

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- ❑ Know the different types of questions on Paragraph arrangement
- ❑ Strategies to unjumble a Paragraph
- ❑ The role of 'key words' in cracking a jumble faster

INTRODUCTION

Sentence Arrangement or Jumbled paragraphs are common test questions at all competitive examinations. Examiner wants to assess an examinee's reading skills as well as reasoning prowess through these questions. In these questions, students are given a paragraph – but the sentences are not in the right order. You will have to rearrange the sentences around a theme so that they make sense. To solve these questions, what is more important is to look out for any piece of information that can help you connect the sentences together.

QUESTION PATTERNS

While creating a jumble, the examiners have four basic question patterns in mind. However, management entrance tests are dynamic in nature and the examiners can of course think of other innovative question patterns. But, be confident that if you practice on the four basic question types, given below, then you will be able to develop the general skills to handle other innovative question patterns.

In **Pattern One**, the examiner conforms to the example above. There are no fixed sentences; the whole paragraph is jumbled up, and the examinee has to unjumble the lot.

In **Pattern Two**, the examiner gives the examinee the first sentence in its proper position, and then jumbles the subsequent sentences. The examinee now has one anchor instead of two, but can still manage to find a link. An example of this type follows:

1. To read the characters or the letters of the text does not mean reading in the true sense of the term.
- A. This mere mechanism of reading becomes altogether automatic at an early period of life.
- B. You will often find yourself reading words or characters automatically, while your mind is occupied with a totally different subject.

- C. This can be performed irrespective of attention.
- D. Neither can I call it reading when it is just to extract the narrative portion of a text from the rest simply for one's personal amusement.

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| (a) BACD | (b) DCBA |
| (c) ADCB | (d) CBDA |

Pattern Three is a variation on Pattern Two. In this pattern, the examiner gives the last sentence as an anchor, and jumbles the preceding sentences. An example of this type follows:

- A. The recovery of faith is a crucial problem of our age.
 - B. The deepest them of history is the conflict of faith and unbelief.
 - C. With it we are destined to enjoy triumphant and splendid advance, and without it we suffer failure and ignominy.
 - D. Those ages in which faith prevails, in whatever form, are noble and fruitful for the present and the future.
 5. All ages in which unbelief, in whatever form, wins an unhappy victory vanish and are forgotten by posterity.
- | | |
|----------|----------|
| (a) ABCD | (b) CDBA |
| (c) BCAD | (d) ACBD |

In **Pattern Four**, the examiner gives the examinee the first and the last sentence as anchors, and jumbles the sentences in the middle. This type of jumble is considered to be the easiest because the examinee has two fixed points to guide him/her. An example of this type follows:

1. An important tenet is that managements must not confuse awards with salaries.
- A. An award is a one-time payment and could be anything up to 25% of the annual salary.
- B. These can never be retrieved if performance is not stable throughout.

- C. It would be better to introduce an increment-cum-award system based on the results.
- D. Some companies give enormous salary hikes for excellent performance in a particular year.
5. In this system, the compensation becomes the hygiene factor, and the award, the motivator.
- (a) DBCA (b) ABCD
- (c) CDBA (d) BCDA

APPROACHES FOR UNJUMBLING A JUMBLE

Most of the information given in parajumbles is unnecessary for the purpose at hand, i.e., sorting the sentences. *In essence what we are looking for are things that can help us in connecting the sentences.* Some approaches are given below to help identify the sequence of sentences. Generally, in a given parajumble more than one approach will be applicable at the same time, therefore practices identifying which approach/approaches apply to the parajumbles you have to solve.

1. Noun-Pronoun Relationship Approach

In noun/pronoun relationships, we know that the noun will come first and will be referred to later using suitable pronouns.

Study the following example:

- A. People can get infected by handling reptiles and then touching their mouths or an open cut.
- B. At first they look the perfect pets: exotic, quiet and tidy.
- C. A study estimates that in 1995, there were as many as 6,700 reptile-caused salmonella infections.
- D. But lizards and other pets can harbour a salmonella bacterium that makes people sick.
- (a) BCAD (b) BCDA
- (c) ACDB (d) BDCA

Read sentences C and D carefully. Sentence D contains the noun phrase “a salmonella bacterium” and Sentence C contains the noun phrase “salmonella infections”. What is the relationship between the two? Since the phrase “a salmonella bacterium” introduces the bacterium, it should logically precede the phrase “salmonella infections”. Therefore, the sentence that contains the phrase “a salmonella bacterium” should come before the sentence that contains the phrase “salmonella infections”. So, Sentence D should precede Sentence C! Once you have a link between two sentences, look at the answer choices to see if you are on the right track. If you are, then you have the right answer [(Option (d) BDCA)] and it is time to move on to the next exercise.

Example 1

1. These enormous “rivers” – quite inconstant, sometimes shifting, often branching and eddying in

manners that defy explanation and prediction – occasionally cause disastrous results.

- A. One example is El Nino, the periodic catastrophe that plagues the West Coast of America.
- B. It is rich in life.
- C. This coast is normally caressed by the cold, rich Humboldt Current.
- D. Usually the Humboldt hugs the shore and extends 200 to 300 miles out to sea.
5. It fosters the largest commercial fishery in the world and is the home of one of the mightiest game fish on record, the black marlin.
- (a) ABCD (b) DCAB
- (c) ACDB (d) CBAD

Solution Read sentences A and C carefully. Notice the noun/pronoun relationship between the two. Sentence A refers to “the West Coast of America” and Sentence C talks about “this coast”. Which coast? Obviously “the West Coast of America”! Therefore, Sentences A and C are related and Sentence A must come before Sentence C. Now look again. Sentence C talks about “the cold, rich Humboldt Current” and Sentence D refers to “the Humboldt” obviously these two sentences are also related. Which one should come first? Once you have decided, check the answer choices to see if you are correct. [(Option (c) ACDB)]

2. Acronym Approach: Full Form vs. Short Form

When we introduce someone or something, we use the complete name or title. When we refer to the same someone or something later in the paragraph, we use just the surname or the first name if we are on familiar terms with the person being discussed. If we are discussing an object, we remove the modifiers and just use the noun or a pronoun to refer to it.

In Parajumbles we encounter full and short names or sometimes acronyms of some term or institution. Example: World Trade Organisation – WTO, Dr. Manmohan Singh – Dr. Singh, Karl Marx – Marx, President George W. Bush – President Bush or The President. The rule is that if both full form as well as short form is present in different sentences, then the sentence containing full form will come before the sentence containing short form.

Example 2

- A. If you are used to having your stimulation come in from outside, your mind never develops its own habits of thinking and reflecting.
- B. Marx thought that religion was the opiate, because it soothed people’s pain and suffering and prevented them from rising in rebellion.
- C. If Karl Marx was alive today, he would say that television is the opiate of the people.
- D. Television and similar entertainments are even more of an opiate because of their addictive tendencies.
- (a) ABCD (b) ADBC
- (c) BCDA (d) CBDA

Solution Sentence B has Marx (short form) and sentence C has Karl Marx (full form). So C will come before B. Now look at the options. In option (a), (b) and (c), B is placed before C—hence, rejected. Option (d) is the right answer.

3. Time Sequence Approach (TSA) – either Dates or Time Sequence Indicating Words

In a given parajumbles, there may be a time indication given, either by giving years – or by using time indicating words. This provides a way for us to identify the correct sequence of the sentences by arranging the sentences using their proper time sequence. Some words through which a time sequence may be indicated are – Before, after, later, when, etc.

Example 3

- A. Then two astronomers—the German, Johannes Kepler, and the Italian, Galileo Galilei—started publicly to support the Copernican theory, despite the fact that the orbits it predicted did not quite match the ones observed.
 - B. His idea was that the sun was stationary at the centre and that the earth and the planets move in circular orbits around the sun.
 - C. A simple model was proposed in 1514 by a Polish priest, Nicholas Copernicus.
 - D. Nearly a century passed before this idea was taken seriously.
- (a) CADB (b) BCAD
(c) CBDA (d) CDBA

Solution In the above example you will observe that the flow of logic is in the form of a time sequence which flows from the oldest time period to a more contemporary time period. Therefore, Sentence C will be the first sentence. Sentence B expands upon the “simple model” proposed, hence, it will be the sentence following C. The next sentence in the order of chronology is C—nearly a century passed, while the last sentence will be A which completes the sequence from older time to contemporary time thus giving us the answer as CBDA.

Example 4

- A. By the time he got to Linjeflug four years later, he had learned many lessons, in fact, he began his second stint as top dog by calling the entire company together in a hanger and asking for help, a far cry from his barking out commands just 48 months back.
- B. At SAS, he arrived at a time crisis.
- C. This book is chock-a-block full of intrusive stories and practical advice, describing Carton’s activities at Vingresor (where he assumed his first presidency at age 32), Linjeflug, and SAS in particular.
- D. He began at Vingresor as an order giver, not a listener – neither to his people nor to his customers and made every mistake in the book.

- (a) CDAB (b) CBAD
(c) BACD (d) BADC

Solution Observe the sequence given. Again you will see a chronological order in the parajumble. Sentence C gives us a clear indication that the book is being talked about in current times. Sentence D then starts tracing Carton’s career path from the beginning, thus leading us to the correct sequence of CDAB.

4. Structure Approach

In order to unjumble a group of sentences quickly, it is essential for us to understand how language sticks together to form a cohesive unit. English provides certain sequencing words – firstly, secondly, then, however, consequently, on the other hand, etc. – which writers use to join sentences or ideas together and to provide a smooth flow from one idea to the next. It is essential to learn how to spot these words and learn how to use them correctly. Parajumble sentences often contain several signal words, combining them in complex ways.

Cause and Effect Signals: Look for words or phrases explicitly indicating that one thing causes another or logically determines another. Some examples of such words are:

accordingly	in order to	because	so...that
consequently	therefore	given	thus
hence	when...then	if...then	

Support Signal Words: Look for the words or phrases supporting a given sentence. Sentences containing these words will generally not be the opening sentence. These sentences will follow immediately the sentence supported. Some examples of such words are:

furthermore	additionally	also	and
indeed	besides	as well	too
likewise	moreover		

Contrast Signals: Look for function words or phrases (conjunctions, sentence adverbs, etc.) that indicate a contrast between one idea and another, setting up a reversal of a thought.

nevertheless	nonethe- less	on the contrary	notwith- standing	and
even though	instead of	despite	in spite of	while
in contrast	although	however		

Let us put into practice what we have discussed so far. Here is a typical example, combining all the points discussed above.

Example 5

- A. When conclusions are carefully excluded, however, and observed facts are given instead, there is never any trouble about the length of the papers.
 - B. The reason for this is that those early paragraphs contain judgments that there is little left to be said.
 - C. A judgment (“He is a boy”, “She is an awful bore”) is a conclusion, summing up a large number of previously observed facts.
 - D. In fact, they tend to become too long, since inexperienced writers, when told to give facts, often give more than are necessary, because they lack discrimination between the important and the trivial.
 - E. It is a common observation among teachers that students almost always have difficulty in writing themes of the required length because their ideas give out after a paragraph or two.
- (a) ECDAB (b) CEBAD
(c) EACBD (d) EBCAD

Solution Sentence E states the situation in general and gives us information about why students have problems “*in writing themes of the required length*”. Sentence B goes on to tell us “*the reason for this*”, so the two sentences must be related. Similarly, Sentence C is related to Sentence B because both sentences contain the word “*judgment*”, with Sentence C explaining what the word means. Once a link of this nature is established, go to the answer choices to see if you are on the right track. Do any of the answer choices offer our line of reasoning? Answer (d) does.

In the above jumble, the word “*however*” in Sentence A suggests a contrast to something mentioned previously. In situations of this kind, it is always a good idea to separate the argument clearly. Sentences A and D, therefore, should come together. Now you try.

Example 6

- 1. To read the characters or the letters of the text does not mean reading in the true sense of the word.
 - A. This mere mechanism of reading becomes altogether automatic at an early period of life.
 - B. You will often find yourself reading words or characters automatically, while your mind is concerned with a totally different subject.
 - C. This can be performed irrespective of attention.
 - D. Neither can I call it reading when it is just to extract the narrative portion of a text from the rest simply for one’s personal amusement.
- (a) BACD (b) DCBA
(c) ADCB (d) CBDA

Solution The word “*neither*” in Sentence D will tell you that there is something additional that the writer wishes to discuss. Sentences 1, A, B and C all talk about the same idea. Therefore, Sentence D should be the last sentence. Any answers? So, option (a) is the answer.

5. Linking the Sentences

Let us look at the following statements:

Example 7

- I. As a retention strategy, the company has issued many schemes including ESOPs.
 - II. Given the track record and success of our employees, other companies often look to us as hunting ground for talent.
 - III. The growth of the Indian economy has led to an increased requirement for talented managerial personnel and we believe that the talented manpower is our key strength.
 - IV. Further in order to mitigate the risk we place considerable emphasis on development of leadership skills and on building employee motivation.
- I have deliberately not given the options here.
Read all the statements one by one, and try to find out the opening statement and any possible linkage between/among the statements.

Solution Can I be the opening statement – Very Unlikely. It does not introduce any idea or theme. Ideally the 1st statement would be an initiator of ideas or theme of the passage.

Can II be the opening statement – May be.

Can III be the opening statement – May be.

Can IV be the opening statement – Very Unlikely. It talks about an idea which is being “*furthered*” in this statement. You can also see that statement IV talks about “*Mitigating the risk*”. What is the risk? So now we would try to find out the “*risk*” in other statements. This “*risk*” is present in statement II in the words – “*other companies often look to us as hunting ground for talent*”. So, statement II will come before statement IV.

As discussed earlier, statement IV furthers an idea, and that idea is present in statement I. Hence, I-IV should come together.

Let us see all that we have established so far:

Link – I-IV and II will come before IV and I cannot be the starting statement.

Now let us look at the options:

- A. I, II, III, IV – Ruled out and I-IV link is not present.
- B. II, I, IV, III – This is the only option left out. Hence, answer.
- C. III, I, IV, II – Ruled out as II comes after IV.
- D. IV, I, III, II – Ruled out as I-IV link is not present.

