) cannot be the answer as infrared spectrum radiates back (given in last paragraph). Options (c) and (d) are also incorrect as they are not the greatest part of solar energy that reaches the earth.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

17. The answer is option (a), as atmospheric carbon dioxide does not performs functions absorbing radiation at visible wavelength mentioned in first paragraph – they absorb longer wavelength and they radiate back into space. All other options are matching with the function of the atmospheric carbon dioxide.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

18. Author is somewhere concerned about the increase in the carbon dioxide results in global warming etc. The answer is option (c) as it best describes the author’s attitude towards the increasing amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere and its consequences. Option (a) incredulous means unbelieving which does not suit the author’s attitude. Options (b) and (d) are not describing author’s behaviour according to the passage.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

19. The answer is option (b), i.e., 9°C which is the average temperature at an altitude of 1 kilometer above the Earth. It is mentioned in 3rd paragraph. **(Under present conditions a temperature of -18°C can be observed at an altitude of 5 to 6 kilometers above**

the Earth. Below this altitude (called the radiating level), the temperature increases by about 6°C per kilometer approaching the Earth’s surface, where the average temperature is about 15°C So, $15 - 6 = 9^{\circ}\text{C}$ is the answer.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

20. Here the option (d) is the answer. Option (a) does not match with the condition at all. Options (b) and (c) are also not true as it is not satisfying the condition given. Option (d) talks about the mathematical model mentioned in the passage.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

21. Look at the opening statement of the 2nd paragraph – Today, however, the potential problem is too much carbon dioxide. The burning of fossil fuels and the clearing of forests have increased atmospheric carbon dioxide by about 15 per cent in the last hundred years, and we continue to add carbon dioxide to the atmosphere.

Option (a) is not true according to the passage given as it is not mentioned in the passage that fossil fuels were burned for the first time. Similarly options (b) and (c) are not true as per the passage. Option (d) is clearly mentioned in the passage.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

22. The answer is option (a), as it clearly describes the primary purpose of the passage, whereas all other options does not describe the same that is option (b), talks about human morphology and human behaviour which is not a primary purpose, option (d) is not mentioned in the passage at all.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

23. The answer is option (d) as in this context we would need to comprehend thoroughly their **adaptive origin in order to understand how badly they guide us now and we might then begin to resist their pressure**. Other options they are not perfect answer to the question.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

24. The answer is option (c) which probably provides an appropriate analogy from human morphology for the “details” versus “constraints” distinction made in the passage in relation to human behaviour, whereas options (a), (b) and (d) are not providing distinction in details and constraints.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

PRACTICE EXERCISE 4

1. The answer is option (b) – clearly given in the first line of the passage **that a mysterious phenomenon is the ability of overwater migrants to travel**, which is complex and partly understood. Option (a) is an expla-

nation of the theme. Option (c) is the way through which migrant animals keep track of time, and not the main theme. Similarly option (d) is not the main idea.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

2. The answer is option (a), as flock of birds navigating by compass sense alone, they would, after the storm, fly east as given in the passage. The answer to this question is direct, and hence we are not even needed to consider other options.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

3. In option (b), skepticism means unempirical knowledge or opinions/beliefs stated as facts, or doubt as this context is clearly mentioned in the passage – **some scientists thought, migrants determine their geographic position on Earth by celestial navigation, almost as human navigators use stars and planets, but this would demand of the animals a fantastic map sense.** Options (a), (c), and (d) are not related to what the question is asking.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

4. Answer is option (b) because it is clearly mentioned in the last two lines of 2st paragraph about the hope and dishonesty (liars). Option (a) talks about the aim of writers and speakers which the author does not indicate, options (c) and (d) also does not match with the authors perspective in the passage.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

5. In the late nineteenth century, rhetoric was regarded as the view of human motivation – as given in the passage that pure logic has never been a motivating force unless it has been subordinated to human purposes, feelings, and desires, and thereby ceased to be pure logic. Other options do not match with this perspective.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

6. The answer is option (c) because the author addresses the listener's emotions as well as their intellects that appeal to the parts of our nature that are involved in feeling, desiring, acting, and suffering. Option (a), (b) and (d) will not fail to persuade people as per the author's view.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

9. Passage talks about a sample of an actual speech delivered by an actor which is not mentioned by the author in the passage as a persuasive device. Options (b), (c) and (d) are considered to be persuasive devices found in the passage.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

10. The answer is option (b) because it is stated in the passage that logical argument is an essential element of persuasive discourse. Whereas option (a) indicates the sterile, discipline which the author does not indicate. Options (c) and (d) does not match what the author is talking about.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

11. The author of the passage is primarily concerned with discussing different theories about the transport of

plant seeds to Hawaii as it is clearly mentioned in the passage. Option (a) is incorrect as it is not given only about the biologists in the passage. Similarly, options (c) and (d) are incorrect, as they are subparts in the passage.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

12. As it is given in the passage that – Some biologists argue that ocean and air currents are responsible for the temperature of plant seeds to Hawaii. Yet the results of flotation experiments and the low temperatures of air currents cast doubt on these hypotheses. So, the answer is option (d). Other options are not true as per the content given in the passage.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

13. The existence in Alpine regions of Hawaii of a plant species that also grows in the southwestern United States would justify the ecology of the southwestern United States is similar in important respects to the ecology of Alpine regions of Hawaii, that is option (a). Option (b) is not true according to the passage, also options (c) and (d) are not true as they are not related to Alpine regions.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

14. Answer is option (d), which can be used as a question as per the content given in the passage. Whereas, option (a) is incorrect as it is not an accurate question according to the passage. Similarly, options (b) and (c) are incorrect according to the passage.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

15. The answer is option (c) which can be best described as a summary and evaluation of recent study. Option (a) is incorrect because the original did not appear survey, are described by Webb's point of view to the old view is incorrect, and secondly, this article mainly talking about new ideas, rather than on the old view of the comment; Option (d) is also not true as the original structure of the old view – put forward new ideas – new ideas prove – new ideas shortcomings, there is no defence.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

16. The first paragraph of the passage clearly states that the military did not play a major role as an instrument of colonial policy until 1763 as a long-held view, that is option (d). Option (c) cannot be true as sentence is talking about merchants and farmers which is not mentioned in the passage. Similarly, options (a) and (b) are not true as they are not related to the passage.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

17. As it is given that - Garrison government allowed the colonists a legislative assembly but real authority, in Webb's view, belonged to the colonial governor, who was appointed by the king and supported by the "garri-

son”, that is, by the local contingent of English troops under the colonial governor’s command, so option (a) is true. Options (b), (c) and (d) are not true as these are not supported by the passage.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

18. Webb views Charles II as the “proper successor” of the Tudor monarchs and Cromwell because Charles II used the military to extend executive power over the English colonies, which is option (b). Option (a) is not true, as it is not related to the passage and con-

dition given. Similarly, options (c) and (d) are not true.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

19. Information II is true as per the passage given whereas information I and III are not related to passage. Also it is mentioned in second paragraph.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

20. Answer is option (c), as it is related to the passage above. Other options are not related to the passage.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

PRACTICE EXERCISE 5

1. The answer is option (b), as it is clearly mentioned in the last line of the passage that- It was necessary to master certain laws and to use intellect in order to build Gothic cathedrals, or set-up the stained glass windows of Chartres. When this bracing element of craftsmanship ceased to dominate artists’ outlook, new technical elements had to be adopted to maintain the intellectual element in art. Whereas, option (a) is not true as it is not related to the passage. Similarly, options (c) and (d), are incorrect.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

2. It is given in the passage about the traditional romantics stressed intuition and self-expression, the frenzy of inspiration was regarded as fundamental to art. Questions given in the other questions cannot be answered by the information given in the passage.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

3. It is mentioned in the passage that – “Long before the Romantics stressed intuition and self-expression, the frenzy of inspiration was regarded as fundamental to art, but philosophers had always assumed it must be controlled by law and by the intellectual power of putting things into harmonious order”. This is mentioned in option ((a) Other options are not related to traditional assumptions of aesthetic philosophers.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

4. The author mentions “linear perspective and anatomy” in the last sentence in order to support his point that rational order of some kind has often seemed to discipline artistic inspiration, which is mentioned in option (c). Other options are not correct according to the passage.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

5. The author discusses computing machines in the first paragraph primarily in order to illustrate his views about the approach of mathematicians to problem solving, that is option (b). Option (a) is incorrect as it is giving a negative tone which is not needed. Option (c) is incorrect as the passage is not compar-

ing. Option (d) is incorrect as it is not related to the paragraph mentioned.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

6. It is given in the passage that – Since science tries to deal with reality, even the most precise sciences normally work with more or less imperfectly understood approximations toward which scientists must maintain an appropriate skepticism which means doubtful. Author talks about equation as an example, therefore, option (a), is correct answer.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

7. The answer is option (d), as it is best suited for the assumption to be made by scientists about scientific arguments, also mentioned in the last paragraph of the passage.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

8. It is mentioned in the passage that - In some cases, the mathematicians’ literal-mindedness may have unfortunate consequences. The mathematicians turn the scientist’s theoretical assumptions, that is, their convenient points of analytical emphasis, into axioms, and then take these axioms literally. This brings the danger that they may also persuade the scientists to take these axioms literally.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

9. The approach of physicists to solve the scientific problems is practical for scientific purposes, which is mentioned in option (a). (As it is given in the passage that – Physicists, looking at the original Schrodinger equation, learn to sense in it the presence of many invisible terms in addition to the differential terms visible, and this sense inspires an entirely appropriate disregard for the purely technical features of the equation). Option (b) is incorrect as it talks about danger which the physicist is not concerned. Similarly, options (c) and (d) are incorrect.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

10. **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

11. The author implies that scientists develop a healthy skepticism because they are aware that some factors in most situations must remain unknown (as mentioned in 2nd paragraph) and hence, answer is option (c).

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

12. Passage states that – For women, who did not have access to higher education as men did, literary salons provided an alternate route to learning and a challenge to some of society's basic assumptions about women, which is mentioned in option (b).