Hence, option (b) is the answer.

Example 8

Let us look at another example from CAT 2007:

- A. In America, highly educated women, who are in stronger position in the labour market than less qualified ones, have higher rates of marriage than other groups.

[A is the opening statement as mentioned in the paper. You are required to re-arrange the following four statements].

- B. Some work supports the Becker thesis, and some appears to contradict it.
 - C. And, as with crime, it is equally inconclusive.
 - D. But regardless of the conclusion of any particular piece of work, it is hard to establish convincing connections between family changes and economic factors using conventional approaches.
 - E. Indeed, just as with crime, an enormous academic literature exists on the validity of the pure economic approach to the evolution of family structures.
- (Options Withheld *pro tem*).

Solution Can B be the opening statement – Very Unlikely. There is no mention of “Becker thesis” in the opening statement.

Can C be the opening statement – Two words in the statement – “Crime” and “Inconclusive” make this as the statement after A very unlikely.

Can D be the opening statement – Though it furthers the idea presented in statement A, usage of word like “But” make it unlikely to be the statement coming just after statement A. Besides, statement A does not talk about any piece of work. In fact, statement A is just an opinion.

Can E be the opening statement – Yes. E is the statement after A – both through elimination of other statements and selection.

Next statement should be C, as it again talks about ‘Crime’ and how inconclusive it is (despite “an enormous academics literature exists” as given in statement E).

Next statement:

D should be the last statement as it concludes the whole theme that “it is hard to establish”. Now the whole point is – how do we place statement B and Becker thesis, which finds no mention in the whole passage. Only reasoning that can be given here is – Probably this passage has been taken from a book or project report which has something to do with Becker Thesis, and this passage is just a small part of it.

Now let us look at the options and try to eliminate the options with the help of the conclusions that we have derived so far:

- (1) BCDE – Ruled out as E is the 1st statement.
- (2) DBEC – Ruled out as E is the 1st statement.
- (3) BDCE – Ruled out as E is the 1st statement.
- (4) ECBD – Answer.
- (5) EBCD – Ruled out as EC is the link.

Hence, option (d) is the answer.

PRACTICE EXERCISES

PRACTICE EXERCISE 1

Direction for questions 1 to 15: *The first and the last parts of the sentence are marked 1 and 6. The rest of the sentence is split into four parts and marked P, Q, R and S. These four parts are not given in their proper order. Read the sentences and find out which of the five combinations is correct.*

- Q.1** 1. It depends upon the
P. a new heaven on earth or to destroy
Q. user, whether science will be used to create
R. the world in a
S. outlook and mentality of the
6. common conflagration.
(a) PQRS (b) SPQR
(c) QPRS (d) SQPR
- Q.2** 1. The English
P. plundered the country
Q. and raw materials
R. as a result, the Company became rich
S. of precious mineral wealth
6. and the Indian people became poor.
(a) PQSR (b) SQPR
(c) SRQP (d) PSQR
- Q.3** 1. The power and pride
P. for in the courage
Q. of Sparta was above all
R. discipline and skill of these troops
S. in its army,
6. it found its security and its ideal.
(a) SPRQ (b) PQRS
(c) QSPR (d) PRQS
- Q.4** 1. It is the
P. the careful observer
Q. apparently trivial phenomena
R. which gives even the
S. intelligent eye of
6. their value.
(a) SPRQ (b) PQRS
(c) QSPR (d) PRQS
- Q.5** 1. Nuclear test explosions
P. food as well as
Q. present and future generations
R. directly injuring the
S. take place, contaminating air and water and
6. of mankind.

- (a) RQSP (b) PSQR
(c) SPRQ (d) PQRS
- Q.6** 1. The club is an
P. nearby municipal school, for the children
Q. proper and healthy functioning of a
R. are constantly disturbed by its
S. intolerable nuisance to the
6. bizarre activities.
(a) QSRP (b) SQPR
(c) PQRS (d) RPSQ
- Q.7** 1. What the country needs
P. and change tactics
Q. who would encourage players
R. are coaches and officials
S. to read the game as it progresses
6. accordingly.
(a) RQPS (b) SPRQ
(c) QSPR (d) RQSP
- Q.8** 1. The need of administration
P. which could bring together
Q. language of the rulers, should be the one
link
R. apart from those of liberal education
S. render it necessary that English, as the
6. linguistic areas.
(a) RSQP (b) SRQP
(c) PQRS (d) QSPR
- Q.9** 1. Economic domination
P. anger and
Q. a different language
R. of persons speaking
S. often causes
6. a sense of revolt.
(a) PSRQ (b) QRPS
(c) RQPS (d) RQSP
- Q.10** 1. It may be
P. of comparatively little consequence
Q. whilst everything depends upon
R. how a man is governed from outside
S. how he governs
6. himself from within.
(a) SPRQ (b) QSPR
(c) PRQS (d) RQSP

PRACTICE EXERCISE 2

Direction for questions 1 to 10: *A number of sentences are given below which, when properly sequenced, form a COHERENT PARAGRAPH. Choose the most LOGICAL ORDER of sentence from the choices given to construct a COHERENT PARAGRAPH.*

- Q.1**
- A. He somehow knew he would find what he was looking for. So with missionary zeal, he started to climb.
 - B. So instead, for perhaps the first in this life he shed the shackles of reason and placed his trust in his intuition.
 - C. At first he thought about hiring a Sherpa guide to aid him in his climb through the mountains, but, for some strange reason, his instincts told him, this was one journey he would have to make alone.
 - D. The next morning, as the first rays of the Indian sun danced along the colourful horizon, Julian set out his trek to the lost land of Savanna.
- (a) ABCD (b) ACBD
(c) CDAB (d) DCBA
- Q.2**
- A. It reverberates throughout the entire Universe. And you are transmitting that frequency with your thoughts!
 - B. The frequency you transmit reaches beyond cities, beyond countries beyond the world.
 - C. You are a human transmission tower, and you are more powerful than any television tower created on earth.
 - D. Your transmission creates your life and it creates the world.
- (a) DACB (b) BDCA
(c) CDBA (d) ABCD
- Q.3**
- A. Asian economies will need alternative sources of growth to compensate for the rapid fall in demand from the western markets.
 - B. But the crisis has exposed the limits of region's dominant economic-growth model.
 - C. The export-led model that propelled many Asian economies so effectively for the past 30 year must be adapted to a different global economic context.
 - D. Asia is less exposed to the financial turmoil than the west is, because Asian countries responded to the previous decade's regional crisis by improving their current-account positions, accumulating reserves, and ensuring that their banking systems operated prudently.
- (a) DBAC (b) ABCD
(c) CABD (d) BCDA
- Q.4**
- A. The dangers of conflicting irrational majoritarianism with enlightened consensus are, indeed, great in developing democracy.

- B. Real democracy is about mediating the popular will through a network of institutional structure and the law of the land.
 - C. While law making and governance are meant to articulate the latter, the judiciary is supposed to protect the former from any kind of excess that might occur, unwittingly or otherwise, in the conduct of legislative and governmental functions.
 - D. The principle of separation of powers is meant to embody a desirable tension between individual rights and social consensus.
- (a) ABCD (b) BACD
(c) DCAB (d) DABC

- Q.5**
- A. First may be necessary for immediate relief.
 - B. However, to cure the problem from the root the treatment at the elemental level is a must.
 - C. Therefore synergy of modern medical science and ancient Indian wisdom is in the interest of humanity.
 - D. Allopathic treatment is symptomatic while Ayurveda treats at an elemental level.
- (a) DBAC (b) DABC
(c) DCBA (d) BDCA

- Q.6**
- A. Such interoperability of a software service or product appears to be only one aspect, and the interoperable system is itself evolving.
 - B. Each software product introduces a variation and consequently a change in the system.
 - C. An operating system must work with applications and other elements in a hardware platform.
 - D. A software firm while introducing its product or service, therefore, does not strive for mute complementarities alone but tries to bring about a change in the existing structure.
 - E. In other words the components must be designed to be interoperable.
- (a) BCDAE (b) CEABD
(c) DAEEB (d) CBEAD

- Q.7**
- A. Moreover, as argued above, knowledge is entailed not by way of justification as such, but by the realization of good or fruit-ladenness of meaning and actions or iterated actions.
 - B. Knowledge is required in order to resolve doubts and thus in order to act meaningfully.
 - C. Therefore the actions in a commonly led daily life are both meaningful and knowledge-driven.
 - D. Indian theorists argue for a common knowledge, which is obtained through iterated fruitful actions, through the authority of sentences (on words).

- E. We argue for four sources of validation of knowledge, viz., sentence, inference, direct perception and analogy.

- (a) AECBD (b) BDCEA
(c) BAECD (d) EADCB

- Q.8** A. But PST has also used satellite pictures to suggest that an ancient fortified town had existed 30 km from Junagadh.
B. Soil and vegetation patterns were used in the search.
C. The site matches the description of Krishna's town in an ancient scripture.
D. PST's primary job at Space Applications Centre has been tracking land use and forest cover with satellite images.
E. An archaeologist however cautioned that remote sensing and scriptures by themselves would not be enough to identify a township.
F. It was claimed that soil and vegetation patterns an ancient abandoned site reveal specific patterns that can be picked by satellite images.
(a) DACBEF (b) DACBFE
(c) FDCABE (d) FDACBE

- Q.9** A. But if, having done so, you did not spare constructive thought as to why your neighbourhood was becoming crime-prone, you would be leaving yourself vulnerable to similar future intrusions.
B. While the international community can only hope that Moscow's hostage drama is resolved

without further loss of innocent lives, it would not be inappropriate once again to attempt to understand the nature and motivation of the archetypal terrorist who seeks martyrdom.

- C. Today, in an era of globalisation, when the world is increasingly becoming an interpenetrative community, we need to ask whether misconceived state policies do not aid and abet terrorists in the guise of martyrs.
D. If you were to apprehend an armed nocturnal intruder in your house, your first—and correct—reaction would be to somehow render the criminal powerless.
E. Ill-regulated communities breed crime.
(a) BCDEA (b) DABEC
(c) CEDAB (d) BDAEC

- Q.10** A. Products of mutual funds and insurance companies all aimed specifically at women are an example of this fact.
B. For this purpose, we looked at the district-wise figures for working women.
C. They influence a lot of consumption decisions and hence, there is a distinctive attempt to target them.
D. The census provides interesting data on the presence of women in different areas in the country, but what is more important is the extent of employment.
E. Women are a very important target group for a whole host of corporates.
(a) DCEAB (b) DBECA
(c) ECABD (d) ECADB

PRACTICE EXERCISE 3

Direction for questions 1 to 6: *In each of the following questions, four sentences are given which, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labelled with a letter. Choose the most logical order of sentences from among the given choices to construct a coherent paragraph.*

- Q.1** A. So Iraq and Afghanistan are now sun-drenched lands enjoying liberty and freedom, overflowing with joy and prosperity.
B. Yet in a new campaign ad, Republican Party strategists shamelessly take credit for “two more free nations” and “two less terrorist regimes,” using footage of the Iraqi and Afghan Olympic teams.
C. The bylaws of the International Olympic Committee and the US Olympic Committee strictly prohibit the use of the word “Olympic” and related symbols for political ends.
D. The US Congress stipulates that the USOC “shall be non-political and may not promote

the candidacy of any individual seeking public office.”

- (a) CDBA (b) CDAB
(c) DABC (d) ACDB

- Q.2** A. He is the faceless man who is nowhere and everywhere.
B. He will live on bread and water, sleep on the streets, move from house-to-house.
C. It is impossible for the political leaders of a tame western world that wages its wars by remote control to understand the power of the marginal man, who has been deprived, stripped of his right and driven back to the wall.
D. This is a man who has lost everything, his home, his family, his country, even his personal history.
(a) CDAB (b) DABC
(c) CABD (d) CDBA

- Q.3** A. The first vision is cyclical and millennial.
 B. It sees man originating from the greater anthropoid apes, climbing slowly through tribal groups, via the Renaissance and the early Industrial Age, into modern technological man.
 C. The second is linear and utopian.
 D. It sees man originating from a divine source, a fall, exile, a final battle, the regeneration of the world by a Divine Saviour and the foundation of the Kingdom of God on earth.
 (a) ABCD (b) CBAD
 (c) ACBD (d) ADCB
- Q.4** A. One may disagree with some of his contentions, but in the aftermath of September 11, one must give credence to his central point: that in the post-Cold War world, the critical distinctions between people are not ideological or economic—they are cultural.
 B. Samuel P Huntington's book *The Clash of Civilisations* and *The Remaking of World Order* is very topical these days.
 C. Religious, ethnic and racial strands that constitute cultural identity are the central factors shaping associations and antagonisms.
 D. Thus, cultural communities are replacing Cold War blocs and the fault-lines between civilisations are becoming the nerve-centres of conflicts in the world.
 (a) BADC (b) CBAD
 (c) BACD (d) DBAC
- Q.5** A. Even when it is self-willed, migration causes dislocation and alienation, creating the need for meaningful identities at the individual level.
 B. The root cause is modernisation that has spurred migration in large numbers.
 C. Simultaneously, education and development within non-western societies stimulates the revitalisation of indigenous identities and culture.
 D. Huntington's analysis explains why we are witnessing this surging antagonism among Indian and Pakistani youth and expatriates.
 (a) DBCA (b) BCDA
 (c) DBAC (d) BADC
- Q.6** A. Not too far from the bright lights of Mumbai, a silent scourge is killing thousands of young children.
 B. Their ill-fed bodies vulnerable to infection, most succumbed to ailments as minor as diarrhoea.
 C. Stalked by chronic hunger and disease, nearly 30,000 children below the age of six have died in the last year alone in the state's rural belt.
 D. It may be considered the country's dollar magnet and envied for its robust industrial base but this image of Maharashtra cloaks a macabre reality.

- (a) CBDA (b) DACB
 (c) BDCA (d) CDBA

Direction for questions 7 to 10: *Given below are five sentences S1, P, Q, R and S that make a paragraph. The sentences making the paragraph have been jumbled randomly, only the first sentence S1 is at its right place. Find out the correct sequence in which P, Q, R and S should follow after S1 so that a coherent and meaningful paragraph is made.*

- Q.7** S1. There was a time Egypt faced economic crisis.
 P. Cotton is the main export commodity of Egypt.
 Q. Foreign trade depends on cultivation of cotton on large-scale.
 R. It became necessary for Egypt to boost cotton crops.
 S. Only by means of increasing foreign trade Egypt could survive.
 (a) PQRS (b) QRPS
 (c) RPSQ (d) SQPR
- Q.8** S1. Exercising daily is a must for good health.
 P. Luckily, there is no link between the amount of money spent and beneficent exercise, else the poor would have creaking bodies.
 Q. While some cost you nothing, others may require the investment of some amount of money.
 R. However, it is important to remember that exercises should not be overdone.
 S. It can take any form from sedentary ones like walking to vigorous workouts like a game of squash.
 (a) PQSR (b) QPRS
 (c) RSQP (d) SQPR
- Q.9** S1. Urban problems differ from state-to-state and city-to-city.
 P. Most of the cities have neither water nor the required pipelines.
 Q. The population in these cities has grown beyond the planners' imagination.
 R. However, certain basic problems are common to all cities.
 S. Only broad macro-planning was done for such cities, without envisaging the future growth, and this has failed to meet the requirements.
 (a) PQSR (b) QPSR
 (c) RQSP (d) RQPS
- Q.10** S1. Satyajit Ray made several films for children.
 P. Later film-makers have followed his lead.
 Q. Today other nations are making children's films in a big way.
 R. This was at a time when no director considered children as potential audience.
 S. Ray was, thus, a pioneer in the field.
 (a) SQRP (b) RSQP
 (c) PSQR (d) RSPQ

PRACTICE EXERCISE 4

Direction for questions 1 to 10: *Sentences given in each question, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. The first and last sentences are 1 and 6, and the four in-between are labelled A, B, C and D. Choose the most logical order of these four sentences from among the five given choices to construct a coherent paragraph from sentences 1 to 6.*

- Q.1** 1. Ever since Pakistan signed on as an ally in the war on terror, human rights advocates have voiced concerns that innocent people would be caught up in the net.
- A. Roughly half of the youths held are from families deemed uncooperative in the anti-terror fight.
- B. Seven women and at least 54 children under the age of 18 are languishing in prisons in the tribal areas of the NWFP under the so-called collective responsibility clause, which permits imprisonment of a person for crimes committed by a relative, clan or tribe.
- C. The decree has most recently been wielded to force tribal leaders to reveal the whereabouts of Qaeda and Taliban suspects.
- D. Now they're pointing to evidence.
6. The rest were imprisoned for the alleged crimes of their fathers.
- (a) BACD (b) DBCA
(c) BCDA (d) DBAC
- Q.2** 1. The smaller mobile phones get; the more functions they seem to acquire.
- A. Beginning early next year, TU Media, a consortium of SK Telecom and other Korean companies, will begin beaming television programmes via satellite to special Digital Multimedia Broadcasting phones.
- B. The phones, made by Samsung, have 5.5-centimetre screens and cost \$700.
- C. Now a South Korean firm is rolling out mobiles that double as televisions—and high-definition ones, at that.
- D. Based on early tests, executives at TU Media think that the new service will improve on SK's existing cellular-based television phone service, which has 3 million subscribers but is often interrupted due to poor transmission.
6. The biggest problem, though, is coming up with programming.
- (a) BDAC (b) BADC
(c) CABD (d) CBAD
- Q.3** 1. Although Maradona recounts his life with neither explanation for his actions (save his love of football) nor fluid penmanship, his story is gripping.

- A. Maradona blames everyone but himself: luck, the media, managers, football executives—you name it, they did it.
- B. And, ironically, the book's omissions are its most revealing element.
- C. In passing the buck, El Diego reveals who he really is—a man accountable to no one.
- D. It's a tale of cataclysmic ups and downs as he hopscotches from the junior leagues of Argentina to four World Cups with the national side, from solidarity with the people of Naples to seeking solace from that other fallen idol, Fidel Castro.
6. I now believe that Maradona truly is a God and that's why I am an atheist.
- (a) CDAB (b) DABC
(c) DBCA (d) DBAC
- Q.4** 1. The journalists have all but left Haiti.
- A. The suffering caused by the floods is no longer news, and we now work far from the headlines.
- B. Perhaps I have spent so much time in the Third World that I'm immune to it; one develops a thick skin, if only as a defense mechanism.
- C. Some of the aid workers are going as well, myself among them.
- D. How do I feel about the misery I've seen?
6. Otherwise you would be unable to do your job.
- (a) CBAD (b) ACBD
(c) BCDA (d) ACDB
- Q.5** 1. Many space enthusiasts now warn that only private enterprise will truly drive human expansion into space, and yet America's government keeps ignoring them.
- A. It may seem surprising, but there are large numbers of people who would spend hundreds of thousands of dollars on a trip into space.
- B. Tourism and entertainment are both possibilities.
- C. Two people, so far, have spent \$ 20 m, and another two are on their way.
- D. What might cause market forces to take up the mission?
6. Film and television companies would also spend tens of millions if they could.
- (a) DCAB (b) BACD
(c) DBAC (d) ACBD
- Q.6** 1. Zimbabwe provides a dramatic illustration of how stagy economic policies, corruptly enforced, swiftly impoverish.
- A. The main reason the continent is so poor today is that Mugabe-style incompetent tyranny has been common since independence.

- B. But Zimbabwe's curse is also Africa's.
- C. The most important question for Africans now is whether Mr. Mugabe represents not only their past, but their future as well.
- D. In the past five years, Mr. Mugabe's contempt for property rights has made half the population dependent on food aid, while his cronies help themselves to other people's land and savings, and build helipads for their own mansions.
- 6. There are encouraging signs that he does not.
 - (a) DBCA (b) CDBA
 - (c) DCAB (d) DBAC

- Q.7**
- 1. If Africans are to have a chance of pulling themselves out of penury, they need governments that do not stand in their way.
 - A. Fiscal realism is more common now than a decade ago, as the continent's generally lower inflation rates attest.
 - B. They need leaders who uphold the law impartially, but otherwise let people do what they wish.
 - C. But graft is still widespread.
 - D. They need governments that pass sensible budgets and stick to them.
 - 6. Angola's rulers were accused of having wasted or misappropriated \$ 4 billion in five years—more than 9% of GDP each year.
 - (a) BADC (b) BDAC
 - (c) DACB (d) DBAC

- Q.8**
- 1. Africa's two most important countries—Nigeria and South Africa—are doing several things right.
 - A. If Africa as a whole is to prosper, the majority of its citizens will have to produce more, fashioning goods or providing services that the rest of the world wants to buy.
 - B. Given that most Africans are subsistence farmers, that will not be possible without a vast social upheaval, with unpredictable consequences.
 - C. Both have swapped tyranny for democracy, and both are using their diplomatic and military muscle to end some of their neighbours' wars.
 - D. But both governments are worryingly dependent on a single source of revenue: oil, in Nigeria's case, and white taxpayers, in South Africa's.

- 6. It is a daunting challenge, but the alternative is likely to be worse.
 - (a) CDAB (b) DCAB
 - (c) CBDA (d) DBAC

- Q.9**
- 1. The truth is that traditional economic labels are less and less useful.
 - A. Different organisations and banks use different groupings.
 - B. The old "third world" label has been replaced by "developing" or "emerging" economies to portray a more positive image.
 - C. "Industrial economies", the old name used for rich countries, is now meaningless: industry accounts for only 16% of jobs in America.
 - D. But the breakdown of old categories has bred confusion.
 - 6. For instance, the United Nations and JP Morgan Chase count Hong Kong, Singapore, South Korea and Taiwan as developing (or emerging) economies.
 - (a) ADBC (b) CBAD
 - (c) ABCD (d) CBDA

- Q.10**
- 1. Jane Austen died and came back as a fantasy writer.
 - A. The book itself has been called, by a media ever eager to summarise even 800-page hard-cover tomes into a snappy catchphrase, "Harry Potter for adults".
 - B. Unlike her previous avatar, the 21st-century Ms Clarke (nee Austen) seems to be enjoying the attention showered upon her and far from publishing her first book under a pseudonym, has been a central performer at her own media circus.
 - C. The book, which she now calls her "debut", began attracting media attention long before publication and on release it's been universally lauded.
 - D. In her new avatar, she calls herself Susanna Clarke, lives in Cambridge, and has authored a fat historical fantasy novel set in the year 1860.
 - 6. It's also been praised by perhaps the best living author of British fantasy novels, Neil Gaiman, as "unquestionably the finest English novel of the fantastic written in the past seventy years."
 - (a) BADC (b) DBCA
 - (c) DCAB (d) DCBA

PRACTICE EXERCISE 5

Direction for questions 1 to 10: *In each question below five sentences lettered A, B, C, D, E are given, followed by four options each indicating two sentences, which when interchanged, create a logical sequence of five sentences.*

- Q.1** A. The Indian retail sector is on the threshold of something big.
B. The Retailer's Association of India, formed recently by the top 25 modern retailers in the country, estimates that the annual retail consumption in the country is around ₹9 lakh crores, but with value addition, could be scaled upto ₹12 lakh crores.
C. With the total retail trade estimated at 200 billion dollars and the organised segment accounting for a mere 2 per cent of this, almost all the organised players have in place, aggressive expansion plans, spreading either to more cities or to larger towns.
D. Also, the development of modern retail in India could enable enhanced productivity, employment and economic growth.
E. In fact, the Association is confident that modern retail would have a beneficial trickle-down effect on sectors such as steel, cement and glass, bring larger revenues for the state governments and boost sectors such as tourism and hotels.
- (a) A and B (b) B and C
(c) A and C (d) B and D
- Q.2** A. Sadruddin insisted that he had equal sympathy for eastern and western people.
B. He seemed the favourite to become the UN's Secretary General in 1981, but the Soviet Union vetoed his candidature, claiming he was too pro-western, and vetoed him again in 1991.
C. Around that time, stories circulated that the prince was a secret agent for the British, using his job as a cover for intelligence gathering.
D. It was almost certainly nonsense, but the Russians may have believed it.
E. Sadruddin stepped down after 12 years, the longest any refugee chief has held the job, but returned to the UN at times of crisis to give help, notably in Afghanistan, during the Soviet occupation and in Iraq, after the first Gulf War.
- (a) A and E (b) B and D
(c) D and E (d) B and C
- Q.3** A. In the maze of India's twisted economic policies, it is difficult to find a more complex bundle of contradictions than the aviation policy.

- B. While the government is omnipresent in the closely guarded sector, a whiff of fresh air has started blowing in the form of 'open skies' agreements with Thailand, some South Asian countries and Sri Lanka.
C. Piecemeal liberalization would only harm the sector rather than encourage growth, and it will put both passengers and the industry at a disadvantage.
D. While implementation of the 'open skies' agreements will take time, these pacts indicate the hurry to put the horse before the cart.
E. Much more is on the cards, if senior bureaucrats are to be taken, at face value, but concerns have cropped up. Since the current trend indicates the lack of a 'wholesome' strategy.
- (a) A and C (b) B and C
(c) B and D (d) C and D

- Q.4** A. That is, availability of a service, which can throw some light on the possible search terms specific to one's subject will certainly be useful.
B. Refining the search query through trial and error process is obviously a laborious exercise.
C. Let us have a look at some services that can be used for this purpose.
D. As Google churns out one service after another with amazing regularity, of late users find it difficult to pass even one week without reference to it.
E. Recently, Google has rolled out another service for helping its users utilise its search service a little more efficiently.
- (a) B and D (b) A and B
(c) C and D (d) A and C

- Q.5** A. The fiscal picture at the end of September reveals a revenue deficit of 79 per cent of budget estimate and a fiscal deficit of 39 per cent.
B. Deficit reduction is to ensure that government borrowings are within sustainable limits and the borrowed funds are used productively for development and creation of capital assets.
C. Fiscal soundness is not a question of mere numerical deficit targets.
D. The figures for October show further deterioration with revenue deficit at 83.9 per cent and fiscal deficit at 45.2 per cent.
E. The deficit targets have been exceeded.
- (a) A and B (b) A and C
(c) B and D (d) C and D

- Q.6** A. But drug company executives have insisted that their industry is fundamentally healthy and their expensive research efforts will pay off.

- B. Three major companies disclosed serious problems with important medicines.
 - C. This has thrown the spotlight on the fact that the drug industry is failing in its core business of finding new medicines.
 - D. The decline in drug research and development has been an open secret among analysts and scientists for years.
 - E. Worldwide drug industry is clearly ailing.
- (a) B and E (b) A and E
(c) C and D (d) C and E

- Q.7**
- A. To say that not all is well with higher education will be something of an understatement.
 - B. Problems relating to higher education—privatisation and commercialisation, political interference and corruption, mismanagement and agitations, falling standards and irrelevance—are topics of public discussion almost on a day-to-day basis.
 - C. Is it possible to locate some key factors that can explain the mess that higher education in the country finds itself in?
 - D. The prolific and unplanned expansion of higher education since independence is undoubtedly a major factor responsible for this malaise.
 - E. That is the question that Dr. Mutton, a former professor, vice-chancellor and secretary of the association of Asian Universities and one still actively engaged in matters relating to higher education, discusses in his latest book.
- (a) D and E (b) A and D
(c) B and D (d) D and C

- Q.8**
- A. The sunshine days are there again for the Indian steel industry.
 - B. In the emerging global scene, experts predict a shift in steel use away from the developed world towards nations like China and India.
 - C. A combination of factors appears to be working to push it on to a higher orbit.