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

13. A significant distinction between the *salonnières* and Bluestockings was the role of pleasure in the activities of the literary salon, that is answer is option (b). All other options are not suited for a significant distinction between the *salonnières* and Bluestockings.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

14. As it is mentioned in the passage that – In an atmosphere of mutual support, the Bluestockings went beyond the salon experience. They travelled, studied, worked, wrote for publication, and by their activities challenged the stereotype of the passive woman, therefore, option (d) is an answer.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

15. Option (c) is the answer, as it is most compatible with the principles of the *salonnières* as described in the passage. Whereas, option (a), is incorrect as it is not related to the principles. Similarly, options (b) and (d) are incorrect.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

16. The answer is option (a), as it is satisfying with question. Other options are not related to the question.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

17. Answer is option (d), as it is considered a twentieth-century counterpart of an eighteenth century literary salon as it is described in the passage. Other options are not related to the counterpart and therefore, not correct.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

18. As it is mentioned in the last passage that women's are not feminists, and as per the question – To an assertion that Bluestockings were feminists, the author would most probably respond in a qualified disagreement way.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

19. The title that best describes the content of the passage is option (c), that is Eighteenth Century – Precursors of Feminism. Option (a) is not correct as it is generalized, therefore cannot be the answer. Option (c), cannot be true as in last paragraph it is mentioned that women's are not feminists. Option (d), is again too generalized.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

20. The author is trying to study the similarities between insect and vertebrate societies which could provide the basis for a unified science of socio-biology, that is option (c). Besides in the whole passage comparison is being done between insect and vertebrate societies. Option (a) cannot be the answer as it is giving a negative sign. Similarly, options (b) and (d) are incorrect, as they are not related to the passage.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

21. The answer is option (a), that is guarded optimism. As in the beginning of the passage, the author wonders if unified science of socio-biology can ever really happen which shows a slight doubt on his part, but expresses optimism towards the similarities between insects and vertebrates by saying – it is out of such deliberate oversimplification that the beginning of a general theory are made (this shows optimism). Other options are not related to optimism.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

22. The author best suggests that- there are significant structural differences between insect and vertebrate societies; hence option (d) is the answer. Options A, (b) and (c) are specifically talking about the termites and macaques, therefore are incorrect.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

PRACTICE EXERCISE 6

1. The primary purpose of the passage is to present two hypotheses concerning the origin of the Moon, that is, the answer is option (a). As, it is given in the first line of the passage - Theorists are divided concerning the origin of the Moon. Some hypothesize that the Moon was formed in the same way as were the planets in the inner solar system. So, no need to see all other options.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

2. Information I is not mentioned in the passage, whereas, information II and III are given in lines 2 and 3.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

3. The author implies that a nearly circular orbit is unlikely for a satellite that was formed by a collision between two celestial bodies, so the answer is option (d). Option (a) is incorrect, as it is not given in the passage. Options (c) and (d), are wrong reasons as the passage is concerned.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

4. The answer is option (b), as it is given in the last line of the passage, that – If there are changes in the mantle rock of the earth, it would be difficult to verify the collision hypothesis. Whereas, option (a) is incorrect, as

it not satisfying the conditions given in the question. Similarly, options (c) and (d) are incorrect.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

5. The author is primarily concerned with raising a question and describing an important discovery that led to an answer, that is, the answer is option (b). It is mentioned in the first paragraph of the passage. Option (a) is incorrect, as it is not a primary concern of the author. Similarly, options (c) and (d) are incorrect.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

6. Answer is option (b), that is a drug that stimulates the production of LDL receptors on the liver, if developed would most likely be an example of the kind of drug mentioned. As it is given that – They are necessary to prevent over synthesis of LDLs from VLDL remnants and they are necessary for the normal removal of LDL from the blood.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

7. The answer is option (c), as it is mentioned in the passage above in lines 20–30. Option (a) is incorrect, as it not supplying the information. Similarly options (b) and (d) are incorrect.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

8. According to the passage, by studying the Watanabe rabbits, scientists learned that VLDL remnants are removed from the blood by LDL receptors in the liver, that is the correct answer choice is option (a).

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

9. The development of drug treatments for some forms of familial hypercholesterolemia is regarded by the author as highly probable (likely), so the answer is option (b), as per information given in the passage. Option (c) is also incorrect, as the passage is not promising. Similarly, option (d) is incorrect.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

10. The answer is option (c) as it is given that –Watanabe noticed that a male rabbit in his colony had ten times the normal concentration of cholesterol in its blood. By appropriate breeding, Watanabe obtained a strain of rabbits that had very high cholesterol levels. These rabbits spontaneously developed heart disease. To his surprise, Watanabe further found that the rabbits, like humans with familial hypercholesterolemia, lacked LDL receptors. Other options are not related to condition given in the question.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

11. The passage implies that Watanabe rabbits differ from normal rabbits as in the blood of Watanabe correct answer choice is option (b), which is mentioned in the passage. All other options are not true, as far as Watanabe rabbits are concerned.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

12. Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

13. Answer is option (c), that is through the structure of Bearden's art, his Black subjects come to represent all of humankind, as it is mentioned in the passage. It is given in the passage that - The subject matter of Bearden's collages is certainly Black. Portrayals of the folk of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, whom he remembers from early childhood. Other options are not correct and not related to the passage.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

14. Bearden's social sensibilities and the subject matter of his collages are mentioned by the author in order to explain why one might be tempted to call Bearden, a Black American artist, hence answer is option (a). It is given that - In natural harmony with this choice of subject matter are the social sensibilities of the artist, who remains active today with the Cinque Gallery in Manhattan, which he helped found and which is devoted to showing the work of minority artists. Other options are not related to the question asked.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

15. The author of the passage is mainly concerned with assessing the significance of the ethnic element in Bearden's work, hence correct choice is option (b).

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

16. The author is primarily concerned with refuting a thesis about the distinctiveness of the culture of the early American South, hence option (b) is the answer. (It is mentioned in the last line of the passage). Option (a) is incorrect as the keyword claim is not mentioned in the passage. Similarly, options C and D are incorrect.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

17. The passage implies that the attitudes toward Native Americans that prevailed in the Southern colonies differed from those that prevailed in the Puritan colonies, hence answer is option (d). It is mentioned in the passage about the attitudes towards Native Americans that prevailed in the Southern colonies. Other options are incorrect as per the passage given.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

18. As it is given that – The American culture that emerged during the Colonial and Revolutionary eras has been depicted as having been simply an extension of New England Puritan culture, therefore, the answer is option (a), which is clearly mentioned in the passage. Option (b), is incorrect, as it is not reflecting the culture. Similarly, options (c) and (d) are incorrect.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

19. The answer is option (d) as information II and III are mentioned in the passage, whereas information I is not given in the passage. So, options (a), (b) and (c) are incorrect.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

20. The answer is option (c) that is spreading to Massachusetts and Connecticut. Other options are incorrect as per the condition given in the question above.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

21. Here option (b) most logically follows the last sentence of the passage and so option (b) is the answer. It is given that - the larger framework of American colonial life, then, not the Southern but the Northern colonies appear to have been distinctive, and even they seem to have been rapidly assimilating to the dominant cultural patterns by the last colonial period. Options A, C and D are incorrect, as per the passage is concerned.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

22. As in the first line of the passage it is given that - The social sciences are less likely than other intellectual enterprises to get credit for their accomplishments. This gives an idea that the author is primarily concerned with explaining a peculiar dilemma that the social sciences are in, hence correct answer choice is option (d). Option (a) is incorrect as it is not a primary concern of the passage. Similarly, options (b) and (c) are incorrect.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

23. Game theory is a social science discipline that the author mentions as being possibly over utilized, which is mentioned clearly in the passage. Hence, answer is option (b).

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

24. Look at the keyword 'under appreciation' mentioned in the passage - This under appreciation of the social sciences contrasts oddly with what many see as their overutilization, therefore, correct option is option (a), that is premature practical application of social science advances. Option (b) is incorrect, as it is not related to overutilization. Similarly options (c) and (d) are incorrect.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

25. It is mentioned in the passage that "As it is given that in last line of the passage that - tentative findings and untested theories are better guides to decision-making than no findings and no theories at all." The author confronts the claim that the social sciences are being over utilized with the observation that this practice represents the lesser of two evils under existing circumstances; hence, option (c) is the answer. Other options are incorrect, as the claim is concerned.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

PRACTICE EXERCISE 10

1. The author indicates the research conducted by two historians without comparing or contrasting their point of view, so (a) is eliminated. He mentions their works to indicate the consumer revolution in the eighteenth century and not to present his argument against anything, so (b) and (d) are not correct. The last option is totally off the mark, hence incorrect. Clearly, C is the correct answer choice.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

2. It is a tone-based question based on Thompson's theory about the views of Labouring class towards capitalism. The passage clearly mentions, 'the opposition of these people to the inroads of capitalist consumerism.' So we need a negative word to fit in. (a) and (b) are positive, (c) is neutral in tone, and the word 'Stubbornness' in option (d) does not qualify to be a synonymous word. So, the word 'Hostility' in option (e) which is quite negative in connotation qualifies to be the answer.

Hence, option (e) is the correct answer.

3. This is a logical structure question and it can be quite tricky to handle. So we have to use smart elimination techniques to eliminate the choices on the basis of some word or phrase which can easily reject the entire answer choice. The author does not compare or contrast the two theses in the third paragraph, so (a) is not the answer. Again, he does not paraphrase any histo-

rian, nor he questions their assumptions. He does not find the two theories sufficient to answer the questions raised by him. So there is no question of endorsing any theory, so C and D are eliminated. The last choice is incorrect because the author provides an alternative explanation

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

4. This is again a logical question where it has to be answered why a particular example has been used. The Veblen model does not help to investigate the extent of demand or classify the luxury goods. Nor does it point to the tastes of rich customers were shaped by the middle classes, so A, C, and D are eliminated. E is out of scope as no comparison has been made between the customers of the eighteenth and the twentieth century. The model has been used to explain the motivation of the eighteenth-century customers to buy luxury goods.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

5. The answer to this question is clearly hidden in the last line of the passage, 'the insatiable demand in the eighteenth-century England....foreshadows our own world.' As it points to a similarity, the first three choices are easily eliminated. The author does not agree with the Veblen model, which attributes the increased consumption to the middle class trying to imitate the rich, so E is also gone.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

6. It is an inference question about the relation between the Industrial Revolution and the demand for luxury goods and services in the eighteenth-century England. The author does not agree with McKendrick's view that the latter paved way for the former as given in the fourth paragraph. So, (a) and (b) are clearly eliminated. (c) further tries to divide the factors into two categories of luxury goods and services which are nowhere indicated. The choice E uses the term cultural phenomenon which cannot be inferred. Moreover the author does not offer any 'conclusive' proof to validate his argument, so (e) is eliminated. (d) can be safely deduced from the information provided in the passage, hence the answer.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

7. As the third line clearly mentions that Anabaena is an exception amongst the photosynthetic bacteria as it is capable of both photosynthesis and nitrogen fixation. This clearly means that other photosynthetic bacteria cannot fix nitrogen. This is the only sentence in the paragraph which mentions the photosynthetic bacteria in general, as the entire passage is dedicated to Anabaena.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

8. The answer is directly mentioned in the passage—when nitrogen compounds are abundant, Anabaena is strictly photosynthetic and its cells are all alike. When nitrogen levels are low, however, specialized cells called heterocysts are produced, so (c) is the right choice. Other factors are incorrect in light of the information provided in the passage.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

9. Heterocysts are the specialized cells produced when the Nitrogen levels are low, so (b) cannot be the answer. Chlorophyll is not present when Nitrogen levels are low, necessary for the production of the heterocysts, so (c) is also eliminated. (d) is contradicted in the passage as both the processes are exclusive. (e) is totally off the mark. When heterocysts are produced, the bacterium is not photosynthetic, which releases oxygen.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

10. A and E are totally out of context, hence eliminated in the first go. (d) is incorrect as the passage describes both photosynthesis and Nitrogen fixation by Anabaena. (d) is a close choice, but if we read the first line carefully, 'Researchers are finding that in many ways an individual bacterium is more analogous to a component cell of a multicellular organism than....' we can see that author indicates the 'inadequacy of an existing view of bacteria'.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

11. The first statement can be inferred from the fourth line of the first paragraph. The second statement is the

underlying assumption of the layered mantle theory. The third statement talks about the differential concentrations of incompatible elements, which is a part of the second theory.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

12. The answer is mentioned in the fourth line of the first paragraph. (a) and (d) are a part of the second theory, and (b) and (c) are contradicted.

Hence, option (e) is the correct answer.

13. It is a tone-based question. The author says the widespread belief 'the debate can be solved through further study,' which indicates that the earlier attempts lacked in steady resolve. 'Novel' is a positive word, so eliminated. (b) and (c) are extreme and (e) cannot be deduced, so option (a) (lacking zeal) is the correct answer.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

14. The passage is not about the composition of mantle xenoliths, so (a) is eliminated. (b) is not mentioned in the passage. The mid-ocean ridge system is unexplored, so (c) is contradicted. The passage nowhere challenges the belief that the Earth's mantle is heterogeneous, it tries to explain it, so E is eliminated. Clearly (d) is the correct choice as the passage describes the debate within the geological community.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

15. The main idea of the passage revolves around the development of Proust's novel Remembrance of Things Past from an essay written by him in 1909. (a), (c), and (d) are merely the facts mentioned in the passage. (e) is a close choice as the passage talks about it, but it shifts the focus from Proust's novel to the critical essay which is incorrect. (b) is the better choice as the author presents evidence to prove how the novel was shaped.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

16. The second paragraph mentions that Proust tried to prove that imagination is more powerful than the intellect, which was contrary to the view held by Saint-Beuve, so we can deduce that Saint-Beuve believed that intellect played a key role in the creative process. Statements I and III are not related to the passage hence eliminated, so (a) is the right answer.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

17. As such, the facts of Proust's life in 1909 have not been discussed in the passage, so we can eliminate the last choice. (a) is incorrect as two new publications in this regard have been mentioned in the passage. (b) is an extreme choice which is not supported by the passage. The second part of (d) does not find mention in the passage, so (c) is the right answer, as he expresses his disappointment with the new developments in this area.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

18. We have to find the least useful source of information to establish the author's claim. All the answer choices mention something important from the study point of view, so it is difficult to choose one over the other. But, on closer look, (c) excludes the letters written to Vallette, which is essential to frame the main argument of the essay clearly mentioned in the third and fourth line of the passage.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

19. This is a fact-based question where we have to figure out the information required to answer the questions indicated in the choices. The passage does not provide the specific details of date, subject of the novel, or specific criticism of Saint-Beuve, so the first four choices can be eliminated. The theme concerning art that appears in the Final Book of Remembrance of Things

Past has been indicated, permanence of art against the ravages of time.

Hence, option (e) is the correct answer.

20. We have to define the relationship between Proust's original essay and the novel he wrote later based on it. The first two choices mention that Proust abandoned Contre Saint-Beuve, which is not mentioned in the passage, so eliminated. (c) wrongly uses the word 'despondent' claiming that he could not find a coherent structure for the essay, so eliminated. Again, E talks about the facts which have no relation to the text in the passage. The last line of the first paragraph mentions how Proust found the essay giving rise to personal memories, and allowed these to take the shape of a novel.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

PREVIOUS YEARS' QUESTIONS

CAT 2019 (MORNING SLOT)

1. The first look at the last sentence of the passage "And just as a beloved.....one feel a sense of dread and anxiety-or topophobia" clearly states that the feeling of dread or anxiety is regarding a place.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

2. This is slightly tricky question and need to peruse the options cautiously the ones that are against what the author needs to state, will contradict the author's argument. The option (a) contradicts because the author says that "A third response to the environment also depends on the human senses but may be tactile and olfactory" which means it can't be the most important factor.

Option (b) can be ruled out because in the second sentence of the passage itself the author uses "very greatly" for 'the ties of the people to their environment' whereas in the option it's "very little".

Portion 4 if true will surely be precluding the arguments which the author said whereas option (c) is relating to what the author says in the last paragraph of the passage, where he tried to relate patriotism to the affiliation to a darker topophilia.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

3. This can be solved by knowing what the author wants to say by the particular sentence or by just negating the options. The options (a), (c) and (d) are not correlated to the illustration of the sentence even at the first sight thus; they are not the correct option.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

4. The answer can be derived by reading the complete sentence, which indicates that different people have different affinity.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

5. Option (b) goes out on the grounds that there least fondness for the place.

Option (c) goes out in light of the fact that topophilia will bring patriotism.

Option (d) is surely out of the context therefore can easily be neglected to be the right answer.

Option (a). The author in the very first sentence of the passage says Topophilia is the affective bond between people and place. Then in the last paragraph he connotes patriotism to topophilia.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

6. Folk tradition means the common belief, customs and other cultural elements of an ethnic or social group that are rooted in the past, but are persisting into the present. Thus diversity within British folk tradition means a wide variety in folk which is strongly because of its root to the past. Therefore option (b), (c) and (d) are clearly the causes of diversity.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

7. The author in the second paragraph said "But there is tension in newness. In the late 1960s, purists were suspicious of folk songs recast in rock idioms. Electrification, however, comes in many forms." which is contradicting to the option (b), i.e., option (b) cannot be inferred from the passage.

Option (a) can be inferred because the author did mention that "purists were suspicious of folk songs recast in rock idioms" which shows that it wasn't entirely free from critique.

Option (c) can be inferred from the sentence "starting in the 40s, the vital spark was communism's dream of a post-revolutionary New Jerusalem. For their younger successors in the 60s, who thronged the folk clubs set up by the old guard, the lyrical freedom of

Dylan and the unchained melodies of psychedelia created the conditions for folk-rock's own golden age."

Option (d) can be inferred because author in the passage said that "Cecil Sharp, who wrote about this subject, believed that folk songs existed in constant transformation..." which indicates adaptation.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

8. By using the word fossilised in "may often appear a cosy, fossilised form" the author is relating folk with past, thus only option (d) can be related to the above phrase.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

9. The author in the sentence "Just as the effusive floral prints of the radical William Morris now cover genteel sofas" means to say that William Morris Floral prints which were once unbalanced or radical but they are now accepted as they cover the genteel sofa, to show that what is once regarded as radical in folk, can later be seen as conformist.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

10. Directly over the passage the author acknowledges how folk forms have been utilized by present day performers and its fusion with different types of music.

Option (a) is likely to be agreed by the author because it indicates the ability of folk to influence.

Option (b) is likely to be agreed by the author because it talks about the relevancy of folk from yesteryears till present,

Option (d) is in support of the author's view thus the author will surely agree to this.

The author is most likely disagreeing with option (c) because of the use of word homogeneity.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

11. The author in the example of Casper and Glossier states that "Casper which was into mattresses has expanded into bedroom furniture and bed linens whereas, Glossier, after years of marketing itself as no-makeup, makeup that requires little skill to apply, recently launched a full line of glittering color cosmetics." This best sum up to option (b).

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

12. The author says "For a relatively new class of consumer-products start-ups, there's another method entirely. Instead of making sense of a sea of existing stuff, these companies claim to disrupt stuff as Americans know it. Casper (mattresses), Glossier (makeup), Away (suitcases), and many others have sprouted up to offer consumers freedom from choice: The companies have a few aesthetically pleasing and supposedly highly functional options, usually at mid-range prices." Thus it indicates that the author is recommending the new brands to enter market with lesser options and mid-range price.

Therefore, the product plan mentioned in option (b) is most likely to be suggested by the author.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

13. Clearly option (c) cannot be inferred from the above passage, whereas all other three options can be inferred.

"Choice fatigue is one reason so many people gravitate toward lifestyle influencers on Instagram....." from this option (d) can be inferred.

Option (a) and (c) can be inferred from the solution 12 explanation stated above and also from "Research has consistently held that people who are presented with a few options make better, easier decisions than those presented with many...."

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

14. "Choice fatigue is one reason so many people gravitate toward lifestyle influencers on Instagram....." therefore option (d) would weaken the authors claim. Similarly, option (a) and (c) will also weaken authors claim because they both talk about the giving wide range of products option to the customers, whereas only option (b) is in support with authors claim therefore, apart from option (b) all other options if true would weaken the claim of author.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

15. The author towards the end of the passage expects that the new ventures will have the pressure to achieve the monetary growth and for that purpose they too will start offering larger number of products base to customers to choose from.

Option (a) would add depth to the authors expectation, thus can be omitted from being the right choice.

Option (b) would add depth to the author's expectation, as it states that the start-ups with few product options are no exception, and thus lacks uniqueness.

"For start-ups that promise accessible simplicity, their very structure still might eventually push them toward overwhelming variety." Thus, out of the available options, only option (c) would lead to least depth to the prediction of the fate of the startups.

Option (d) likewise adding depth to author's expectation predicts that new companies are probably going to come up short.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

16. Let us first consider the options which contribute to the authors claim.

Option (a) does contribute as it is in the passage "Diyab wrote something of his own: a travelogue penned in the mid-18th century. In it, he recalls telling Galland the story of Aladdin [and] describes his own hard-knocks upbringing and the way he marveled

at the extravagance of Versailles” which infers that Diyab is the author.

Option (b) does contribute as in the passage it is stated that “Diyab’s memoir reveals a narrator adept at capturing the distinctive psychology of a young protagonist, as well as recognizing the kinds of injustices and opportunities that can transform the path of any youthful adventurer” which confirms Diyab’s narrative sensibility.

Option (d) does contribute “Galland, who wrote in his diary that he first heard the tale from a Syrian storyteller from Aleppo named Hanna Diyab” which indicates that Diyab could well be the author.

Option (c) does not contribute as the author contradicts the tales of Aladdin to be French fairy tales.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

17. The main point which the author of the passage is trying to content is that Diyab might be the author of the tales of Aladdin,

Option (a) is in support of Diyab to be the author which can be taken from these lines from the passage itself “scholars now think the main character may actually be based on a real person’s real experiences. . . .” and also “Diyab wrote something of his own: a travelogue penned in the mid-18th century. In it, he recalls telling Galland the story of Aladdin [and] describes his own hard-knocks upbringing and the way he marveled at the extravagance of Versailles. The descriptions he uses were very similar to the descriptions of the lavish palace that ended up in Galland’s version of the Aladdin story”.

Option (b) says about the tale to be taken from incomplete medieval manuscript, which contradicts to the contention of author, therefore is not the right answer.

Option (c) is also not right answer as its claim of origin is similar to the option (b).

Option (d) gives the total credit of authorship to Galland which contradicts the contention of the author of the passage.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

18. The last paragraph of the passage “To the scholars who study the tale, its narrative drama isn’t the only reason storytellers keep finding reason to return to Aladdin”. It reflects not only “a history of the French and the Middle East, but also [a story about] Middle Easterners coming to Paris and that speaks to our world today,” as Horta puts it.” gives the indication to the right answer.

Just by having a look at the above mentioned sentences in passage we can easily mark option (b) as the choice.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

19. Option (a) serves as evidence from the sentences. According to Horta, “Diyab was ideally placed to embody the overlapping world of East and West,

blending the storytelling traditions of his homeland with his youthful observations of the wonder of 18th-century France.”and “Aladdin might be the young Arab Maronite from Aleppo, marveling at the jewels and riches of Versailles.”

Option (b) serve as evidence that Diyab might be the author from the sentence “Diyab wrote something of his own: a travelogue penned in the mid-18th century. In it, he recalls telling Galland the story of Aladdin [and] describes his own hard-knocks upbringing and the way he marveled at the extravagance of Versailles”

Option (c) does not serve as the evidence that Diyab might be the author because he may have heard the tales of Arabian Nights from someone else thus someone else might have been the actual person behind the character of Aladdin.