- D. If the steel producers are grinning, consumers at large are wearing a grim look.
 - E. The way the industry is slowly moving into a new era, chances are that prices will head only one way – northward.
- (a) B and E (b) A and B
(c) A and C (d) B and D

- Q.9**
- A. Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) is one of the hottest career destinations for young Indians.
 - B. The number of Indians working in this sector was about 2,50,000 by March 2004 and is to grow to 12 million in three years.
 - C. In addition to infrastructure facilities, BPO units have been exempted from several labour laws and environmental regulations.
 - D. In addition, the unleashing of so-called incentives to this sector by state governments is boosting their growth.
 - E. This supersonic trajectory is fuelled by the economic compulsions of North American and European corporations to shift their low-end jobs to countries like India.
- (a) D and E (b) B and D
(c) C and D (d) C and E

- Q.10**
- A. Nobody knows how many NGOs are there in India.
 - B. It is said that there are at least a thousand of them with an annual income of ₹1 crore and more.
 - C. Estimates vary from a million to several times that number.
 - D. By definition, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) must have come into being along with governments.
 - E. Though NGOs have, in this manner, a long history, it is only in the past 20 years that they have become ubiquitous.
- (a) B and E (b) A and B
(c) D and E (d) B and C

PRACTICE EXERCISE 6

“Out of Context” Statement Identification

A new Type of Para Jumble questions Surfaced in the recent online CAT papers. In these questions, besides the usual paragraph arrangement, students were also required to identify one such statement which was out of context. In a nutshell, these questions can be said to be amalgamation of Para Jumble and Odd One out questions.

Ideally, in these questions, the basic idea of solving a paragraph arrangement question remains the same. Only that, you will be required to identify the statement that does not fit into the theme of paragraph. Following practice exercise will provide you some idea regarding these questions and their solution.

Direction for questions 1 to 10: Go through the direction given below and solve the questions based on it.

In each of the following questions, four sentences are given out of which, one sentence does not fit into the context. Remaining three sentences, when put together, form a coherent paragraph. In other words, three of the four sentences, when put in a particular sequential order, will form a coherent paragraph, but one of the sentences will be out of context and will convey a different message than the other sentences taken together. You are required to identify that Odd-One-Out sentence which does not fits into the context.

- Q.1** A. The mentality of “just do it and be done with it”, can sometimes preclude what we know to be the logical and necessary “means to an end”, of a successful implementation.
- B. However, by utilizing project management methodology, projects can be completed on time, within budget, and to the satisfaction of all involved stakeholders.
- C. Time spent compiling a business case that includes a cost and benefit analysis is an extremely valuable investment.
- D. As is often the case when a project needs to be completed and completed in a hurry, proactive steps such as research, planning, communication, and review are left by the wayside.
- Q.2** A. The “Warren Buffett Indicator,” also known as the “Total-Market-Cap to GDP Ratio,” is breaching sell-alert status and a collapse may happen at any moment.
- B. So with an inevitable crash looming, what are Main Street investors to do?
- C. “A lot of people think I am lucky,” Sean said. “But it has nothing to do with luck.” It has everything to do with certain tools I use.
- D. One option is to sell all your stocks and stuff your money under the mattress, and another option is to risk everything and ride out the storm.
- Q.3** A. Rick Caruso, the founder and CEO of Caruso Affiliated, a privately held real estate company, wrote in a recent LinkedIn post that success does not come easy.
- B. But there are certain steps you can take, or rules to follow, that can help, he says.
- C. There’s no magical formula for achieving it, he says—and most people become successful “by falling over and over again.”
- D. This does not mean you should not physically sit still. It means you should never let your mind or body become idle without purpose, Caruso explains.
- Q.4** A. Android was built from the ground-up to enable developers to create compelling mobile applications that take full advantage of all a handset has to offer.
- B. The Google team loves creating surprises for users. Here’s how to find Google’s Easter eggs, for the two latest versions of its Android operating system.
- C. Android 4.0 Ice Cream Sandwich—To make this fun animation appear, go to Settings, About, and then keep tapping the Android version number until Nyandroid appears.
- D. Android (4.1, 4.2, 4.3) Jelly Bean—To access it, go to Settings, About Phone, and, once again, keep tapping the version number, but this time you’ll see Google’s signature chocolate bar. Tap on it, and the tiles will appear.
- Q.5** A. Tigers killing elephant calves is not a rare occurrence.
- B. Angered tigers are capable of killing even a bull elephant, as epitomised by E.A. Smythies in *Journal of Bombay Natural History Society*.
- C. And one factor that could be controlling the population of the around 800 elephants of the Corbett landscape is predation on calves by tigers.
- D. We walked from the saddle dam road to the main road—a distance of 6 km—watching the goral, the langur and birds and taking pictures of profusely flowering plants.
- Q.6** A. I’m encouraging people to just get outside and enjoy nature. They can do it in their backyard or backpack 20 miles into the wilderness.
- B. But the universe itself and everything we can touch are made of the most beautiful geometric patterns imaginable.
- C. If you could see the world through my eyes, you would know how perfect it is, how much order runs through it, and how much structure is hidden in its tiniest parts.
- D. We’re so often victims of things—I see the violence too, the disease, the poverty stretching far and wide.
- Q.7** A. I’ve always wondered why married people lose no opportunity to litter their conversations with marriage problems, woefully pitying one another.
- B. In Western cultures, more than 90 per cent of people marry by age 50. Healthy marriages are good for couples’ mental and physical health.
- C. But at the same time, they will do everything to avoid (and make others avoid) single people who want to share their problems of singleness.
- D. They seem to suggest: get married and all your problems will vanish.
- Q.8** A. Apple, unlike any other company in the world, has its identity tied to one individual: Steve Jobs.
- B. Others began working on the Mac at later dates.
- C. But, Jobs did not do it alone.
- D. Apple’s first CEO, Michael Scott, gave us a bunch of colour on the early days, and Steve Wozniak helped with a list of early employees.

- Q.9** A. There's a reason why overwhelming evidence has not spurred public action against global warming.
- B. In the run-up to Earth Day this year, two major reports were released by the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.
- C. Both reports cited substantially more evidence of substantially more global warming and related impacts than past reports have and they did so more lucidly than in past iterations.
- D. The IPCC is a scientific body under the auspices of the United Nations (UN).

- Q.10** A. Big data refers to the idea that society can do things with a large body of data that were not possible when working with smaller amounts.
- B. The term was originally applied a decade ago to massive datasets from astrophysics, genomics and internet search engines, and to machine-learning systems that only work well when given lot of data to chew on.
- C. When you combine someone's personal information with vast external datasets, you can infer new facts about that person.
- D. Now it refers to the application of data-analysis and statistics in new areas, from retailing to human resources.

PARAJUMBLES—Non MCQ

Direction for questions 1 to 25: *A number of sentences are given below which, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Choose the most LOGICAL ORDER of sentence from the choices given to construct a coherent paragraph.*

- Q.1** A. Wind whips off the North Sea, blasting the shelters made of tarps, tents, plastic sheeting and scrap lumber in this sprawling, ramshackle end of the line.
- B. The roads in the camp are muddy; the portable toilets are filthy.
- C. On the outskirts of the northern French town of Calais, a massive, makeshift refugee camp called "The Jungle" grows daily, swelling with asylum-seekers fleeing war in Afghanistan, Syria, Iraq, Sudan and beyond.
- D. Their countries of origin are a map of the targets of U.S. bombing campaigns.
- E. More than 6,000 people in this, France's largest refugee camp, hope for a chance to make the last, dangerous leg of their journey through the nearby channel tunnel to England.
- Q.2** A. Accessing either type of train involves significant risk, and accidental deaths occur almost weekly when people leap onto moving trains or stumble under vehicle tires.
- B. Most who arrive here have endured arduous journeys of thousands of miles, hoping to cross to the United Kingdom.
- C. A few days before we visited the camp, a Sudanese man named Joseph was killed when he was run over by a car on the highway.
- D. Camp residents were protesting that the police had not stopped the driver, holding signs reading "We are Humans, Not Dogs" and "Do survivors of war not have the right to live in peace?"

- E. The channel tunnel offers asylum-seekers a way to make it to the U.K. without risking a dangerous crossing of the English Channel, by stowing away on either a high-speed passenger train or a freight train.
- Q.3** A. The Senate panel was called "Going Dark: Encryption, Technology, and the Balance between Public Safety and Privacy."
- B. FBI Director James Comey appeared before a Senate Committee on Wednesday, July 8, along with U.S Deputy Attorney General Sally Quillian Yates.
- C. "Going Dark" is a term used when people encrypt their communications.
- D. A joint statement from the duo, delivered by Yates, acknowledged "citizens have the right to communicate with one another in private without unauthorized government surveillance – not simply because the Constitution demands it, but because the free flow of information is vital to a thriving democracy."
- E. As the meeting convened, the frailty of our networks was on display for the world: The New York Stock Exchange was shut down for half a day, supposedly due to a computer "glitch"; United Airlines grounded flights when it lost access to its computer systems; and The Wall Street Journal website was down due to "technical difficulties."
- Q.4** A. To be different from the group or to resist environment is not easy and is often risky as long as we worship success.
- B. The urge to be successful, which is the pursuit of reward whether in the material or in the so-called spiritual sphere, the search for inward or outward security, the desire for comfort.
- C. With increasing age, dullness of mind and heart sets in.

- D. This whole process smothers discontent, puts an end to spontaneity and breeds fear; and fear blocks the intelligent understanding of life.
- E. Conventional education makes independent thinking extremely difficult, and conformity leads to mediocrity.
- Q.5** A. Until the 1980s, spinning factories mainly employed adult male workers in secure conditions of employment, with lawful wages and basic social security.
- B. Over the last 30 years, these workers have been replaced substantially by children labouring in what is called the 'camp coolie system'.
- C. This atrocious arrangement confines tens of thousands of child and teenage workers in locked custodial hostels, and compels them to toil almost without a break in conditions of semi-bondage for 10 hours or more a day.
- D. A conspiracy of silence shrouds this reality of 'Make in India' in the contemporary era of accelerating economic growth at all costs.
- E. The growth is in part built, in part, on the oppressive and illegal work by children.
- Q.6** A. Not to be able to stop thinking is a dreadful affliction, but we don't realize this because almost everybody is suffering from it, so it is considered normal.
- B. This incessant mental noise prevents you from finding that realm of inner stillness that is inseparable from Being.
- C. It also creates a false mind-made self that casts a shadow of fear and suffering.
- D. The philosopher Descartes believed that he had found the most fundamental truth when he made his famous statement: "I think, therefore I am."
- E. He had, in fact, given expression to the most basic error: to equate thinking with Being and identity with thinking.
- Q.7** A. It's a fringe highland region so detached from the modern world that even the regular passing of mist is considered an omen from the spirits.
- B. The Anga are also heirs to one of most bizarre rituals of the ancient world: the smoking of their ancestors' corpses.
- C. The Anga people live in Papua New Guinea's Aseki District.
- D. But few have been able to tell fact from fiction.
- E. An extraordinary – and from an outsider's point-of-view, grotesque – form of enshrinement, the smoked corpses of Aseki have captured the imagination of anthropologists, writers and filmmakers for more than 100 years.
- Q.8** A. Most of what's known about the mummies is based on hearsay, exaggeration or flights of the imagination.
- B. Even the locals I spoke to – Dickson, a pastor named Loland and a schoolteacher named Nimas – seemed to offer different stories about the ritual's past.
- C. The first documented report on the smoked corpses was by British explorer Charles Higginson in 1907 – seven years prior to the start of WWI.
- D. Yet according to Dickson, the mummifying practice began during WWI, when the Anga attacked the first group of missionaries to arrive in Aseki.
- E. His great-grandfather, one of the corpses we saw under the cliff, was shot dead by the missionaries in self-defence.
- Q.9** A. In addition, my own experiences of the spirit world have come together to make this book.
- B. I guess I could say the research had been going on all my life: all the stories my grandmother told me, and all the stories my hunter friends told me when I was older.
- C. In later life, I have had some frightening but amazing spirit encounters that have convinced me of the realness of the spirit world.
- D. For instance, I had a spirit child playmate when I was about four.
- E. He was a little boy who mischievously invited me to play.
- Q.10** A. Smitha seems to have been amazingly self-effacing, not taken in by the trappings of stardom.
- B. Actually, I call Smita the pioneer of social work at the zenith of her career – unlike stars like Nargis who became socially active after retiring from films.
- C. It has to be innate and also the ethos of strong middle-class values with which she grew up.
- D. From childhood, she was actively involved in the Rashtra Seva Dal, inspired by the teachings of Sane Guruji and adhered to Gandhiji's credo of Sarva Dharma Sama Bhava.
- E. Her father was a freedom fighter who was jailed as a teenager and her mother was a nurse who called social work a *rog* – a disease the family suffered from.
- Q.11** A. But very few cultures have found a place for the quirky or the anomalous in the midst of the epic in the way that the 'Indian imagination' has.
- B. Take the fresco at Mahabalipuram called 'Arjuna's Penance'.
- C. The magnificent figures in the main frieze and narrative, carved out of the rock, are

themselves a mix of the divine and the humorous.

- D. But, most tellingly, not far from the main frieze, are the figures of two monkeys, one picking lice from the other's hair.
- E. It's an astonishing example of how this country's traditions of miniaturism converge with its epic stories.

- Q.12**
- A. Gandhi poetically visualises Tiruvalluvar, as forever in conversation with anyone from any era who cares to listen to him attentively.
 - B. This is precisely the greatness of any classical work; that it can lend itself for any interpretation at any given era, far removed from its own time, because of its eternal appeal.
 - C. This total assimilation is reflected in his translation.
 - D. Although Gandhi was commissioned to do the translation, the Tirukkural was in his genes, inherited from his maternal grandfather who had translated it 1930.
 - E. He was so 'smitten' by this celebrated work, having read and re-read it several times over, that it became a part of his intrinsic cultural psyche.

- Q.13**
- A. Economists love incentives.
 - B. They love to dream them up and enact them, study them and tinker with them.
 - C. 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.
 - D. 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.
 - E. An incentive is a bullet, a lever, a key: an often tiny object with astonishing power to change a situation.