Option (d) serves as evidence from the same sentences as mentioned in option (a) above.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

20. The use of the phrase “flip the script” in the sentence “The idea that Diyab might have based it on his own life — the experiences of a Middle Eastern man encountering the French, not vice-versa — flips the script” is to counter that the character of Aladdin in tales of Arabian Nights is inspired from the French Fairy Tales. Or in other words it implies that Diyab might be the actual author of the character of Aladdin.

Option (a) does suggests that Galland is giving credit to Diyab, thus it supports the inversion

Option (b) does support the inversion as Diyab has seen the lavishness of France instead of Versailles.

Option (c) does supports the inversion as it point out the difference in the French fairy tales of that era to that of the character of Aladdin.

Option (d) will surely contradict the inversion, if it is true then will create a doubt of Diyab to b author.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

21. The solution to this problem can be taken from the sentence “As the cold Antarctic air cycles around their bodies, slightly warmer air comes into contact with the plumage and donates minute amounts of heat back to the penguins, then cycles away at a slightly colder temperature”

Option (a) says about the air inside the plumage whereas the sentence is with reference to air outside the plumage therefore this can’t be the desired answer.

Option (c) also talks about air inside the plumage therefore this also can’t be the desired answer.

Option (d) goes out of contention because cold Antarctic wave is already warmer then the air outside the plumage.

Thus we are left with only one option, i.e., option (b).

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

22. The use of the word “paradoxically” in the passage is in the sentence “The scientists also used a computer simulation to determine how much heat was lost or gained from each part of the body—and discovered that by keeping their outer surface below air temperature, the birds might paradoxically be able to draw very slight amounts of heat from the air around them.” Thus the author has taken the outer surface temperature as the paradox in the above sentence. Therefore the right answer should also be regarding the same paradox, and only option (a) fits to such similar paradox as related in the sentence.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

23. Considering the options separately:

Option (a) (Reproduction process) The sentence “At the very least, the method by which a penguin’s plumage wicks heat from the bitterly cold air that surrounds it helps to cancel out some of the heat that’s radiating from its interior. And given the Emperors’ unusually demanding breeding cycle, every bit of warmth counts. . . .” in the passage indicates that reproduction process results in heat loss.

Option (b) (Thermal convection) The sentence “The penguins, though, have an additional strategy. Since their outer plumage is even colder than the air, the simulation showed that they might gain back a little of this heat through thermal convection” in the passage suggests that thermal convection results in heat gain.

Option (c) (Food Metabolism) The sentence “To maintain body temperature while losing heat, penguins, like all warm-blooded animals, rely on the metabolism of food” in the passage suggests that metabolism is used to gain heat.

Option (d) (plumage) the crux of the whole passage is that plumage is used for maintaining body heat, thus this option is ruled out.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

24. The passage says that “the surface of their warmest body part, their feet, was an average 1.76 degrees Fahrenheit, but the plumage on their heads, chests and backs were -1.84, -7.24 and -9.76 degrees Fahrenheit respectively” thus option (a) is weakening the author’s finding.

The passage says that “the surface of their warmest body part, their feet, was an average 1.76 degrees Fahrenheit,” thus option (b) is not weakening the author’s finding.

Option (c) says that plumage is warmer than the outer Antarctic air which is vice versa to the author’s finding thus will weaken the same.

Option (d) weakens the statement “the simulation showed that they might gain back a little of this heat through thermal convection” of the passage, hence is ruled out.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

CAT 2019 (EVENING SLOT)

1. Option (a) and (c) can be inferred from the last paragraph of the passage {“The nationally subsidised city of Manaus in northern Brazil “answers the question” of how to stop deforestation: give people decent jobs. Then they can afford houses, and gain security. One hundred thousand people who would otherwise be deforesting the jungle around Manaus are now prospering in town”}. Therefore option (a) and (c) can be eliminated.

Option (d) can be inferred from the last paragraph of the passage “They are transformative: in the slums, as well as the office towers and leafy suburbs, the progress is from hick to metropolitan to cosmopolitan”. Therefore option (d) can be eliminated.

Option (b) cannot be inferred even though it might seem to be correct because we have to consider only what the author has written in the passage and there is nothing in the passage relating to sub urban areas therefore option (b) cannot be inferred from the passage.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

2. We have to confine the answer to those options which undermine the author’s stand regarding ‘greenness of cities’.

Option (a) speaks about ‘incidences of violent crime’ which is not at all related to greenness, therefore this can be eliminated.

Option (b) speaks about ‘increase in carbon dioxide and global warming’ this option counter the author’s stand regarding greenness. Therefore this is the right option.

Option (c) speaks about ‘cost of utilities’ which is not in relation to the greenness, therefore this can be eliminated.

Option (d) is not at all undermining the idea of greenness therefore this also can be eliminated.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

3. The phrase ‘still jars’ is used in the passage as: {In his 1985 article, Calthorpe made a statement that still jars with most people: “The city is the most environmentally benign form of human settlement. Each city dweller consumes less land, less energy, less water, and produces less pollution than his counterpart in settlements of lower densities.”}

This means that the people’s opinion should be just contrary to that of Calthorpe.

Option (a) is non-specific enough and people's opinion is not promptly taken into consideration in it. Therefore it can be eliminated.

Option (b) can be eliminated only on the ground that Calthrope's opinion as mentioned in the passage didn't say anything about crowdedness.

Option (c) can be eliminated as 'crime and diseases' can't find any place in Calthrope's view.

Opinion (d) is right answer as Calthrope does consider cities to be 'environmentally benign form of human settlement' and people's opinion is contrary to it.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

4. This can be answered by taking into consideration the line "The nationally subsidised city of Manaus in northern Brazil "answers the question" of how to stop deforestation: give people decent jobs" used in the passage which indicates that giving jobs to people will eventually stop deforestation as a result of which the environment will be helped.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

5. This can be answered accurately by sound know-how from day to day life and choosing the one which has least effect on environment.

Recycling and use of energy efficient mode of transportation as pointed out in option (a) and (b) will surely help in maintaining the environment eco-friendly.

Also sorting the garbage will help more than keeping the streets clean.

Therefore option (d) is the right answer as it has the least impact on eco-friendly environment.

6. Option (b) is supports the argument, this can be traced from the last paragraph of the passage "Theoretically, because modernity was externally introduced, it is explanatorily unhelpful to apply the logical format of the 'transition process' to this pattern of change." and "What happened was the creation of a degenerate version of capitalism —what early dependency theorists called the 'development of underdevelopment'."

Option (c) supports the argument and this can be traced from the first paragraph of the passage "and would do the same in India, particularly as some empirically inclined theorists of that generation considered the colonies a massive laboratory of utilitarian or other theoretical experiments."

Option (d) support the argument as the author himself stated in paragraph "Such a logical format would be wrong on two counts. First, however subtly, it would imply that what was proposed to be built was something like European capitalism. (And, in any case, historians have forcefully argued that what it was to replace was not like feudalism, with or without modificatory adjectives.)"

Option (a) does not support the argument in the passage as the resistance to modernity in Indian society came after the change in policy and not the case as mentioned in option (a).

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

7. Option (a) can be inferred from the sentence: "British colonial policy . . . went through two policy phases, or at least there were two strategies between which its policies actually oscillated, sometimes to its great advantage."

Option (c) can be inferred from the sentence: "It had restructured everything in Europe—the productive system, the political regimes, the moral and cognitive orders—and would do the same in India, particularly as some empirically inclined theorists of that generation considered the colonies a massive laboratory of utilitarian or other theoretical experiments"

Option (d) can be inferred from the sentence: "For, whatever their sense of the strangeness of the country and the thinness of colonial presence, the British colonial state represented the great conquering discourse of Enlightenment rationalism, entering India precisely at the moment of its greatest unchecked arrogance."

Option (b) cannot be inferred because even though resistance is faced but existing structural forms of Indian modernity is not the reason for resistance. This can be confirmed from the sentence in the passage "it began to take initiatives to introduce the logic of modernity into Indian society. But this modernity did not enter a passive society. Sometimes, its initiatives were resisted by pre-existing structural forms."

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

8. If we can figure out the meaning of marginalized used in the sentence then we can capture the sense of the statement. Marginalize means to treat a person, group, or concept as insignificant. Only option (d) captures the right meaning of word marginalize as used in the sentence.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

9. If we know the meaning of endogenous used in the sentence "the logical structure of endogenous change does not apply here. Here transformation agendas attack as an external force" then we can find the valid conclusion. Here the word endogenous means confined within a group or society. Only option (d) is the valid conclusion as it fits with the meaning of endogenous stated in the sentence.

10. This can be answered just by considering the starting and end of the passage. The passage begins with "British colonial policy..." and ends with 'development of underdevelopment'. Only option (d) and (a) starts with the sequence 'colonial policy' therefore option (b) and (c) can be eliminated. Moreover option (a) ends with development and option (d) ends with underdevelopment. Therefore option (a) can also be eliminated.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

11. One has to mark the option that is not the reason for “Relocating government agencies has not always been a success”. The option which is the reason for the author’s idea can be eliminated.

Option (a) and (b) can be eliminated as they are mentioned in the passage “Attrition rates can exceed 80%..” and “Pick small, poor towns, and areas of high unemployment get new jobs, but it is hard to attract the most qualified workers” which speaks about both staff losses and difficulty of attracting talents.

Option (c) can be eliminated as it is also mentioned in the passage “that decentralisation begets corruption by making government agencies less accountable. . . . A study in America found that state-government corruption is worse when the state capital is isolated.”

Option (d) is not dealt with anywhere in the passage therefore it is not the reason.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

12. This can be answered from the following sentence from the passage “In the post-colonial fervour of the 20th century, coastal capitals picked by trade-focused empires were spurned for “regionally neutral” new ones” which indicates that colonial power located their capitals for trading interests.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

13. This can be answered based on the vocabulary strength. Pedigree means the history of an idea or activity.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

14. This is based on the last paragraph of the passage “The dilemma is obvious. Pick small, poor towns, and areas of high unemployment get new jobs, but it is hard to attract the most qualified workers; opt for larger cities with infrastructure and better-qualified residents, and the country’s most deprived areas see little benefit....” it suggests that the dilemma is either to pick small poor town or larger cities.

Option (a) speaks about either to pick ‘remote areas with poor amenities’ or ‘relatively larger cities with good amenities’.

Option (b) speaks about “keeping government agencies in the largest city” which is not the dilemma; hence this option can be eliminated.

Option (c) doesn’t even focus on the ‘dilemma’ mentioned in the passage therefore can be eliminated.

Option (d) speaks about ‘encouraging private enterprises’ whereas the dilemma is about government agencies therefore can be eliminated.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

15. In order to find the right answer, the options which support decentralization can be eliminated.

Option (a) can be eliminated by considering the sentence “The second reason to pack bureaucrats off is to save money. Office space costs far more in capitals...

Agencies that are moved elsewhere can often recruit better workers on lower salaries than in capitals,” from the passage, which indicates that option (a) supports decentralization.

Option (b) and (c) can be eliminated by considering the sentences “Wonks in the sticks will be inspired by new ideas that walled-off capitals cannot conjure up. Autonomous regulators perform best far from the pressure and lobbying of the big city” from the passage, indicating that option (b) and (c) supports decentralization.

Option (d) is not the reason which supports decentralization considering the passage.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

16. The context in which the word ‘Orientalism’ is used must be taken in account to find the answer. The term is used within the sense of identity linguistics. The author by the sentence “And sometimes it’s healthy to consider human characteristics that are not inborn, rigid, and outwardly defined. After all, you can always learn another language and change who you are” desire to mention that language can break all the barriers related to culture and origin thus option (b) is the right answer.

Option (a) can be eliminated because author’s purpose to use ‘Orientalism’ is not goodwill.

Option (c) can be eliminated because author’s purpose to use ‘Orientalism’ is not Globalisation.

Option (d) can be eliminated because it considered the meaning of ‘Orientalism’ virtually.

17. The reasons which are responsible for language’s ability to change individual can be eliminated in order to find the right answer.

Option (a) can be eliminated by considering the sentence “And both the Chinese and the Egyptians welcomed me because I spoke their languages”, which implies that they found author as one of them, thus Language’s intrinsic connection to our notions of self and identity is responsible for language’s ability to change individual.

Option (b) can be eliminated by considering the sentence “My identity as a white male was far less important than my ability to communicate”, thus language’s ability to mediate the impact of identity is responsible for its ability to change.

Option (c) is not at all related to the language’s ability to change,

Option (d) can be eliminated by considering the sentence “An individual who wrestles with a difficult language can learn to be more sympathetic to outsiders and open to different experiences of the world. This learning process—the embarrassments, the frustrations, the gradual sense of understanding and connection—is invariably transformative.”

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

18. In order to solve this question we need to know about what the author suggested in the passage. The author believes that having the knowledge of the language will surely break the cultural and identity barrier. Therefore, the author would encourage the French ethnographer, but ask him/her to first learn the language of the Nigerian tribe s/he wishes to study, as then the people of the tribe will consider him/her as one of their own and thus it would be easier for the ethnographer to study the culture of the tribe.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

19. This can be answered by having the knowledge of author's view i.e., knowledge of the language will surely break the cultural and identity barrier. The critics view would be of contradicting nature to that of author's view.

Option (a) supports authors view.

Option (b) is not related to language therefore is out of contention.

Option (c) is contradicting the author's view.

Option (d) does not cover the basic idea of the author and can be eliminated.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

20. Owing copyright actually implies having something. Thompson's view can be implied from the passage "Erin Thompson, a professor of art crime at John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York City, says it's the latest example of a Western nation appropriating a foreign culture, a centuries-long battle. . . . CyArk says it copyrights the scans so no one can use them in an inappropriate way." Thus Thompson's view is that the western nation owned the copyright of a site which is in other nation.

Option (a) speaks about illegal downloading therefore can be eliminated.

Option (b) is akin to the Thompson's view

Option (c) can be eliminated as uploading of photos is not akin to owing the right.

Option (d) can be eliminated as it speaks about capturing user's data.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

21. Watrall's view can be characterized from the passage "says he's not comfortable with the arrangement between CyArk and Google. . . . Watrall says this project is just a way for Google to promote Google. "They want to make this material accessible so people will browse it and be filled with wonder by it," he says. "But at its core, it's all about advertisements and driving traffic." Watrall says these images belong on the site of a museum or educational institution, where there is serious scholarship and a very different mission" from this we can infer that he is against google's

purpose to promote itself by using these copyright scans.

Option (a) can be eliminated because Watrall is not against dismissive of laypeople's access to specialist images of archaeological and cultural sites'

Option (b) can be eliminated because Watrall is not against the use of digital technology.

Option (c) can be eliminated because in the passage google never said about the commercial use of archeological images.

Option (d) is the answer because Watrall says that "it's all about advertisements and driving traffic" which implies that he is being critical about the link s between non-profit and commercial use.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

22. This can be answered by sound judgment based on the perception of the situation and from the points which google and CyArk used.

Option (a) can be eliminated by considering the sentence "Google . . . says [it] doesn't make money off this website, but it fits in with Google's mission to make the world's information available and useful."

Option (b) can be eliminated by considering the sentence "Google is trying to help preserve these archaeological wonders by allowing users access to 3D images of these treasures through its site."

Similarly option (d) can also be eliminated.

Option (c) is the right answer as it speaks about the corporation to project as a protector of culture, whereas the companies that digitally scan the cultural sites are actually the promoters of the sites not the protector.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

23. Watrall's objection can be traced from the passage as "Watrall says these images belong on the site of a museum or educational institution, where there is serious scholarship and a very different mission". If option (a) is true then it would invalidate the Watrall's objection as in that case the images were uploaded on site of a museum i.e., the image belongs to the museum only.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

24. We need to find the meaning of 'digital colonialism' in relation to the passage. The phrase is used in the passage "But the project is raising questions about Google's motivations and about who should own the digital copyrights. Some critics call it a form of 'digital colonialism.' Thus digital colonialism is that the scan copyrights are owned by someone other than the place of the actual site.

Or in other words the country of actual site and the one having the scan copyright are different.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

CAT 2018 (MORNING SLOT)

1. The claim in option (a) is not dealt with in the passage.

Option (b) can be eliminated as it can be inferred from the passage 'an extreme form of anthropocentric conjecture if the evidence that they've compiled from various elephant researchers'

Option (c) can be eliminated as it can be inferred from the passage 'The elephants of decimated herds, especially orphans who've watched the death of their parents and elders from poaching and culling, exhibit behavior typically associated with post-traumatic stress disorder and other trauma-related disorders in humans.'

Option (d) can be eliminated as it can be inferred from the passage 'Elephants, when left to their own devices, are profoundly social creatures.'

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

2. The overall argument of this passage is to find the reasons for dramatic change in relationship between elephants and people.

Option (a) best expresses the overall argument as it covers the reason for the change in behaviour of elephant towards human.

Option (b) though discussed in the passage is not the main argument of the passage and hence can be eliminated.

Option (c) can be eliminated as though it says that the relationship between elephants and humans has changed but it does not state the reason for that.

Option (d) is not the main argument in the passage and hence be eliminated.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

3. The best method for the eradication of elephant aggression needs to be picked.

Option (a) speaks about 'the impact of testosterone on elephant aggression' this can help in understanding the reason but not the cure for the problem, therefore can be neglected.

Option (b) speaks 'insights gained from treating post-traumatic stress disorder in humans' and also the elephants have the same traumatic stress disorder as human, therefore will certainly help in curing the problem of elephants aggression.

Option (c) can be eliminated as it didn't solve the purpose.

Similarly option (d) can also be eliminated as it will not lead to cure of the problem.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

4. The phrase is used in the sentence 'This fabric of elephant society, Bradshaw and her colleagues [demonstrate], has effectively been frayed by years of habitat

loss and poaching, along with systematic culling by government agencies to control elephant numbers and translocations of herds to different habitats.' This is used in the comparison with fabric which is frayed by the human activity on elephant society.

Option (a) can be eliminated as it is not the reason for the current scenario.

Option (b) correctly describes the main idea of the phrase.

Option (c) can be eliminated as it did not solve the author's purpose.

Option (d) can be eliminated as it is not effectively communicating the essence in which the phrase is used.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

5. The author clearly states the reason for the use of the word 'violence' in the sentence "...because of the intentionality associated with it, both in the aggression of humans and, at times, the recently observed behavior of elephants" which clearly indicates that there is a purpose behind the aggression.

Option (a) is the right reason for the use of the term 'violence'.

Option (b) can be eliminated as there is nothing in the passage which supports 'systematic destruction' by humans.

Option (c) can be eliminated as it is not the reason for the 'violence'.

Option (d) can be eliminated as author's focus is on aggression and aggression may not be equivalent to 'killing'.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

6. The meaning of the phrase can be traced from the sentences 'The lie is that blame for the plastic problem is wasteful consumers and that changing our individual habits will fix it' and 'Recycling plastic is to saving the Earth what hammering a nail is to halting a falling skyscraper' which means that neither 'changing the habit of consumers' nor 'recycling plastic' can take care of the problem of plastic pollution.

Option (c) best captures the meaning in which the phrase is used.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

7. The author used the word 'lie' in the sentence 'The lie is that blame for the plastic problem is wasteful consumers and that changing our individual habits will fix it'. the sentence itself is self-explanatory as is stated in the sentence itself.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

8. The passage states all the negative effects of the use of plastic except that of air pollution.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

9. The answer to this problem can be inferred from the second last sentence of the passage which says that ‘Our huge problem with plastic is the result of a permissive legal framework that has allowed the uncontrolled rise of plastic pollution, despite clear evidence of the harm it causes to local communities and the world’s oceans’. Thus it can be inferred that by putting a legal check on the producers of the plastic we could be able to minimise the problem of plastic pollution.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

10. The answer to the problem can be inferred from the sentence ‘At face value, these efforts seem benevolent, but they obscure the real problem, which is the role that corporate polluters play in the plastic problem. This clever misdirection has led journalist and author Heather Rogers to describe Keep America Beautiful as the first corporate greenwashing front, as it has helped shift the public focus to consumer recycling behavior and actively thwarted legislation’. From the statement we can infer that it successfully diverted the attention from the actual culprit (corporate polluters).

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

11. The answer to this problem can be derived from the sentence ‘Since the 1970s, depression has come to be viewed as a cognitive or neurological defect in the individual, and never a consequence of circumstances. All of this simply escalates the sense of responsibility each of us feels for our own feelings, and with it, the sense of failure when things go badly. A society that deliberately removed certain sources of misery, such as precarious and exploitative employment, may well be a happier one.’ This means that prior then 1970 depression was viewed as a consequence of circumstances. And later this perception changed that depression is because of the cognitive and neurological defect, thus the escalation of feel for own feelings resulting in increased stress level to be happy.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

12. We have to choose the option that will weaken the author’s argument. The author’s view can be simply inferred from the sentences ‘As the science grows more sophisticated and technologies become more intimate with our thoughts and bodies, a clear trend is emerging. Where happiness indicators were once used as a basis to reform society, challenging the obsession with money that G.D.P. measurement entrenches, they are increasingly used as a basis to transform or discipline individuals.’

Option (a), (b) and (c) can be eliminated as they can be inferred from the author’s view stated above.

Option (d) claims that ‘stakeholders globally are moving away from collecting data...’ if it is to be true then it will be against the author’s view that ‘happiness

indicators are increasingly used as a basis to transform or discipline individuals’.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

13. The answer can be derived from the statement ‘Cities such as Dubai, which has pledged to become the “happiest city in the world,” dream up ever-more elaborate and intrusive ways of collecting data on well-being — to the point where there is now talk of using CCTV cameras to monitor facial expressions in public spaces.’

Option (a) is the right answer and can be inferred from the above mentioned sentence.

Option (b) and (c) cannot be inferred therefore can be eliminated.

It is stated that Dubai pledged to become the ‘happiest city in the world’ from which we can infer that it wishes to be the happiest city but we cannot infer that it is on its way to becoming one of the happiest city.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

14. The answer can be derived from the sentence ‘Wearable technologies, such as Spire, offer data-driven advice on how to reduce stress’ which means that they are ‘helping the individual in reducing the stress level’ or we can in other words that they are ‘disciplining individuals to be happy.’