- Q.14**
- A. Like the proverbial butterfly that flaps its wings on one continent and eventually causes a hurricane on another, Norma McCorvey dramatically altered the course of events without intending to.
 - B. She was a poor, uneducated, unskilled, alcoholic, drug-using twenty-one-year-old woman who had already given up two children for adoption and now, in 1970, found herself pregnant again.
 - C. It had taken shape more than twenty years earlier and concerned a young woman in Dallas named Norma McCorvey.
 - D. All she had wanted was an abortion.
 - E. There was another factor, meanwhile which had greatly contributed to the massive crime drop of the 1990s.

- Q.15**
- A. McCorvey's case came to be adopted by people far more powerful than she.
 - B. They made her the lead plaintiff in a class-action lawsuit seeking to legalize abortion.
 - C. The case ultimately made it to the U.S. Supreme Court, by which time McCorvey's name had been disguised as Jane Roe.
 - D. The defendant was Henry Wade, the Dallas County district attorney.
 - E. On January 22, 1973, the court ruled in favour of Ms. Roe, allowing legalized abortion throughout the country.

- Q.16**
- A. This forgetting means that you can no longer feel this oneness as self-evident reality.
 - B. You then forget the essential fact that, underneath the level of physical appearances and separate forms, you are one with all that is.
 - C. It is this screen of thought that creates the illusion of separateness, the illusion that there is you and a totally separate "other."
 - D. It comes between you and yourself, between you and your fellow man and woman, between you and nature, between you and God.
 - E. Identification with your mind creates an opaque screen of concepts, labels, images, words, judgments, and definitions that blocks all true relationship.

- Q.17**
- A. Fear is a dreadful thing.
 - B. It darkens our lives, from fear we act neurotically.
 - C. We are asking whether man can ever be free of this terrible burden.
 - D. One may not be conscious of it.
 - E. It may be lurking in the deep unconsciousness, in the deep recesses of one's own brain.

- Q.18**
- A. Kohal says she hasn't run into sexism, but other females in the airline industry have and continue to face hurdles simply because of their gender.
 - B. And there are stories in the media and social media of notes being left on flights, or complaints being made, by passengers upset that they've flown with a female pilot.
 - C. Kohal's doctor mother and engineer father taught her and her sister that they weren't any different from men and could do anything they wanted as long as they had fun doing it.
 - D. GoAir, a budget airline in India, said in 2013 that it only wanted to hire small, young females to be flight attendants in order to save money on fuel by keeping the weight of the plane down.
 - E. This family support has helped her excel, but many women entering traditionally male-dominated professions in India encounter more obstacles.

- Q.19** A. But anyone who has worked as a professional in the country knows otherwise.
 B. So what about the infamous 35-hour work-week, which is the envy of much of the rest of the professional world?
 C. In the collective imagination, there are two Europes: the industrious north, with relatively low unemployment and dynamic economies, and the sluggish south, where people would just as soon kick back, sip an espresso and watch the world go by.
 D. Olivier, a senior counsel in a large French multinational in the construction industry in Paris works about 45 to 50 hours a week, from roughly 09:00 till 19:30.
 E. Many people would lump France, the land of the 35-hour workweek, long lunches and even longer vacations, with the south.
- Q.20** A. Everyone knows the story of the traveller in Naples who saw twelve beggars lying in the sun (it was before the days of Mussolini), and offered a lira to the laziest of them.
 B. I think that there is far too much work done in the world, that immense harm is caused by the belief that work is virtuous, and that what needs to be preached in modern industrial countries is quite different from what always has been preached.
 C. But although my conscience has controlled my actions, my opinions have undergone a revolution.
 D. Being a highly virtuous child, I believed all that I was told and acquired a conscience which has kept me working hard down to the present moment.
 E. Like most of my generation, I was brought up on the saying, "Satan finds some mischief still for idle hands to do."
- Q.21** A. An autocratic system of coercion, in my opinion, soon degenerates.
 B. I am quite aware that it is necessary for the success of any complex undertaking that one man should do the thinking and directing and in general bear the responsibility.
 C. For force always attract men of low morality, and I believe it to be an invariable rule that tyrants of genius are succeeded by scoundrels.
 D. For this reason I have always been passionately opposed to systems such as we see in Italy and Russia today.
 E. But the led must not be compelled; they must be able to choose their leader.
- Q.22** A. They have a responsible president who is elected for a sufficiently long period and has sufficient powers to be really responsible.

- B. I believe that in this respect the United States of America have found the right way.
 C. The really valuable thing in the pageant of human life seems to me not the State but the creative, sentient individual, the personality; it alone creates the noble and the sublime, while the herd as such remains dull in thought and dull in feeling.
 D. The thing that has brought discredit upon the prevailing form of democracy in Europe today is not to be laid to the door of the democratic idea as such, but to lack of stability on the part of the heads of governments and to the impersonal character of the electoral system.
 E. On the other hand, what I value in our political system is the more extensive provision that it makes for the individual in case of illness or need.

- Q.23** A. He has only been given his big brain by mistake.
 B. A backbone was all he needed.
 C. This topic brings me to that worst outcrop of the herd nature, the military system, which I abhor.
 D. This plague-spot of civilisation ought to be abolished with all possible speed.
 E. That a man can take pleasure in marching in formation to the strains of a band is enough to make me despise him.

- Q.24** A. I must launch out my boat.
 B. The languid hours pass by on the shore - Alas for me!
 C. The spring has done its flowering and taken leave.
 D. And now with the burden of faded futile flowers I wait and linger.
 E. The waves have become clamorous, and upon the bank in the shady lane the yellow leaves flutter and fall.

- Q.25** A. Only now and again sadness fell upon me, and I started up from my dream and felt a sweet trace of a strange fragrance in the south wind.
 B. My basket was empty and the flower remained unheeded.
 C. On the day when the lotus bloomed, Alas, my mind was straying, and I knew it not!
 D. That vague sweetness made my heart ache with longing and it seemed to me that it was the eager breath of the summer seeking for its completion.
 E. I knew not then that it was so near, that it was mine, and that this perfect sweetness had blossomed in the depth of my own heart.

PREVIOUS YEARS' QUESTIONS

CAT 2019 (MORNING SLOT)

Q.1 The four sentences [labelled (a), (b), (c), (d)] given below, when properly sequenced would yield a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper sequence of the order of the sentences and key in the sequence of the four numbers as your answer.

- (a) People with dyslexia have difficulty in print-reading, and people with autism spectrum disorder have difficulty in mind-reading.
- (b) An example of a lost cognitive instinct is mind reading: Our capacity to think of ourselves and others as having beliefs, desires, thoughts and feelings.
- (c) Mindreading looks increasingly like literacy, a skill we know for sure is not in our genes, since scripts have been around for only 5,000–6,000 years.
- (d) Print reading, like mind reading varies across cultures, depends heavily on certain parts of the brain, and is subject to developmental disorders.

Q.2 The four sentences [labelled (a), (b), (c), (d)] given below, when properly sequenced would yield a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper sequence of the order of the sentences and key in the sequence of the four numbers as your answer.

- (a) Metaphors may map similar meanings across languages, but their subtle differences can have a profound effect on our understanding of the world.
- (b) Latin scholars point out *carpe diem* is a horticultural metaphor, which particularly seen in the context of its source, is more accurately translated as “plucking the day,” evoking the plucking and gathering of ripening fruits or flowers, enjoying a moment that is rooted in the sensory experience of nature, unrelated to the force implied in seizing.
- (c) The phrase *carpe diem*, which is often translated as “seize the day” and its accompanying philosophy, has gone on to inspire countless people in how they live their lives and motivates us to see the world a little differently from the norm.
- (d) It’s an example of one of the more telling ways that we mistranslate metaphors from one lan-

guage to another, revealing in the process our hidden assumptions about what we really value.

Q.3 The four sentences [labelled (a), (b), (c), (d)] given below, when properly sequenced would yield a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper sequence of the order of the sentences and key in the sequence of the four numbers as your answer.

- (a) If you’ve seen a line on websites that says something like “customers who bought this also enjoyed that” you have experienced this collaborative filtering first-hand.
- (b) The problem with these algorithms is that they don’t take into account a host of nuances and circumstances that might interfere with their accuracy.
- (c) If you just bought a gardening book for your cousin, you might get a flurry of links to books about gardening, recommended just for you! – The algorithm has no way of knowing you hate gardening and only bought the book as a gift.
- (d) Collaborative filtering is a mathematical algorithm by which correlations and co-occurrences of behaviours are tracked and then used to make recommendations.

Q.4 The four sentences [labelled (a), (b), (c), (d)] given below, when properly sequenced would yield a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper sequence of the order of the sentences and key in the sequence of the four numbers as your answer.

- (a) We’ll all live under mob rule, until then, which doesn’t help anyone.
- (b) Perhaps we need to learn to condense the feedback we receive online so that 100 replies carry the same weight as just one.
- (c) As we grow more comfortable with social media conversations being part of the way we interact every day, we are going to have to learn how to deal with legitimate criticism.
- (d) A new norm will arise where it is considered unacceptable to reply with the same point that dozens of others have already.

CAT 2019 (EVENING SLOT)

Q.1 The four sentences [labelled (a), (b), (c), (d)] given below, when properly sequenced would yield a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper sequence of the order of the sentences and key in the sequence of the four numbers as your answer.

- (a) To the uninitiated listener, atonal music can sound like a chaotic, random noise. 2. Atonality is a condition of music in which the constructs of the music do not ‘live’ within the confines of a particular key signature, scale, or mode.

- (c) After you realize the amount of knowledge, skill, and technical expertise required to compose or perform it, your tune may change, so to speak.
- (d) However, atonality is one of the most important movements in the 20th century music.

Q.2 The four sentences [labelled (a), (b), (c), (d)] given below, when properly sequenced would yield a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper sequence of the order of the sentences and key in the sequence of the four numbers as your answer.

- (a) Living things—animals and plants—typically exhibit correlational structure.
- (b) Adaptive behaviour depends on cognitive economy, treating objects as equivalents.
- (c) The information we receive from our senses, from the world, typically has structure and order, and is not arbitrary.
- (d) To categorize an object means to consider it equivalent to other things in that category, and different—along some salient dimensions—from things that are not.

Q.3 The four sentences [labeled (a), (b), (c), (d)] given below, when properly sequenced would yield a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper sequence of the order of the sentences and key in the sequence of the four numbers as your answer.

- (a) Such a belief in the harmony of nature requires a purpose presumably imposed by the goodness and wisdom of a deity.
- (b) These parts, all fit together into an integrated, well-ordered system, which was created by

design.

- (c) Historically, the notion of balance of nature is part observational, part metaphysical, and not scientific in any way.
- (d) It is an example of an ancient belief system called teleology, the notion that what we call nature has a predetermined destiny associated with its component parts.

Q.4 The four sentences [labelled (a), (b), (c), (d)] given below, when properly sequenced would yield a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper sequence of the order of the sentences and key in the sequence of the four numbers as your answer.

- (a) Conceptualizations of ‘women’s time’ as contrary to clock time and clock time as synonymous with economic rationalism are two of the deleterious results of this representation.
- (b) While dichotomies of ‘men’s time’, ‘women’s time’, clock time, and caring time can be analytically useful, this article argues that everyday caring practices incorporate a multiplicity of times; and both men and women can engage in these multiple times.
- (c) When everyday practices of working sole fathers and working sole mothers are carefully examined to explore conceptualizations of gendered time, it is found that caring time is often more focused on the clock than generally theorized.
- (d) Clock time has been consistently represented in feminist literature as a masculine artefact representative of a ‘time is money’ perspective.

CAT 2018 (MORNING SLOT)

Q.1 The four sentences [labelled (a), (b), (c), (d)] given in this question, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labelled with a number. Decide on the proper sequence of order of the sentences and key in this sequence of four numbers as your answer:

- (a) Impartiality and objectivity are fiendishly difficult concepts that can cause all sorts of injustices even if transparently implemented.
- (b) They encourage us into bubbles of people we know and like while blinding us to different perspectives. But the deeper problem of ‘transparency’ lies in the words “...and much more”.
- (c) Twitter’s website says that “tweets you are likely to care about most will show up first in your timeline...based on accounts you interact with most, tweets you engage with, and much more”.
- (d) We are only told some of the basic principles, and we can’t see the algorithm itself. This

makes it hard for citizens to analyse the system sensibly or fairly or be convinced of its impartiality and objectivity.

Q.2 The four sentences [labelled (a), (b), (c), and (d)] given in this question, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper order for the sentences and key in this sequence of four numbers as your answer.

- (a) The woodland’s canopy receives most of the sunlight that falls on trees.
- (b) Swifts do not confine themselves to woodlands, but hunt wherever there are insects in the air.
- (c) With their streamlined bodies, swifts are agile flyers, ideally adapted to twisting and turning through the air as they chase flying insects – the creatures that form their staple diet.
- (d) Hundreds of thousands of insects fly in the sunshine up above the canopy, some falling prey to swifts and swallows

Q.3 The four sentences [labelled (a), (b), (c), (d)] given in this question, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labelled with a number. Decide on the proper sequence of order of the sentences and key in this sequence of four numbers as your answer:

- (a) But, now, we have another group: the unwitting enablers.
- (b) Democracy and high levels of inequality, of the kind that have come to characterize the United States, are simply incompatible.
- (c) Believing these people are working for a better world, they are, actually, at the most, chipping away at the margins, making slight course corrections, ensuring the system goes on as it is, uninterrupted.

(d) Very rich people will always use money to maintain their political and economic power.

Q.4 The four sentences [labelled (a), (b), (c), and (d)] given in this question, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper order for the sentences and key in this sequence of four numbers as your answer.

- (a) The eventual diagnosis was skin cancer and after treatment all seemed well.
- (b) The viola player didn't know what it was; nor did her GP.
- (c) Then a routine scan showed it had come back and spread to her lungs.
- (d) It started with a lump on Cathy Perkins' index finger.

CAT 2018 (EVENING SLOT)

Q.1 The four sentences [labelled (a), (b), (c), and (d)] given in this question, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper order for the sentences and key in this sequence of four numbers as your answer.