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

15. The answer can be derived from the introduction of the passage itself which states that ‘Economists have spent most of the 20th century ignoring psychology, positive or otherwise. But today there is a great deal of emphasis on how happiness can shape global economies.’

This implies that economists need to subsume psychological findings in their research.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

16. The answer can be derived from the sentence ‘A mouse should not be born with something its parents have learned during their lifetimes,’ which means the mouse should not have inherited acquired characteristics. Therefore option (b) is the answer. We eliminated option (d) because fear is just the example of one of the several characteristics that may be acquired from the parents as the experiment of smell of almond suggests.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

17. The author’s argument is that both Darwin’s theory of natural selection and Mendel’s theory of genetics together explains the evolutionary biology. This argument can be inferred from the sentences ‘Modern evolutionary biology dates back to a synthesis that emerged around the 1940s-60s, which married Charles Darwin’s mechanism of natural selection with Gregor Mendel’s discoveries of how genes are inher-

ited. The traditional, and still dominant, view is that adaptations – from the human brain to the peacock’s tail – are fully and satisfactorily explained by natural selection (and subsequent inheritance). Yet [new evidence] from genomics, epigenetics and developmental biology [indicates] that evolution is more complex than we once assumed. . . .” thus option (a) is the right answer. The other options cannot be traced in the whole passage, therefore can be eliminated.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

18. We need to know the main message of the passage in order to answer this. The main message of the passage is ‘natural selection and genetics is not sufficient for inheritance, there is lot more scope, which can be traced from the sentence “All these tugs represent the influence of developmental factors, including epigenetics, antibodies and hormones passed on by parents, as well as the ecological legacies and culture they bequeath. . . .”

Thus ‘a study affirming the sole influence of natural selection and inheritance on evolution’ will surely negate the main message of the passage.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

19. The answer can be inferred from the sentence ‘All these tugs represent the influence of developmental factors, including epigenetics, antibodies and hormones passed on by parents, as well as the ecological legacies and culture they bequeath. . . .’

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

20. The answer can be inferred from the sentence ‘Between the old imperialist memorial and the proposed nationalist one, India’s contribution to the Second World War is airbrushed out of existence’ it can be inferred that the India’s contribution to the Second World War has been ignored or its evidence has been removed from history.’ Or in other words ‘there is no recognition of the Indian soldiers who served in the Second World War’

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

21. The meaning of mood music is ‘recorded **music** played in the background in a place to establish a **mood** of relaxation, calm, etc’

The word mood music is used in the passage ‘Rather, it accurately reflected the fact that both academic history and popular memory have yet to come to terms with India’s Second World War, which continues to be seen as little more than mood music in the drama of India’s advance towards independence and partition in 1947’ which suggests that ‘mood music’ is used to indicate that Second World War is viewed as a backdrop to the subsequent independence and partition of the region.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

22. Option (a) can be eliminated as it is stated in the sentence “the Second World War played a crucial role in both the independence and partition of India. . . .”

Option (b) can be eliminated as it is stated in the sentence “India emerged as a major military-industrial and logistical base for Allied operations in south-east Asia and the Middle East. This led the United States to take considerable interest in the country’s future”

Option (c) can be eliminated as it is stated in the sentence “with the Bengal famine the most extreme manifestation of widespread wartime deprivation. The costs on India’s home front must be counted in millions of lives.”

Option (d) is the answer as it is not the case as stated in the option rather it is the reverse of that.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

23. The answer to this problem is simple enough as it is directly stated in the passage “The Indian government’s conception of the war memorial was not merely absent-minded. Rather, it accurately reflected the fact that both academic history and popular memory have yet to come to terms with India’s Second World War”.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

24. The answer can be inferred from the statement “With partition and the onset of the India-Pakistan rivalry, both of the new nations needed fresh stories for self-legitimation rather than focusing on shared wartime experiences” which implies that both the nations (India and Pakistan) focus was to establish themselves as independent legal identity.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

CAT 2018 (EVENING SLOT)

1. The correct answer can be answered if we know the main argument of the author. The authors primary concern is on diversity and he is against the uniformity. Also that it is next to impossible to select the best expert, moreover there is no such test according to the author. Thus the possible answer can be either option (a) and (c).

Option (c) can be eliminated because the author is not concerned about the time taken to arrive a solution of the problem.

Option (a) is the right answer because the multidisciplinary knowledge possessed by top-scorers then it will surely certainly weaken the author’s argument.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

2. Option (a) speaks about ‘ideal team’ but its traces can’t be found in the passage. Therefore author didn’t critiques meritocracy in option (a).

Option (b) can be perceived from the sentence “The multidimensional or layered character of complex problems also undermines the principle of meritocracy: the idea that the ‘best person’ should be hired” in the passage.

Option (c) can be perceived from the sentence “Even with a knowledge domain, no test or criteria applied to individuals will produce the best team.”

Option (d) can be perceived from the sentence “Believers in a meritocracy might grant that teams ought to be diverse but then argue that meritocratic principles should apply within each category.”

Different dimensions of the meritocracy are touched by the author in the options provided apart from option (a).

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

3. This is easy question as the efficacy of the decision forest can be traced from the sentence “Programmers achieve that diversity by training each tree on different data, a technique known as bagging. They also boost the forest ‘cognitively’ by training trees on the hardest cases – those that the current forest gets wrong. This ensures even more diversity and accurate forests.”

Thus option (a) is the best condition which would weaken the efficacy of a random decision forest.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

4. The major focus of the author is on diversity, and also that it is next to impossible to select the best expert, moreover there is no such test according to the author.

Option (a) can be eliminated because it says that ‘a team comprised of nutritionists, psychologists, urban planners and media personnel, who have each scored a distinction in their respective subject tests’; but there is no such test to choose the best expert.

Option (b) is the right team to solve the problem of rising obesity level as it says that ‘A team comprised of nutritionists, psychologists, urban planners and media personnel, who have each performed well in their respective subject tests.’ It covers both the point of focus of the author.

Option (c) and 4 misses the diversity therefore can be eliminated.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

5. The author used the example of neuroscience to describe that every domain is vast and it is impossible to assess the merit. This can be concluded from the sentences used in the passage which are linked with the example of neuroscience “Even with a knowledge domain, no test or criteria applied to individuals will produce the best team. Each of these domains pos-

sesses such depth and breadth, that no test can exist. Consider the field of neuroscience.”

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

6. The author’s argument can be inferred from the passage “Previously, some had speculated that the strange distributions of creatures such as the white-lipped grove snails could be explained by convergent evolution—in which two populations evolve the same trait by coincidence — but the underlying genetic similarities between the two groups rules that out.”

Thus the same idea cannot be taken as the explanation for the snail’s sea travel.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

7. By these types of snails used in the statement “humans routinely ate these types of snails before the advent of agriculture” the author means ‘white-lipped grove snails’ which are found only in Spain and Ireland. The passage is focused only on these snails and their existence on only these two nations. The author’s conclusion on ‘white-lipped grove snails’ can be traced in the last paragraph “The simplest explanation, then? Boats. These snails may have inadvertently traveled on the floor of the small, coast-hugging skiffs these early humans used for travel, or they may have been intentionally carried to Ireland by the seafarers as a food source.” Then option (c) can be concluded on this basis.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

8. From the passage “Previously, some had speculated that the strange distributions of creatures such as the white-lipped grove snails could be explained by convergent evolution—in which two populations evolve the same trait by coincidence—but the underlying genetic similarities between the two groups rules that out” the author ruled out the theory of convergent evolution and also the genetic similarities will rule out genetic variation.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

9. ‘Several hypotheses’ means the hypothesis regarding to find the reason for the presence of white-lipped grove snails in only two places.

Option (a) can be eliminated because there is no evidence of independent evolution of the white-lipped grove snails in the passage.

Option (b) can be eliminated because there is only one hypothesis for the migration theory in the passage “These snails may have inadvertently traveled on the floor of the small, coast-hugging skiffs these early humans used for travel, or they may have been intentionally carried to Ireland by the seafarers as a food source” and the question is related to several hypotheses.

Option (c) is the right choice as many hypotheses revolve around this option only.

Option (d) can be eliminated because 'wiped out' has not been discussed in the passage.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

10. The examples of police officer and the surgeon have been cited to convey that unacceptable behavior might result from metrics-fixation and can be clearly seen from the passage "If the rate of major crimes in a district becomes the metric according to which police officers are promoted, then some officers will respond by simply not recording crimes or downgrading them from major offences to misdemeanours. Or take the case of surgeons. When the metrics of success and failure are made public – affecting their reputation and income – some surgeons will improve their metric scores by refusing to operate on patients with more complex problems, whose surgical outcomes are more likely to be negative."

Option (a) can be eliminated as it is in supporting of metrics fixation.

Option (b) is the right answer, as it supports the author's point of view which he tries to explain by giving the examples of police officers and surgeon.

Option (c) can be eliminated because it is against the author's point of view.

Option (d) can be eliminated as it narrows the point of view of the author by considering 'critical public roles' only whereas author speaks about roles in general.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

11. The author speaks of the defects in the metric based reward system. The major flaws as discussed in the passage "These include goal displacement, which comes in many varieties: when performance is judged by a few measures, and the stakes are high (keeping one's job, getting a pay rise or raising the stock price at the time that stock options are vested), people focus on satisfying those measures—often at the expense of other, more important organisational goals that are not measured."

"In short, advancing short-term goals at the expense of long-range considerations."

Option (a) is not the consequence of 'metric-fixation' phenomenon.

Option (b) can be eliminated as it is discussed in the passage by giving examples of police officers and surgeon.

Option (c) and 4 can be eliminated as they both are discussed in the passage.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

12. Option (a), will add to the reason "why metrics fixation is becoming popular despite its drawbacks." It will support author's argument. Therefore can be eliminated

Option (b) will add least support to the authors argument as the examples and police offices and surgeon have already been discussed in the passage of the consequences of employees and professionals gaming metrics-based performance measurement systems.

Option (c) can be eliminated as it is not discussed and will add to the reason in support of author's argument. Similarly Option (d) can also be eliminated.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

13. The feature of NO Child Left Behind Act can be implied from the sentence of the passage "The best-known example is 'teaching to the test', a widespread phenomenon that has distorted primary and secondary education in the United States since the adoption of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001." (which shows the negative consequences of metric based reward system)

Therefore we have to choose the option which is not metrics-based performance measurement systems.

Option (a) can be eliminated as 'test-scores' is a metrics-based performance measurement system.

Option (b) can be eliminated as 'test taking skills are given priority on the problem solving and higher order thinking' is a metrics-based performance measurement system.

Option (c) can be eliminated as 'funding is based on improvement shown in tests' is a metrics-based performance measurement system.

Option (d) is not metrics-based performance measurement system.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

14. The main idea of the author is 'the drawbacks of metric-fixation'.

Option (a) can be eliminated as 'all kinds of organisations' is not the idea of the author.

Option (b) speaks about the comparison between long term organizational goals and short term measures for organisational success, therefore can be eliminated.

Option (c) can be eliminated as it is not the main idea.

Option (d) is the answer as it speaks of 'Evaluating performance by using measurable performance metrics (metric-fixation) may misguide organisational goal achievement (drawback of metric-fixation)'.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

15. The assumption is that the big things in the solar system have been around since the beginning, this can be cited from the sentence in the passage "By and large the big things in the solar system—planets and moons—are thought of as having been around since the beginning." "the rings are no older than the first dinosaurs, nor younger than the last of them—that is, they are somewhere between 200m and 70m years old."

Throughout the passage, this assumption is challenged and can be cited from the passage.

‘One reason for thinking Saturn’s rings are young is that they are bright’.

‘The rings are no older than the first dinosaurs, nor younger than the last of them—that is, they are somewhere between 200m and 70m years old.’

‘At around the same time as the rings came into being an old set of moons orbiting Saturn destroyed themselves, and from their remains emerged not only the rings but also the planet’s current suite of inner moons.’

‘Dione and Tethys were simply not there. They must have come into being later. . . .’

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

16. The main objective of the passage is that Saturn rings and moon are recent creations and can be seen from the passage

‘One reason for thinking Saturn’s rings are young is that they are bright’.

‘The rings are no older than the first dinosaurs, nor younger than the last of them—that is, they are somewhere between 200m and 70m years old.’

‘At around the same time as the rings came into being an old set of moons orbiting Saturn destroyed themselves, and from their remains emerged not only the rings but also the planet’s current suite of inner moons.’

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

17. We can infer that, in addition to water ice, Saturn’s rings might also have small amounts of rock particles and comet dust.

This can be inferred from the sentence ‘They suggest that at around the same time as the rings came into being an old set of moons orbiting Saturn destroyed themselves, and from their remains emerged not only the rings but also the planet’s current suite of inner moons’. And since helium is a gas therefore moon (being solid) might be made up of rock particles and comet dust.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

18. The phrase is used in the sentence “Leaving Saturn’s ring system (which Cassini has shown to be more than 90% water ice) out in such a mist is like leaving laundry hanging on a line downwind from a smokestack: it will get dirty.”

This phrase is used to explain how the ringed planet’s ring discolour and darken over time.

This can be inferred from the sentences “One reason for thinking Saturn’s rings are young is that they are bright. The solar system is suffused with comet dust, and comet dust is dark.” just prior from the one having the phrase.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

19. Option (a) can be concluded from the statement “The lighter the rings are, the faster this will happen, for the less mass they contain, the less celestial pollution they can absorb before they start to discolour” therefore can be eliminated.

Option (b) can be concluded from the statement “an old set of moons orbiting Saturn destroyed themselves, and from their remains emerged not only the rings but also the planet’s current suite of inner moons” therefore can be eliminated.

Option (c) cannot be concluded from the passage.

Option (d) can be concluded from the sentence “They discovered that about 100m years ago the orbits of two of them, Tethys and Dione, would have interacted in a way that left the planes in which they orbit markedly tilted. But their orbits are untilted. The obvious, if unsettling, conclusion was that this interaction never happened—and thus that at the time when it should have happened, Dione and Tethys were simply not there. They must have come into being later. . . .”

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

20. The main purpose of the passage is on service enhancement by providing both autonomy and accountability.

Option (a) precisely covers the main purpose of the passage.

Option (b) can be eliminated as the author didn’t ‘examined different strategies’

Option (c) can be eliminated as it did not cover the main purpose of the passage.

Option (d) can be eliminated as the author is not ‘criticizing the government involvement.’

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

21. The title ‘Band-Aids on a Corpse’ is a study title. The inference of the title in the context of the passage can be drawn from the sentence “A recent study examined attempts to increase attendance of Auxiliary Nurse Midwife (ANMs) at clinics in Rajasthan, which involved high-tech time clocks to monitor attendance. The study’s title says it all: Band-Aids on a Corpse... e-governance can be just as bad as any other governance when the real issue is people and their motivation.”

The inference in context of the passage is ‘the electronic monitoring system was a superficial solution to a serious problem’.

Option (a), 3 and 4 deviated from the main context of the passage as they focus on the nurses and clinics; therefore can be eliminated.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

22. The answer can be drawn from the sentence “The answer to successfully providing basic services is to create systems that provide both autonomy and

accountability. In basic education for instance, the answer to poor teaching is not controlling teachers more . . . The key . . . is to hire teachers who want to teach and let them teach,” which means that service can be improved by hiring individuals who are committed towards the job.

Thus we can say that ‘monitoring systems do not improve services that need committed service providers.’

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

23. Option (a) can be eliminated as the author says in the statement “Technology can certainly facilitate this in a variety of ways” which means he is of the view that technology can improve service delivery in education system.

Option (b) can be eliminated as it is discussed in the sentence “This autonomy has to be matched with accountability for results—not just narrowly measured through test scores, but broadly for the quality

of the education they provide.” and is likely to improve the service delivery.

Option (c) can be eliminated as it is discussed in the sentence “The key . . . is to hire teachers who want to teach and let them teach, expressing their professionalism and vocation as a teacher” and is likely to improve the service delivery.

Option (d) is not discussed in the passage.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

24. The main argument of the author is that providing both autonomy and accountability will lead to service enhancement.

Option (a) state that “Empowerment of service providers leads to increased complacency and rigged performance results.” If empowerment will increase complacency then it will be against the main argument of the author.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

CAT 2017 (MORNING SLOT)

1. The passage focus on the maps and the misconceptions about it. this can be inferred from the sentences “Given such a long history of human map-making, it perhaps surprising that is only within the last few hundred years that north has been consistently considered to be at the top.” “Given that each culture has a very different idea of who, or what, they should look upto it’s perhaps not surprising that there is very little consistency in which way early maps pointed.” “It’s tempting to put it down to European explorers like Christopher Columbus and Ferdinand Megellan who were navigating by the North Star. But Brotton argues that these early explorers didn’t think of the world like that at all.”

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

2. Option (a) can be eliminated as it can be seen from the sentence “North was rarely put at the top for the simple fact that north is where darkness comes from,” Option (c) can be eliminated as it can implied from the sentence “Early Islamic maps favoured south at the top because most of the early Muslim cultures were north of Mecca, so they imagined looking up (south) towards it Christian maps from the same era (called Mappa Mundi) put east at the top, towards the Garden of Eden and with Jerusalem in the centre.” Option (d) can be eliminated as it can be inferred from the sentences “In ancient Egyptian times the top of the world was east, the position of sunrise. Christian maps from the same era (called Mappa Mundi) put east at the top.”

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

3. From the sentence “But in Chinese maps, the emperor, who lived in the north of the country was always put at the top of the map, with everyone else, his loyal subjects, looking up towards him.” It is evident that early Chinese maps placed north at the top because they wanted to show respect to the emperor”.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

4. The answer can be inferred from the sentences “When Columbus describes the world it is in accordance with east being at the top,” he says “Columbus says he is going towards paradise, so his mentality is from a medieval mappa mundi.” And “Mappa Mundi put east at the top, towards the Garden of Eden and with Jerusalem in the centre.” This indicates their decision of map is based on the religious reasons.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

5. The answer can be inferred from the concluding sentence of the passage “at the time, no one knows what they are doing and where they are going.”

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

6. Option (a) show the role natural phenomenon and the same can be traced from the sentence “In ancient Egyptian times the top of the world was east, the position of sunrise.” Option (b) can be eliminated as it is based on the location of Mecca as influencing factor. Option (c) can be eliminated as it is based on the location of emperor. Option (d) can be eliminated as it is based on the Garden of Eden and with Jerusalem in the centre.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

7. The answer can be inferred from the sentences “Medical information passed more freely and quickly, diminishing the sway of quacks...The printing press offered the prospect that tyrants would never be able to kill a book or suppress an idea. Nearly every advancement of the written word through new technology has also advanced humankind. By putting the world’s recorded knowledge in the palm of a hand, it revolutionized work, dining, travel and socializing.” This indicates that linking the printing press with internet enabled rapid access to new information and the sharing of new ideas.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

8. Option (a) is eliminated as it can be inferred from the sentence “The printing press offered the prospect that tyrants would never be able to kill a book or suppress an idea.”

Option (b) is eliminated as it can be inferred from the sentence “Medical information passed more freely and quickly, diminishing the sway of quacks...”

Option (c) is eliminated as it can be inferred from the sentence “Before the invention of the printing press it used to take four monks...up to a year to produce a single book. With the advance in movable type in 15th-century Europe, one press could crank out 3,000 pages a day. And later, stirred by pamphlets from a version of that same press”

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

9. The prediction of Steve Jobs can be inferred from the sentence “he said the bound book was probably headed for history’s attic.” This means reading printed books will become a past.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

10. The answer can be inferred from the sentence “The hope of the iPhone, and the Internet in general, was that it would free people in closed societies. But the failure of the Arab Spring, and the continued suppression of ideas in North Korea, China and Iran, has not borne that out.” This indicates the suppression of free speech in closed societies.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

11. The answer can be inferred from the sentence “the printing press opened more minds than anything else...it’s hard to imagine the French or American revolutions without those enlightened voices in print...” Option (b) best sums the author’s intention; whereas option (a), 3 and 4 are nowhere close to the inference.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

12. The conclusion of the passage can be inferred from the sentences “The hope of the iPhone, and the Internet in general, was that it would free people in closed societies. But I’m not sure if the world changed for the better with the iPhone — as it did with the printing press — or merely, changed.” This means that the

iphone and internet are not able to open the minds of people as compared to that by printing press.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

13. The central idea of the passage can be inferred from the sentences “Mall is both workplace and gathering place.” “It was the home of first jobs and blind dates, the place for family photos and ear piercings.” And “Mall was an ecosystem unto itself, a combination of community and commercialism peddling everything you needed.” From these sentences we can infer that malls were used as a gathering place for social interaction.

Moreover from the last sentence of the passage “Malls ...were built for patterns of social interaction that increasingly don’t exist” we can infer that use of malls for social gathering has been lost.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

14. Option (b) is eliminated as it cannot be inferred from the passage. Option (c) is eliminated as it is not stated in the passage. Option (d) is eliminated as the reason for the change in habit is different in the passage. Therefore the sentence is used to highlight the irony of the situation.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

15. The phrase is used in the sentence “This year alone, more than 8,600 stores could close, according to industry estimates, many of them the brand -name anchor outlets that real estate developers once stumbled over themselves to court.” From the sentence we can easily interpret that the phrase suggests that real estate developers collaborated with one another to get brand-name anchor outlets.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

16. The answer can be inferred from the sentence “That mall was an ecosystem unto itself, a combination of community and commercialism peddling everything you needed and everything you didn’t” this implies that mall is both the gathering and commercial place.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

17. The sentences “The mall is both.” suggests that malls are both the gathering place and workplace. The sentence “It was the home of first jobs and blind dates, the place for family photos and ear piercings, where goths and grandmothers could somehow walk through the same doors and find something they all like” suggests that it was a place for everyone to gather and interact. Option (a) is eliminated as it is not stated in the passage. The inference drawn from the sentence “the shopping mall has been where a huge swath of middle-class America went for far more than shopping” clearly eliminate the possibility of option (b). option (c) is eliminated even though it is used in the passage as it is not what the author meant to say.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

18. The answer can be inferred from the sentences “Think of your mall. Or think of the one you went to as a kid. Think of the perfume clouds in the department stores.” These sentences are used to revisit the memory of malls.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

19. The answer can be inferred from the sentences “They also asserted that isolation and gene flow were less important to evolutionary divergence than natural selection (when factors such as mate choice, weather, disease or predation cause better-adapted individuals to survive and pass on their successful genetic traits). For example, Ehrlich and Raven suggested that, without the force of natural selection, an isolated population would remain unchanged and that, in other scenarios, natural selection could be strong enough to overpower gene flow...” thus option C best sums up Ehrlich and Raven’s argument. Option (a) is eliminated as it didn’t give insight about Ehrlich and Raven’s argument. Option (b) is eliminated as it is the facts but not the argument. Similarly option (d) can be eliminated as they were unable to give reason for the same.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

20. Option (a) is eliminated as it can be inferred from the sentence “They also asserted that isolation and gene flow were less important to evolutionary divergence than natural selection” which means that Ehrlich and Raven agrees to the point that gene flow contributes to evolutionary divergence. Option (c) is eliminated as it is favoured by the sentences “they thought it reflected evolutionary changes that unfolded imperceptibly, over millions of years” and “when a population was separated from the rest of the species by a mountain range or a desert, preventing breeding across the divide over geologic scales of time.” Option (d) is eliminated as it is favoured by the sentence “Through years of capturing, marking and then recapturing the butterflies, they were able to prove that within the population, spread over just 50 acres of suitable checkerspot habitat, there were three groups that rarely interacted despite their very close proximity.”