- (a) It was his taxpayers who had to shell out as much as \$1.6bn over 10 years to employees of failed companies.
- (b) Companies in many countries routinely engage in such activities which means that employees are left with unpaid entitlements.
- (c) Deliberate and systematic liquidation of a company to avoid liabilities and then restarting the business is called phoenixing.
- (d) The Australian Minister for Revenue and Services discovered in an audit that phoenixing had cost the Australian economy between 2.9bn and 5.1bn last year.

Q.2 The four sentences [labelled (a), (b), (c), (d)] given in this question, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labelled with a number. Decide on the proper sequence of order of the sentences and key in this sequence of four numbers as your answer:

- (a) They would rather do virtuous side projects assiduously as long as those would not compel them into doing their day jobs more honourably or reduce the profit margins.
- (b) They would fund a million of the buzzworthy programmes rather than fundamentally questioning the rules of their game or altering their own behaviour to reduce the harm of the existing distorted, inefficient and unfair rules.
- (c) Like the dieter, who would rather do anything to lose weight than actually eat less, the business elite would save the world through social-impact investing and philanthrocapitalism.

(d) Doing the right thing — and moving away from their win-win mentality — would involve real sacrifice; instead, it's easier to focus on their pet projects and initiatives.

Q.3 The four sentences [labelled (a), (b), (c), and (d)] given in this question, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper order for the sentences and key in this sequence of four numbers as your answer.

- (a) Self-management is thus defined as the “individual's ability to manage the symptoms, treatment, physical and psychosocial consequences and lifestyle changes inherent in living with a chronic condition”.
- (b) Most people with progressive diseases like dementia prefer to have control over their own lives and healthcare for as long as possible.
- (c) Having control means, among other things, patients themselves perform self-management activities.
- (d) Supporting people in decisions and actions that promote self-management is called self-management support. It requires a co-operative relationship among the patient, the family, and the professionals.

Q.4 The four sentences [labelled (a), (b), (c), (d)] given in this question, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labelled with a number. Decide on the proper sequence of order of the sentences and key in this sequence of four numbers as your answer:

- (a) In the era of smart world, however, ‘Universal Basic Income’ is an ineffective instrument which cannot address the potential breakdown of social contract when large swathes of the population would effectively be unemployed.

- (b) In the era of industrial revolution, the abolition of child labour, poor laws and the growth of trade unions helped families cope with the pressures of mechanized work.
- (c) Growing inequality could be matched by a creeping authoritarianism that is bolstered by

technology that is increasingly able to peer into the deepest vestiges of our lives.

- (d) New institutions emerge which recognize ways in which workers could contribute to and benefit by economic growth when, rather than if, their jobs are automated.

CAT 2017 (MORNING SLOT)

Directions for the question: *The five sentences [labelled (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e)] given in this question, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper order for the sentence and key in this sequence of five numbers as your answer.*

- Q.1**
- (a) The process of handing down implies not a passive transfer, but some contestation in defining what exactly is to be handed down.
 - (b) Wherever Western scholars have worked on the Indian past, the selection is even more apparent and the inventing of a tradition much more recognizable.
 - (c) Every generation selects what it requires from the past and makes its innovations, some more than others.
 - (d) It is now a truism to say that traditions are not handed down unchanged, but are invented.
 - (e) Just as life has death as its opposite, so is tradition by default the opposite of innovation.

Directions for the question: *The five sentences [labelled (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e)] given in this question, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper order for the sentence and key in this sequence of five numbers as your answer.*

- Q.2**
- (a) Scientists have, for the first time, managed to edit genes in a human embryo to repair a genetic mutation, fuelling hopes that such procedures may one day be available outside laboratory conditions.
 - (b) The cardiac disease causes sudden death in otherwise healthy young athletes and affects 1 in 500 people overall.
 - (c) Correcting mutation in the gene would not only ensure that the child is healthy but also prevent transmission of the mutation to future generations.
 - (d) It is caused by mutation in a particular gene and a child will suffer from the condition even if he/she inherits only one copy of the mutated gene.
 - (e) In results announced in Nature this week, scientists fixed a mutation that thickens the

heart muscle, a condition called hypertrophic cardiomyopathy.

Directions for the question: *The five sentences [labelled (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e)] given in this question, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper order for the sentence and key in this sequence of five numbers as your answer.*

- Q.3**
- (a) The study suggests that the disease did not spread with such intensity, but that it may have driven human migrations across Europe and Asia.
 - (b) The oldest sample came from an individual who lived in southeast Russia about 5,000 years ago.
 - (c) The ages of the skeletons correspond to a time of mass exodus from today's Russia and Ukraine into Western Europe and Central Asia, suggesting that a pandemic could have driven these migrants.
 - (d) In the analysis of fragments of DNA, from 101 Bronze Age skeletons, for sequences from *Yersinia pestis*, the bacterium that causes the disease, seven tested positive.
 - (e) The DNA from Bronze Age human skeletons indicate that the black plague could have emerged as early as 3,000 BCE, long before the epidemic that swept through Europe in the mid-1300s.

Directions for the question: *The five sentences [labelled (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e)] given in this question, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper order for the sentence and key in this sequence of five numbers as your answer.*

- Q.4**
- (a) This visual turn in social media has merely accentuated this announcing instinct of ours, enabling us with easy-to-create, easy-to-share, easy-to-store and easy-to-consume platforms, gadgets and apps.
 - (b) There is absolutely nothing new about us framing the vision of who we are or what we want, visually or otherwise, in our Facebook page, for example.
 - (c) Turning the pages of most family albums, which belong to a period well before the dig-

ital dissemination of self-created and self-curated moments and images, would reconfirm the basic instinct of documenting our presence in a particular space, on a significant occasion, with others who matter.

- (d) We are empowered to book our faces and act as celebrities within the confinement of our respective friend lists, and communicate our

activities, companionship and locations with minimal clicks and touches.

- (e) What is unprecedented is not the desire to put out news feed related to self, but the ease with which this broadcast operation can now be executed, often provoking (un)anticipated responses from beyond one's immediate location.

CAT 2017 (EVENING SLOT)

Directions for the question: *The five sentences [labelled (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e)] given in this question, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper order for the sentence and key in this sequence of five numbers as your answer.*

- Q.1**
- (a) The implications of retelling of Indian stories, hence, take on new meaning in modern India.
 - (b) The stories we tell reflect the world around us.
 - (c) We cannot help but retell stories that we value - after all, they are never quite right for us - in our time.
 - (d) And even if we manage to get them quite right, they are only right for us - other people living around us will have different reasons for telling similar stories.
 - (e) As soon as we capture a story, the world we were trying to capture has changed.

Directions for the question: *The five sentences [labelled (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e)] given in this question, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper order for the sentence and key in this sequence of five numbers as your answer.*

- Q.2**
- (a) Before plants can take life from atmosphere, nitrogen must undergo transformations similar to ones that food undergoes in our digestive machinery.
 - (b) In its aerial form, nitrogen is insoluble, unusable and is in need of transformation.
 - (c) Lightning starts the series of chemical reactions that need to happen to nitrogen, ultimately helping it nourish our earth.
 - (d) Nitrogen - an essential food for plants - is an abundant resource, with about 22 million tons of it floating over each square mile of earth.
 - (e) One of the most dramatic examples in nature of ill wind, which blows goodness, is lightning.

Direction for the question: *The six sentences [labelled (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e)] given in this question, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper order for the sentence and key in this sequence of five numbers as your answer.*

- Q.3**
- (a) This has huge implications for the health care system as it operates today, where depleted resources and time lead to patients rotating in and out of doctors' offices, often receiving minimal care or concern (what is commonly referred to as "bedside manner") from doctors.
 - (b) The placebo effect is when an individual's medical condition or pain shows signs of improvement based on a fake intervention that has been presented to him/her as a real one. It used to be regularly dismissed by researchers as a psychological effect.
 - (c) The placebo effect, however, is not solely based on believing in treatment, as the clinical setting in which the treatment is administered is also paramount.
 - (d) That the mind has the power to trigger biochemical changes because the individual believes that a given drug or intervention will be effective could empower chronic patients through the notion of our bodies' capacity for self-healing.
 - (e) Placebo effects are now studied not just as foils for "real" interventions but as potential portals into the self-healing powers of the body.

Directions for the question: *The five sentences [labelled (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e)] given in this question, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper order for the sentence and key in this sequence of five numbers as your answer.*

- Q.4**
- (a) Johnson treated English very practically, as a living language, with many different shades of meaning and adopted his definitions on the principle of English common law - according to precedent.
 - (b) Masking a profound inner torment, Johnson found solace in compiling the words of a language that was, in its coarse complexity and comprehensive genius, the precise analogue of his character.
 - (c) Samuel Johnson was a pioneer, who raised common sense to heights of genius, and a man of robust popular instincts whose watchwords were clarity, precision and simplicity.

(d) The 18th century English reader, in the new world of global trade and global warfare, needed a dictionary with authoritative acts of definition of words of a language that was becoming seeded throughout the first British Empire by a vigorous and practical champion.

(e) The Johnson who challenged Bishop Berkeley's solipsist theory of the nonexistence of matter by kicking a large stone ("I refute it thus") is the same Johnson for whom language must have a daily practical use.

ANSWER KEYS

PRACTICE EXERCISES

PRACTICE EXERCISE 1

1. (d) 2. (d) 3. (c) 4. (a) 5. (c) 6. (b) 7. (d) 8. (a) 9. (d) 10. (c)

PRACTICE EXERCISE 2

1. (d) 2. (c) 3. (a) 4. (c) 5. (b) 6. (d) 7. (b) 8. (b) 9. (d) 10. (d)

PRACTICE EXERCISE 3

1. (a) 2. (a) 3. (d) 4. (c) 5. (c) 6. (b) 7. (d) 8. (d) 9. (d) 10. (d)

PRACTICE EXERCISE 4

1. (b) 2. (c) 3. (d) 4. (d) 5. (c) 6. (d) 7. (b) 8. (a) 9. (d) 10. (d)

PRACTICE EXERCISE 5

1. (d) 2. (a) 3. (d) 4. (b) 5. (b) 6. (b) 7. (a) 8. (b) 9. (d) 10. (d)

PRACTICE EXERCISE 6

1. (c) 2. (c) 3. (d) 4. (a) 5. (d) 6. (a) 7. (b) 8. (b) 9. (d) 10. (c)

PARAJUMBLES—Non MCQ

1. (CDEAB) 2. (BEACD) 3. (BEACD) 4. (EABDC) 5. (ABCDE) 6. (ABCDE) 7. (CABED)
 8. (ABCDE) 9. (BADEC) 10. (ACDEB) 11. (EDCBA) 12. (BDECA) 13. (ABCDE) 14. (ECADB)
 15. (ABDCE) 16. (EDCBA) 17. (ABCDE) 18. (CEADB) 19. (CEADB) 20. (EDCBA) 21. (BEACD)
 22. (DBAEC) 23. (CEABD) 24. (ABCDE) 25. (CBADE)

PREVIOUS YEARS' QUESTIONS

CAT 2019 (MORNING SLOT)

1. (bcda) 2. (cbda) 3. (dabc) 4. (cbda)

CAT 2019 (EVENING SLOT)

1. (badc) 2. (bdca) 3. (cdba) 4. (dacb)

CAT 2018 (MORNING SLOT)

1. (acbd) 2. (adcb) 3. (bdac) 4. (dbac)

CAT 2018 (EVENING SLOT)

1. (cbda) 2. (cbda) 3. (bcad) 4. (dbac)

CAT 2017 (MORNING SLOT)

1. (edacb) 2. (aebdc) 3. (edabc) 4. (cbade)

CAT 2017 (EVENING SLOT)

1. (becda) 2. (ecdba) 3. (bedca) 4. (dceab)

HINTS AND EXPLANATIONS

PRACTICE EXERCISE 1

1. The first sentence should be either Q or S (P and R are not possible as the first sentence as there would be two adjacent articles). A thorough reading makes clear that SQ is the link.
Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.
2. PS link is the definite starter. R is the last statement.
Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.
3. Q is the starter. S should come before R (the army is addressed by these troops).
Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.
4. Either P or S may be the starting sentence. Further, SP link appears better.
Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.
5. S is the definite starter, explaining nuclear explosion tests.
Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.
6. The presence of the word 'an' in statement 1 makes statement S the only possible starter sentence.
Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.
7. R is the opening statement. SP is the link.
Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.
8. SQ is the link (English, as the language of ...). P is the last sentence.
Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.
9. RQ is the link (persons speaking a different language). P is the last sentence.
Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.
10. S goes well with statement 6. PR is the link.
Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

PRACTICE EXERCISE 2

1. Statement D introduces the name (noun), Julian, while other statements have used the pronoun (he). Hence statement D is the starter (with this, we can mark the answer). CB is the link because statement C describes what his instincts told him, and statement B states that he trusted his intuition.
Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.
2. The subject of the paragraph appears to be "human transmission tower", which is given in statement C. 'You' (statement C) is described by a possessive pronoun 'your' (statement D). Hence CD is the link.
Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.
3. D introduces the paragraph. B follows as it questions the region's business model.
Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.
4. D introduces the theme succinctly. C follows because it uses the words 'latter' and 'former.' B is the concluding statement explaining what constitutes 'real democracy.'
Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.
5. D is the definite starter, explaining the two types of treatment, followed by A, and then by B (because of the presence of the word 'however').
Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.
6. The paragraph must start with C as it introduces the subject, followed by B which carries on the idea of software.
Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.
7. The paragraph must start with B as it introduces knowledge, and the idea is continued in option A.
Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.
8. The paragraph must start with D followed by AC, then F should precede E.
Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.
9. DA is obviously a sequence. Now, we have to find out which of the remaining sentences does DA elaborate. Or does it elaborate none and we can therefore start with DA? On close scrutiny, we find DA is an elaboration of B.
Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.
10. "This fact" at the end of A refers to C. Thus CA is a sequence and option A gets ruled out. Again, "this purpose" in B is a reference to D. Thus DB is a sequence and option C gets ruled out. "They" in C is a reference to "women" in E. So, clearly we have two sequences—ECA and DB. If you place DB first, it does not make sense.
Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