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

21. Option (a) is eliminated as it is not examined in the passage. Option (b) is eliminated as it cannot be

inferred from the passage. Option (d) is eliminated as it cannot be confirmed by the passage. The option (c) is correct as the author discussed Mayr, Ehrlich and Raven to demonstrate different theories of speciation.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

22. Option (a) is eliminated as the sentence “but the lion’s share of this goes to the International Olympics Committee, the National Olympics Committees and the International Sports Federations” does not indicate that the share is divided equally. Option (b) is eliminated as it is not mentioned in first paragraph of the passage. Option (c) is the answer and the same may be inferred from the sentence “The trick is converting... several billion dollars in operating costs during the 17-day fiesta of the Games into a basis for long-term economic returns.” Option (d) is eliminated as it cannot be inferred from first paragraph of the passage.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

23. The answer can be inferred from the sentence “Hosting the summer Games generally requires 30-plus sports venues and dozens of training centers. Today, the Bird’s Nest in Beijing sits virtually empty, while the Olympic Stadium in Sydney costs some \$30 million a year to operate”, this implies that scale and the costs of operating sports facilities are large, thus option (a) is the answer. Option (b) is eliminated as it is not mentioned in the passage. Option (c) is eliminated as it cannot be cited in the passage. Option (d) is eliminated as nothing in the passage supports the statement mentioned in it.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

24. The reason mentioned in option (a) can be inferred from the sentence “Even if they have future use, are they the best use of precious urban real estate?”; thus option (a) is eliminated. The reason mentioned in option (b) can be cited in the sentence “Residential areas often are razed and citizens relocated (without adequate preparation or compensation)”; thus option (b) is eliminated. The reason mentioned in option (c) can be inferred from the sentence “There are, after all, other productive uses that can be made of vanishing fiscal resources”; thus option (c) is eliminated. The reason stated in option (d) is not mentioned in the passage.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

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1. Option (a), (b) and (c) can be inferred from the second paragraph of the passage.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

2. Option (a) does not take into consideration ‘ironic’, option (b) best explains the author’s point and the same can be inferred from the sentences ‘As for what stanches creativity, that’s easy, if ironic. It’s the very

institutions that we build to manage, exploit and perpetuate the fruits of creativity’, option (c) contradicts the meaning and option (d) is irrelevant.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

3. Option (a) is the central idea of the passage as the passage speaks about ‘creativity and that several creative people can encourage creativity.’ Option (b) and (c)

are not discussed in the passage therefore can be eliminated; option (d) can be eliminated as it is not the central idea.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

4. Jane Jacobs' believe can be inferred from the sentence "All cities, she said, were filled with creative people; that's our default state as people. But some cities had more than their shares of leaders, people and institutions that blocked out that creativity." Option (a) can be eliminated as it is the general opinion. Option (b) can be eliminated as this opinion does not goes parallel to that of the Jane Jacobs. Option (c) best describes Jacobs believe and can be inferred from the above sentence. Option (d) can be eliminated as it is opposite to Jacobs view.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

5. Option (a) can be eliminated as it is opposite to the study. Option (b) can be inferred from the sentence "As for what stanches creativity, that's easy, if ironic. It's the very institutions that we build to manage, exploit and perpetuate the fruits of creativity — our big bureaucracies, and sad to say, too many of our schools." Option (c) can be eliminated as learning is not related to creativity in the passage. Option (d) can be eliminated as it is can be inferred from the passage.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

6. Option (a) is the choice as it can be inferred to be author's conclusion and can be implied from the sentence "as much as half of us in our most creative cities - are able to do work which engages our creative faculties to some extent, whether as artists, musicians, writers, techies, innovators, entrepreneurs, doctors, lawyers, journalists or educators - those of us who work with our minds. That leaves a group that I term "the other 66 percent,". Option (b) can be eliminated as it is contradicting to author's conclusion about most 'creative cities'. Option (c) can be eliminated as it is not the conclusion of the author. Option (d) can be eliminated as there is no evidence as such in the passage.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

7. Option (a) can be eliminated as even though the passage speaks of 'subnivium' but it is not the main purpose of the passage. Option (b) can be eliminated as it is not mentioned in the passage. Option (c) clearly speaks about the purpose of the passage and same can be inferred from the sentence "Scientists are now beginning to explore how climate change will affect the subnivium". Option (d) can be eliminated as it speaks about 'drawing an analogy' which is not the purpose of the passage.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

8. Option (a) can be eliminated as it is stated in the sentence "Both depth and density of snow are sensitive to temperature." Option (b) is the answer as it is not mentioned in the passage. Option (c) can be elimi-

nated as it is stated in the sentence "a constant temperature of 32 degrees Fahrenheit can often be 30 to 40 degrees warmer than the air temperature". Option (d) can be eliminated as it is stated in the sentence "In field experiments, researchers removed a portion of the snow cover to investigate the importance of the subnivium's insulation. They found that soil frost in the snow-free area resulted in damage to plant roots".

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

9. As the climate change has adverse effects on the ecosystem therefore the author will surely support government's action to curb climate change.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

10. The example is used to demonstrate that shrub helps to retain higher depth of snow which keeps soils insulated and in turn increases plant decomposition and nutrient release. And places with lower depth of snow results in soil frost which as a result damages the roots of the plants or even death of plant. Option (a), 2, and 3 can be eliminated as they didn't mention the above mentioned aspects for which the example is used. Option (d) best demonstrate these aspects.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

11. Option (a) can be inferred from the sentence "disruptions to the subnivium brought about by climate change will affect everything from population dynamics to nutrient cycling through the ecosystem". Option (b) can be eliminated as equatorial or arid regions are not discussed in the passage. Option (c) can be eliminated as it is not in relation to the context of the passage. Option (d) can be eliminated as the passage doesn't suggest so.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

12. The example of blanket is used in analogy with snow cover, and can be inferred from the sentence "Many plants and animals **similarly** hunker down, relying on snow cover for safety from winter's harsh conditions." Therefore option (c) is the right answer and other options can be eliminated.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

13. The main argument of the author can be traced from the sentences ".Mr. Musk is selling a dream that the world wants to believe in. This last may be the most important factor in the story" and "The private car is a theatre for myths of unattainable self-fulfillment. The one thing you will never see in a car advertisement is traffic, even though that is the element in which drivers spend their lives." These sentences imply that the main focus of the author is about private cars, its myth of self-fulfillment and how private car robbed the individuals by not letting them know about the traffic jams which they need to deal with throughout their lives.

Therefore option (c) best reflects the author's argument.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

14. Option (a) is eliminated as it can be inferred from the sentence “the rarest materials for batteries would make undeserving despots and their dynasties fantastically rich”. Option (b) is eliminated as it can be inferred from the sentence “The air in cities would once more be breathable”. Option (c) is eliminated because it can be inferred from the sentence “Traffic jams will be abolished only when the private car becomes a public utility.” Option (d) cannot be inferred from the passage about electric cars.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

15. Option (a), (b) and (c) are not discussed clearly in the passage therefore can be eliminated. Option (d) can be inferred from the sentence “The sleek and swift electric car is at one level merely the most contemporary fantasy of autonomy and power.”

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

16. The conclusion of the passage can be drawn from the sentences “This is where the fantasy of autonomy comes full circle. The ultimate development of the private car will be to reinvent public transport”. From these sentences we can infer that ‘car drivers dream of autonomy but the future may be public transport.’

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

17. The answer can be inferred from the sentences “Instead, they will work as taxis do, summoned at will but only for the journeys we actually need. This the future towards which Uber...is working. The ultimate development of the private car will be to reinvent public transport.” this implies that ‘in future the private cars will be transformed into public transport.’

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

18. The answer can be inferred from the sentences “Traffic jams will be abolished only when the private car becomes a public utility. What then will happen to our fantasies of independence? We’ll all have to take to electrically powered bicycles.” This means that if the individual wants to fulfill his fantasy then he has to consider bicycle as private cars will become public transport.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

19. The author is giving reasons about the use of typewriters by the people even in the digital age. Some of the reasons that can be seen in the passage are: “Typewriters are the epitome of a technology that has been comprehensively rendered obsolete by the digital age. The ink comes off the ribbon, they weigh a ton, and second thoughts are a disaster. But they are personal, portable and, private. They are resistant to algorithms and secret surveillance, and have nostalgic appeal of the metal body, demands attentiveness.”

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

20. Some governments still use typewriters because ‘they can control who reads the document.’ This can be directly inferred from the sentences “Type a document and lock it away and more or less the only way anyone else can get it is if you give it to them. That is why the Russians have decided to go back to typewriters in some government offices, and why in the US, some departments have never abandoned them.”

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

21. Option (a) and (b) can be eliminated as they are used in the passage to praise of typewriter. Option (c) though looked non praising sentence in first glance is actually praising typewriter and the same may be seen in the sentence “The thinking process is accompanied by the encouraging clack of keys”.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

22. The purpose of the passage is to challenge the popular perception of Vikings as raiders by using evidence that suggests their early trade relations with Europe. This can be inferred from the sentence “Despite their fierce reputation. Vikings may not have always been the plunderers and pillagers popular culture imagines them to be. In fact, they got their start trading in northern European markets”.

The evidences in support can be traced from the sentences “Molecular analysis of the artifacts revealed that some combs and other material had been carved from reindeer antlers. The fact that the animals shed their antlers also made them easy to collect from the large herds that inhabited Norway. Since the artifacts were found in marketplace areas at each site it’s more likely that the Norsemen came to trade rather than pillage.”

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

23. The sentence “Most of the artifacts also date to the 780s, but some are as old as 725” - has been used in the passage to argue that Viking trade relations with Europe pre-dates Viking-raids.

This can also be seen from the sentences “(Traditionally, the so-called “Viking Age” began with these raids in 793 and ended with the Norman conquest of Great Britain in 1066.)”

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

24. Option (b) can be eliminated as ‘trade relation with Europe prior then raid’ is stated in the passage, option (c) can be eliminated as ‘Antlers comb were part of Vikings culture’ is stated in the passage and option (d) can also be eliminated as it is clearly stated in the passage, moreover there is no evidence of option (a) in the passage.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.