PRACTICE EXERCISE 3

1. Short and perhaps therefore easy! C is the opening sentence. D elaborates it further. B gives a turn to the para. And A comes as the conclusion.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

2. The only independent sentence is C and it should therefore come at the beginning. Do not be confused by “it” at the beginning: it is an indefinite pronoun here. The passage is about “the marginal man” talked about in C. And then there is a gradual sequencing: *the marginal man, this is a man, he*. So either A or D. But A is a better arrangement as far as tense is concerned.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

3. Easy one! The clue lies in the words “cyclical” and “linear”.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

4. Clearly, B is the initial sentence and D the conclusion.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

5. We begin with D, the only independent sentence. Also, BA is a sequence.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

6. D is the first sentence as it outlines the paradoxical situation. The rest of the passage goes on to delineate the second part of the paradox.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

7. S is the definite starter as it explains how “Egypt could survive (through foreign trade).” Other options have directly jumped upon explaining the “cotton production/export.” The next sentence should explain what constitutes foreign trade for Egypt. Hence statement Q follows.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

8. S is the opening statement as it explains the types of exercise. Q follows (some cost nothing, others...).

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

9. R is the opening statement, Q follows. PS is the link as P introduced ‘most cities’, and S mentions ‘such cities.’

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

10. R is the definite starter, followed by S. P should come after S, as it mentions other filmmakers followed ‘his’ lead. Q is the last sentence as it brings the paragraph from past to present.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

PRACTICE EXERCISE 4

1. “They” in D refers to “human rights advocates” in 1. Hence, 1D is a sequence. Thus A and C are ruled out. Again, “the rest” in 6 is obviously a sequel to “half of the youths” in A. Which means A6 is a sequence.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

2. C tells us about “the more functions” in 1. Hence, 1C is a sequence. Thus A and B are ruled out. And “the phones” in B refers to the “special Digital Multimedia Broadcasting phones” in A. Thus AB is a sequence.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

3. Look at the first word *It’s* (focus on *it*) in D. It refers to “his story” in 1. Thus 1D is a sequence. Hence, A and D are ruled out. And what is one of “the book’s omissions”? That Maradona does not blame himself. In other words, A is an explanation of B. Thus BA is a sequence.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

4. The clue lies in “otherwise” in 6, which here means “if you do not develop a thick skin”. Obviously, B6 is a sequence. Now, D is the only such choice where B can precede 6.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

5. B is the answer to D. Hence, DB is a sequence. Besides, C6 is another sequence.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

6. 6 is the answer to the question raised in C. Thus C6 is an obvious sequence. Enough for our answer!

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

7. 6 is an example of what is mentioned in C. Again, we get C6 as a sequence. A goes best with D, thus giving us DA as another sequence.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

8. Note the pronoun *both* in C and D. It refers to “Nigeria and South Africa” mentioned in 1. But D should come later because it is a sentence that begins with *But*.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

9. Here 6 is an elaboration of A. We thus get A6. Enough for our answer!

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

10. Can B come before D? No. Because “Ms Clarke” in B can come only after “Susanna Clarke” in D. Hence, A and D are ruled out. Again, note that “the book” in C refers to “a fat historical fantasy novel” in D. Hence, DC is a sequence.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

PRACTICE EXERCISE 5

1. A introducing the topic must begin the passage, but instead of B, D should follow A, AD being mandatory. C should be next with its data on retail trade. CB being mandatory, B giving data on 'The retailer's Association of India', should follow C, thus B and D should be interchanged to make the sequence a coherent paragraph, E already concluding the passage appropriately with its 'the Association is confident' etc. ADCBE is the right sequence.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

2. E introducing the topic, describing 'Sadrudin stepped down after 12 years' etc., is the best starter but here E is wrongly placed. B should be next, its 'He' referring to 'Sadrudin' of E which should have begun the passage, EB being mandatory. C is at the right place with its 'stories circulated' etc., similarly, D is also at the right place, again CD being mandatory. Only A is an appropriate conclusion of the coherent passage but is misplaced. So only interchanging A and E would make the passage coherent. EBCDA is the right sequence.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

3. A initiating the argument is an appropriate opener of the passage. B picking up well the argument of 'the aviation policy' being 'bundle of contradictions' advances it with 'whiff of fresh air' etc. but B should be followed by D, its 'open skies' agreement argument picks up appropriately from B, instead, C wrongly follows it, so both C and D are misplaced. E with its 'Much more is on the cards' is an apt conclusion of the passage. ABDCE is the right sequence.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

4. B introducing the topic is the best starter for the paragraph. A should be next its 'That is availability of service' picks up the argument from B. Both A and B are misplaced. C, D and E are in right sequence. BA being mandatory A and B are to be interchanged to bring out a coherent passage. BACDE is the right sequence.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

5. C initiating the argument is the best starter but is misplaced. B is rightly placed but C is misplaced. B is rightly placed as it picks up the argument from C and advances it appropriately. A with its 'fiscal picture' etc. should follow B but A is also misplaced. D and E are in order and rightly placed. CB and AD being the links, CBADE is the right sequence and B is the answer as A and C are to be interchanged to make a coherent passage.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

6. E being the most general statement or introducing the topic is the best starter but it is misplaced. B with its 'Three major companies' etc. should follow E as it picks up E's argument appropriately and advances

the argument. C should be next its 'This has thrown' etc. refers to B's describing 'Three companies' have 'serious problems'. D must be next giving the reason behind the 'serious problems'. A is an appropriate conclusion but it also is misplaced, interchanging A and E would set right the sequence, i.e., EBCDA.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

7. A being the most general statement or initiating the argument must begin the passage. B should be the next, as it sums up the argument appropriately and gives the details of 'Problems relating to higher education'. C has the proper logical question, should follow B. Now comes the disruption, E should follow C with its 'That is the question' etc. the logical corollary to C's question, but it is misplaced in the end as the conclusion, which it is not. What D says is the appropriate conclusion of the passage which is also misplaced. So, D and E should be interchanged to make the sequence coherent, i.e., ABCED.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

8. B being the most effective and optimistic starter is the suitable statement as it initiates the topic telling that there is 'a shift in steel use', there are 'sunshine days again in the Indian steel industry.' A sustains the spirit or the force by stating that. C is the logical corollary with its 'A combination of factors' etc. D is rightly placed. E is rightly placed at the end, as what it says concludes the paragraph appropriately with its contrasting picture. A and B are misplaced which can be set right on interchanging them. BACDE is the sequence.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

9. A telling BPO 'is one of the hottest career' etc. is the suitable starter. B with its details and data on BPO sector should be the next. But E, its 'This supersonic trajectory' etc. is the logical corollary of AB, so it is misplaced. D with its 'In addition' etc. is rightly placed. C with its 'In addition to infrastructure facilities' etc. is the appropriate conclusion but it is also misplaced. So, C and E should be interchanged to make the right sequence, i.e., ABEDC.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

10. A initiating the argument should obviously be the opening sentence. But then C with its 'Estimates vary' etc. should be next, so C is misplaced. B with its 'there are at least thousand of them' being the logical corollary, should follow, which again is misplaced. D with its 'By definition' etc. has rightly followed. E appropriately concluding the sequence with its 'NGOs have, in this manner, a long history' etc. is rightly placed in the end. So, B and C have to be interchanged to make the sequence coherent—ACBDE.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

PRACTICE EXERCISE 6

1. DAB is the link. It talks about project management methodology.
Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.
2. ABD is the link. It talks about the crash.
Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.
3. ACB is the link. It talks about the success according to Rick Caruso.
Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.
4. BCD is the link. It talks about How to unlock two Android Easter eggs while A talks about why it was built up?
Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.
5. ACB is the link. It talks about tigers killing elephants for the population control.
Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.
6. CDB is the link as it talks about the pattern of the universe and we can feel that.
Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.
7. ACD is the link it talks about being single while B talks about the positive aspects of marriage.
Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.
8. ACD is the link as it talks about not only Steve Jobs contributed to Apple but others also.
Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.
9. Clearly ABC forms a link about the reports while D states about IPCC.
Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.
10. ABD forms the link, it talks about the big data and its applications while C states about to infer people along with personal information.
Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

PARAJUMBLES – Non MCQ

1. 'Their' in the 4th sentence refers to the asylum seekers mentioned in the 3rd sentence. 5th is the extension of the 1st sentence (refugee camp). North Sea in the 1st sentence corresponds to the 'channel' in the 5th sentence. The 2nd sentence gives details of the living conditions in the camp; continues the idea of 'shelter' in the previous sentence.
Hence, option (CDEAB) is the correct answer.
2. The 2nd sentence lays the framework for the rest of the paragraph, hence the opener. The 5th sentence talks about how people fulfil their wish to go to UK mentioned in 2nd sentence; 1st sentence talks about the types of train; 3rd is an example of accidental death and 4th sentence talks about the reaction of the camp residents to these unfortunate deaths.
Hence, option (BEACD) is the correct answer.
3. The 2nd sentence introduces the details of a meeting discussed in the paragraph; the 5th takes it forward – 'as the meeting convened;' the 1st and 3rd sentence give the highlight of the discussion. The 4th sentence is the outcome of the meeting.
Hence, option (BEACD) is the correct answer.
4. 5th is the theme sentence hence the opener; the 1st sentence extends the idea of 'conformity' in the 5th sentence; the 2nd sentence explains how 'success is worshipped' as mentioned in the 1st sentence, and the 4th is the outcome. 5th is the long-term fallout of 'fear blocking the intelligent understanding of life'.
Hence, option (EABDC) is the correct answer.
5. The 1st sentence talks about the fair and lawful employment scenario prevalent in the spinning factories till the 1980's, the rest of the sentences talk about the exploitative scenario that prevailed later; the 2nd sentence points to the negative change that followed. 3rd uses the term atrocious for camp coolie system in 2nd sentence; the 4th and 5th are the concluding statements. 5th has to be the last one as it uses 'the growth' refers to 'accelerating economic growth' attributed to 'Make in India.'
Hence, option (abcde) is the correct answer.
6. The first sentence moots the discussion on the problem of excessive thinking. The 2nd sentence uses incessant mental noise for not being able to stop thinking in 1st sentence; the 3rd sentence mentions the fallout of incessant thinking. The 4th and 5th sentences (he refers to Descartes) support the premise with a quote from Descartes and hence the concluding sentences.
Hence, option (ABCDE) is the correct answer.
7. The 3rd sentence is the opener as it lays down the framework for discussion on the Anga people; the 1st outlines the geography and culture of the place; The 2nd introduces and 5th sentences details a bizarre ritual associated with the place; 'few' in the 4th sentence refers to anthropologists, writers and filmmakers mentioned in the 5th sentence.
Hence, option (CABED) is the correct answer.
8. The 1st is the theme sentence discussed in the whole paragraph. The 2nd sentence is the extension of idea introduced the first sentence that what's known about the mummies is based on 'hearsay...etc.:' 3 and 4 form mandatory link as both talk about WWI, an example for the observation intro in the 1st sent; 'his'

in the 5th sentence refers to Dickson mentioned in the 4th sentence.

Hence, option (ABCDE) is the correct answer.

9. The paragraph follows a chronological sequence. 2nd is the introductory general statement that lays the theme of the paragraph. 1st sentence gives the additional source of inspiration; 4th and 5th narrate the author's experience of the spirit world in his childhood years. The 3rd sentence talks about his experience in later life.

Hence, option (badec) is the correct answer.

10. The 1st statement is the author's opinion, which forms the basis of further discussion. The 3rd sentence explains the 'self-effacing' element mentioned in the 1st sentence.; the 4th and the 5th sentence form a mandatory pair linking the childhood and family environment that shaped her personality; the 2nd sentence is the concluding remark about Smita's proclivity for social work.

Hence, option (ACDEB) is the correct answer.

11. The 5th is the opening general statement that moots the discussion on the 'quirky...' in the midst of an epic. The 4th and 3rd illustrate the point with a frieze from a monument; The 2nd sentence gives additional information (most tellingly), 'not far from the frieze' justifies the anomaly indicated in the 1st sentence. Of course, 1st is the concluding remark that follows.

Hence, option (EDCBA) is the correct answer.

12. The 2nd sentence serves as the opener as it is a general statement about the timelessness of the interpretation of literary works. The 4th sentence supports the assertion made in the 2nd sentence. The 5th sentence talks about Gandhi using pronoun 'He' followed by 3rd which uses the word 'assimilation' that refers to 'read and re-read' in the previous sentence. The 1st is the concluding element.

Hence, option (BDECA) is the correct answer.

13. The 1th sentence sets the tone for discussion on the importance of incentives for the economists. The 2nd is the extension of the remark and the 3rd sentence takes it forward with 'the typical economist' and their fixation with problem solving. 4th takes the idea further and points out its limitations, and 5th is the concluding statement.

Hence, option (ABCDE) is the correct answer.

14. The 5th sentence introduces the topic of discussion-crime drop in the 90's, hence the opener; The 3rd sentence provides historical backdrop of the trend; The 1st statement talks about the impact of Norma McCorvey. The fifth sentence justifies he comparison with the proverbial butterfly, as she 'just wanted an abortion.' The 2nd sentence gives additional information about the lady.

Hence, option (ECADB) is the correct answer.

15. The 1st sentence opens the discussion on McCorvey's case. The 2nd ('they' refers to 'people' in the 1st sentence) and 4th sentences talk about the plaintiff and the defendant of the case. The 3rd and the 5th sentences talk about the progression and culmination of the case.

Hence, option (ABDCE) is the correct answer.

16. The 5th sentence moots the problem of identification with the mind; the 4th gives examples of how 'it blocks the different relationships'. The 3rd extends the idea further; the 2nd and 1st sentences talk about the result of identification with the mind and thoughts.

Hence, option (EDCBA) is the correct answer.

17. The paragraph opens with a general statement about fear (1st sentence). The 2nd sentence talks about how it's a 'dreadful thing'; and 3rd calls it a terrible burden. The 4th sentence talks about the nature of fear; the 5th sentence explains how 'one may not be conscious' of fear.

Hence, option (ABCDE) is the correct answer.

18. The 3rd is an opener, as it lays the background for discussion on 'sexism' in the airlines industry. The 5th sentence (this family support) refers to the gender neutral values enjoyed by Kohal. The 1st sentence mentions that hers has been more of an exceptional experience; the 4th and 2nd sentences indicate the instances of sexism prevalent in the airline industry.

Hence, option (CEADB) is the correct answer.

19. The 3rd sentence is a general observation about the 'two Europes', The 5th sentence puts France with the southern part of Europe and talks about a common myth regarding the workload in the region. The 1st and 4th sentences illustrate that it is far from true. The 2nd sentence raises a question which the reader would like to ask.

Hence, option (CEADB) is the correct answer.

20. The 5th sentence mentions a 'saying' that dictated the author's upbringing; as the paragraph is about hard work and laziness, it's a good opener. The 4th completes the description. The 3rd and 2nd sentences talk about the radical change in the author's point of view. The 1st sentence recalls a story to drive home the point.

Hence, option (EDCBA) is the correct answer.

21. The 2nd is a general statement talks about the necessity of a leader and the 5th sentence mentions a reservation expressed by the author; the 1st takes the idea of 'coercion' further (refers to 'compelled' in the 5th sentence). The 3rd sentence explains the drawbacks of using force; the last one is the concluding statement which correlates with the strong word 'scoundrel' mentioned in the previous sentence.

Hence, option (BEACD) is the correct answer.

22. The 3rd sentence can't be the opener, as it has to gel with the 5th sentence which can only come before it. The 4th sentence tries to justify an apparent failure of the democratic ideal and gives reasons behind it; In the 2nd sentence 'in this respect' refers to the stability of government mentioned in the 4th sentence; and the 1st sentence completes the information. The 5th sentence lists another factor behind it appeal, and the 3rd sentence completes and concludes the idea of the primacy of individual over state.

Hence, option (DBAEC) is the correct answer.

23. The 5th sentence can't be an opener as it can't be followed by the 3rd sentence. The 3rd sentence lays down the author's abhorrence for the military system, the topic of discussion; the 5th sentence continues the strong views of the author (despise means strong hatred); 'He' in the 1st sentence refers to 'a man' in the 5th sentence. 2nd sentence completes the opinion given in the 1st sentence; of course 4th is the concluding remark of the discussion.

Hence, option (CEABD) is the correct answer.

24. The 1st is the opener, a declarative statement followed by the 2nd sentence – 'languid hours...on the shore' and the tone marker 'alas' relate to 'must launch my boat' in the 1st sentence. The 3rd and 4th talk about the waning of the spring; the 5th sentence combines both the elements and sums up the poet's musing.

Hence, option (ABCDE) is the correct answer.

25. The 3rd is the opening element as it introduces the topic of reflection, which relates to the blooming of lotus. The 3rd and 2nd sentences are sequential as 'the mind was straying' leads to 'the flower was unheeded'. As the basket remains 'empty' (2nd sentence), the author feels sad and dreamy (1st sentence); 'that vague sweetness' in the 4th refers to 'feeling a sweet fragrance' in the 1st sentence; the 5th sentence is the realization that dawns upon the author, hence the concluding remark.

Hence, option (CBADE) is the correct answer.

CAT 2019 (MORNING SLOT)

1. Sentences 2 and 3 speak about mind reading. And sentence 3 defines mind reading in detail. Therefore, one set needs to be in the sequence 23.

Sentence 1 and 4 both speak about print reading. Moreover, sentence 1 is differentiating an exceptional element of print reading. Therefore, sentence 1 must follow sentence 4. Thus the other sequence is 41.

Now, sentence 4 has the connecting phrase "like mind reading". Therefore, it must be after sentence 3.

Hence, option (bcda) is the correct answer.

2. The solution to this sentence is very tricky.

Sentence 4 can't be the starting sentence because as starts with 'it' which is used in the context of the phrase "carpe diem", thus it must comes after either sentence 2 or 3.

Sentence 1 has the connecting word 'may' and is strengthening the point made in sentence 4. Therefore sentence 1 must follow sentence 4.

Sentence 2 and sentence 3 both are speaking about the translation of the phrase "carpe diem" and any one of them could well be the starting sentence but sentence 2 starts with 'Latin scholars point out that' and

is enhancing the claim of the translation as stated in statement 3, thus it should come after statement 3.

Hence, option (cbda) is the correct answer.

3. The solution to this problem is simple enough.

Statement 4 states about collaborative filtering and statement 1 gives supportive example for the same. Statement 2 states about the problem in collaborative filtering and statement 3 strengthens that problem by giving the example.

Hence, option (dabc) is the correct answer.

4. Statement 1 does contain the word 'until then' which is a futuristic statement and must be following some other sentence.

Statement 4 starts with 'a new norm will arise' and is again a futuristic sentence, therefore, it can't be the starting sentence. Therefore, 1 must follow 4.

Moreover, statement 2 starts with the word 'perhaps' which is a connecting word. Therefore, it can't be the starting sentence and also it can't come after sentence 1.

Hence, option (cbda) is the correct answer.

CAT 2019 (EVENING SLOT)

1. Statement 4 contradicts some other sentence due to the use of the word 'however' in it; therefore, it can't be the starting sentence. And statement 3 is supporting the contradiction of statement 4; therefore, it must follow statement 4.

Statement 2 introduces 'Atonality' and statement 1 adds on to the explanation of atonal music. Therefore, statement 2 must be followed by statement 1.

Hence, option (badc) is the correct answer.

- Statement 2 introduces the idea of adaptive behavior and statement 4 further enhances the idea by 'categorizing an object'. Therefore, statement 2 must be followed by statement 4.

Statement 3 speaks about 'information having structure and order'. Statement 1 speaks about the type of structure by giving the example. Therefore, statement 3 must be followed by statement 1.

Thus there are two groups 24 and 31.

Hence, option (bdca) is the correct answer.

- Statement 3 speaks about the notion of balance of nature and its traces from history, statement 4 strengthens the point raised in 3 by further elaborating it, thus 3 must be followed by 4, further statement 2 starts

with 'these parts', which is in relation to the 'component parts' mentioned in statement 4, therefore, must come after statement 4. Also, statement 1 can't be the starting sentence as it starts with 'such a belief'.

Hence, option (cdba) is the correct answer.

- Statement 1 uses the 'pronoun' this representation which means that this statement must be preceded by the sentence which speaks about representation initially. As statement 4 starts with 'clock time has been consistently represented', the sequence should be 4-1. Statement 3 further enhances the contrary which was started in the statement 1. Therefore, it must follow 1. Statement 2 will be the concluding statement.

Hence, option (dacb) is the correct answer.

CAT 2018 (MORNING SLOT)

- Statement 1 is the starting sentence as it introduces the concept of 'impartiality and objectivity'. Statement 3 introduces the idea of 'Twitter' and statement 2 starts with the pronoun 'it' which refers to 'Twitter' and also the 'problem of transparency' stated in statement 2 is further discussed in statement 4.

Hence, option (acbd) is the correct answer.

- Statement 1 will be the starting statement as it introduces the idea of 'woodland's canopy' and in statement 4 'canopy' is used in relation to 'woodland's canopy'. Therefore, it must follow statement 1. Statement 3 describes 'swifts' and statement 2 must follow statement 3 as it states that 'Swifts do not confine themselves to woodlands'.

Hence, option (adcb) is the correct answer.

- Statement 2 says that 'democracy and high level of inequality are incompatible' and statement 4 gives the

reason for that 'incompatibility'. Therefore, 2 must be followed by 4. Statement 1 starts with the keyword 'but' and is used for the group (unwitting enablers) other than being previously discussed (in this case, the previously discussed group is of rich people) and statement 3 enhances the information about the unwitting enablers.

Hence, option (bdac) is the correct answer.

- Statement 1 starts with the term 'eventual diagnosis' and thus could not be the starting statement. Moreover, statement 3 must follow statement 1 as it states 'it had come back'.

Statement 4 should be the starting statement as it states 'it started with' and statement 2 must follow statement 4.

Hence, option (dbac) is the correct answer.

CAT 2018 (EVENING SLOT)

- Statement 3 introduces the idea of 'phoenixing', therefore, it will be the introductory statement of the passage.

Since Statement 2 contains the pronoun 'such activities' and the activity is defined in statement 1, and also adds more input to 'phoenixing', therefore, it must come after statement 1, thus 12 form a group.

Statement 4 needs to be followed by statement 1 as statement 1 does contain the pronoun 'his taxpayers' and the noun for which could only be 'The Australian Minister for Revenue and Services'.

Hence, option (cbda) is the correct answer.

- Statement 3 will be the starting statement of the paragraph as statement 1 and statement 2 starts with pro-

nouns. Also, statement 4 can't be the starting statement as it states—'moving away from their win-win mentality'—again a pronoun. Statement 3 compares dieters and business elite, and also brings the idea of 'social-impact-investing and philanthrocapitalism' which is related to statement 2 as confirmed from the key word 'fund a million'. Statement 2 also doesn't qualify to be the starting statement as it reads: 'alter their own behaviour to reduce the harm of the existing distorted, inefficient and unfair rules'.

Statement 4 starts with 'Doing the right thing-' must be followed by statement 1 as the latter states 'They would rather do....' And these two statements seem to be linked with each other.

Hence, option (cbda) is the correct answer.

- Statement 2 introduces the concept of 'preference of having control' statement 3 further elaborates the term 'having control'; therefore, must follow statement 2. Statement 1 must follow statement 3 as it contains the connecting word 'thus' related to self-management which is introduced in statement 3. Statement 4 must be the concluding statement as it further enhances the passage scope from self-management to self-management support.

Hence, option (bcad) is the correct answer.

- Statement 4 will be the starting statement as it introduces the concept of the 'emergence of new institutions.' Statement 2 introduces 'trade union' as 'new institution', therefore, must come after statement 4.

Statement 3 says about 'growing inequality' which is the result of 'the large number of persons being unemployed' as stated in statement 1. Therefore, statement 3 must come after statement 1.

Hence, option (dbac) is the correct answer.

CAT 2017 (MORNING SLOT)

- Statement 5 will be the starting sentence as it introduces the idea that 'tradition is opposite to innovation'. Statement 4 will follow 5 as it contradicts the idea stated in 5. 1 will follow 4 as it explains the 'process of handling down'. Statement 3 will follow 1 as it states 'what is required from past' or in other words 'what is to be handed down', statement 2 will be the last sentence of the passage as it adds further by 'selection'.

Hence, option (edacb) is the correct answer.

- Statement 1 will begin the paragraph as it introduces the success of scientists as they 'edit genes in a human embryo to repair a genetic mutation'. Statement 5 will follow 1 as it shows that 'scientists fixed a mutation of hypertrophic cardiomyopathy condition'. Statement 2 will follow 5 as it shows 'cardiac disease can cause sudden death'. Statement 4 will follow 2 as it states 'how cardiac disease is caused by mutation'. Statement 3 will be the final statement of the paragraph as it shows 'what will happen if the mutation in gene is corrected'.

Hence, option (aebdc) is the correct answer.

- Statement 5 will start the paragraph as it introduces the topic of 'emergence of black plaque based on DNA from Bronze Age skeletons'. Statement 4 will follow

5 as it shows '7 out of the 101 skeletons tested were positive'. Statement 1 will follow 4 as it adds value to the statement 4 by stating 'human migration might be driven due to disease'. Statement 2 will follow 1 as it gives support to the claim made in 1, statement 3 will be the concluding statement as it suggests 'pandemic could have driven migrations'.

Hence, option (edabc) is the correct answer.

- Statement 3 will be the starting sentence of the passage as it states that 'Turning the pages of most family albums, belonging to pre digital period, reconfirm the basic instinct of documenting our presence in a particular space, on a significant occasion, with others who matter'. Statement 2 will follow 1 as it carries forward the idea of documenting our presence in this era by giving example of Facebook page. Statement 1 will follow 2 as it shows that 'how visual turn in social media has accentuated the instinct of documenting our presence.' Statement 4 will follow 1 as it enhances the concept stated in 1. Statement 5 will be the last statement of the paragraph as it states about the 'ease with which broadcast operation can be executed'.

Hence, option (cbade) is the correct answer.

CAT 2017 (EVENING SLOT)

- Statement 2 will be the starting statement of the paragraph as it brings the idea of story and relates it to the world. Statement 5 completes the idea of statement 2, statement 3 will come after statement 5 as it states 'we cannot help but retell the story'. Statement 4 will come after 3 as 3 says 'they are never quite right for us' and 4 starts with 'And even if we manage to get them quite right' as 3 and 4 form a pair. Statement 1 is the last sentence of the paragraph as it speaks of 'implications of retelling stories'.

Hence, option (becda) is the correct answer.

- Statement 5 is the opening statement as it introduces 'lighting', statement 3 will come after 5 as it carries

forward the concept of 'lightning', statement 4 must follow 3 as it explains how 'nitrogen nourishes the earth', statement 2 must follow 4 as it describes 'aerial form of nitrogen is insoluble and need transformation', statement 1 must be the concluding statement as it states how this transformation will happen.

Hence, option (ecdba) is the correct answer.

- Statement 2 will be the starting statement as it introduces the concept of 'placebo effect' and how it used to be dismissed by researchers'. Statement 5 will follow 2 as it states that 'placebo effects are now studied....even as self-healing power', statement 4 will follow 5 as it carries forward the concept of 'self-heal-

ing power', statement 3 will follow 4 as it carries forward the discussion and introduces a new concept of 'settings in which treatments are administered'. 1 will be the last statement of the paragraph.

Hence, option (bedca) is the correct answer.

4. Statement 4 will be the starting statement of the paragraph as it describes the 'need of dictionary' and also

introduces the 'champion'. Statement 3 will follow 4 as it 'describes the champion and its qualities', statement 5 will follow 3 as it gives the details of 'Johnson and his believe', statement 1 carries forward 5 as it states 'Johnson's practical approach towards English', statement 2 will be the concluding statement.

Hence, option (dceab) is the correct answer.