

# XAT 2017

## Verbal Ability and Logical Reasoning

### 1. Read the following paragraphs and answer the question that follows:

The current trend indicates that food and vegetable inflations continue to be pain points. Food inflation rose to 7.79 percent in June from 7.47 percent, and vegetable inflation rose to 14.74 percent from 10.85 percent. In the weeks ahead, the volatile food inflation will determine the course of overall inflation.

For RBI too, the trend is a concern since under the current agreement with the government, if the inflation exceeds 11 percent it will have to explain to the government why it could not be contained (the lower limit is 2 percent).

Which of the following options is the most appropriate?

- A The first paragraph states a cause and the second illustrates the effect.
- B The first paragraph provides information and the second highlights potential application of the information.
- C The first paragraph is an assertion and the second provides an illustration of that assertion.
- D The first paragraph highlights inflation conditions and the second hints at RBI's inefficiency in managing the situation.
- E The first paragraph highlights pain points and the second contains a remedy for them.

### 2. Read the following excerpt and answer the question that follows:

Fragrant with steam  
were the days and the nights red with many braziers  
in the beloved house  
of my father, my mother.

Which of the following options is the closest expression of the poet's feeling?

- A The house was located in beautiful settings probably surrounded by flowers in the mountains.
- B The ancestral home was probably the most important house in the community.
- C The poet fondly recalls the pleasant climate enjoyed day and night.
- D The poet misses the braziers and steam she had enjoyed during her childhood.
- E Everything about the house felt special because of her parents love for her.

### 3. Read the following statements and answer the question that follows:

- 1.This is Russia's Wild West, though the mountains lie to the south of Moscow and St. Petersburg.
- 2.The Caucasus range has throughout history held Russians, especially fierce nationalists like Solzhenitsyn, in fear and awe.
- 3.Here, between the Black and Caspian seas, is a land bridge where Europe gradually vanishes amid a six-hundred-mile chain of mountains as high as eighteen thousand feet - mesmerizing in their spangled beauty, especially after the yawning and flat mileage of the steppe lands to the north.

4. Here, since the seventeenth century, Russian colonizers have tried to subdue congeries of proud peoples: Chechens, Ingush, Ossetes, Daghestanis, Abkhaz, Kartvelians, Kakhétians, Armenians, Azeris, and others.
5. Here, the Russians encountered Islam in both its moderation and implacability.

Which of the following options is the best logical order of the above statements?

- A 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
- B 2, 3, 1, 4, 5
- C 2, 4, 3, 1, 5
- D 3, 1, 2, 4, 5
- E 4, 5, 3, 1, 2

4. Read the following statements and answer the question that follows:

1. The periodic table orders the elements in a way that helps to understand why atoms behave as they do.
2. The properties of the elements are due to electronic configuration, and their recurring pattern gives rise to periodicity.
3. In other words, what gives the elements their properties and what order lies below the surface of their seemingly random nature?
4. What makes Fluorine react violently with Caesium while its nearest neighbour neon is reluctant to react with anything?

Which of the following options is the best logical order of the above statements?

- A 1, 2, 3, 4
- B 1, 4, 3, 2
- C 2, 3, 1, 4
- D 3, 4, 2, 1
- E 4, 3, 1, 2

5. The serious study of popular films by critics is regularly credited with having rendered obsolete a once-dominant view that popular mainstream films are inherently inferior to art films. Yet the change of attitude may be somewhat \_\_\_\_\_. Although, it is now academically respectable to analyse popular films, the fact that many critics feel compelled to rationalize their own \_\_\_\_\_ action movies or mass-market fiction reveals, perhaps unwittingly, their continued \_\_\_\_\_ the old hierarchy of popular and art films.

Consider the following words:

1. unproductive
2. not appreciated
3. overstated
4. penchant for
5. dislike for
6. investment in
7. exposure to

Which of the following options is the most appropriate sequence that would meaningfully fit the blanks in the above paragraph?

- A 1, 5, 6

**B** 3, 2, 7

**C** 3, 4, 6

**D** 4, 5, 6

**E** 6, 3, 1

**6.** Which of the following options is grammatically correct and meaningful?

**A** I want to join an MBA college that is not only the best in the country but also provides the best campus jobs.

**B** I want to join an MBA college that is not only the best in the country but also I can get good job.

**C** I want to join an MBA college that is not only the best in the country but also best in job.

**D** I want to join an MBA college that is not only good but also I can get good job.

**E** I want to join an MBA college that I found not only best in the country but also I can get good job.

**7.** Read the following stanza and answer the question that follows:

Invisible atoms coming together  
Revealing themselves in visible forms  
Seeds are hugged by the earth  
Which renders them as gardens in bloom.  
And yonder stars, are they not pearls  
Floating on teeming seas?  
Scattered, yet strung together in orderly constellations  
Love binding them to one another  
And each is perpetually seeking its like?

Which of the following options best captures the spirit of the above stanza?

**A** Stars and seas are similar.

**B** All rivers flow into the ocean.

**C** United we stand, divided we fall.

**D** Love dissolves all religious differences.

**E** Something invisible binds disparate objects.

**8.** Carefully read the statements below:

1.Chatterjee loves books; therefore, he reads them all the time.

2.Chatterjee loves books. Therefore, he reads them all the time.

3.Chatterjee loves books and, therefore, reads them all the time.

Which of the above statement(s) is (are) correct in grammar and meaning?

**A** 1 only

**B** 2 only

- C 1 and 2 only
- D 2 and 3 only
- E 1,2 and 3

9. Read the following passage and answer the question that follows:

On Friday morning, Dieting supplement sales company Herbalife agreed to pay the US Federal Trade Commission a \$200m fine. The FTC said Herbalife cheated hopeful salespeople out of hundreds of millions of dollars with a high-pressure multi-level marketing scheme.

Herbalife's stock received an immediate 15% increase following the above news. The company also announced that it would hire a second former FTC commissioner in a press release describing the terms of the settlement.

Which of the following options would imply that the 15 percent increase in stock price is fair?

- A Cheating results in increase in the company's stock price.
- B When fraudulent companies are exposed, their stock price increases.
- C When fraudulent companies are caught, their stock price initially goes down.
- D Acknowledgement of deceit increases the stock price of companies.
- E Compliance with court order increases the company's stock price.

10. Read the following paragraph and answer the question that follows:

Worldwide, tomato is one of the most important crops. Because this crop can be adapted for cultivation in various environments ranging from tropical to alpine regions, its cultivation area is now expanding worldwide into not so productive regions. On the other hand, traditional cultivation areas, the most favourable for tomato cultivation with warm and dry climate, are contracting. Every year, traditional cultivation areas lose 2 million hectares (ha) of land to environmental factors such as salinity, drought, and soil erosion.

Which of the following is the correct inference based on the above passage?

- A In recent years, per hectare production of tomato has increased worldwide.
- B In recent years, per hectare wastage of tomato has increased worldwide.
- C In recent years, per hectare production of tomato has decreased worldwide.
- D In recent years, per hectare wastage of tomato has decreased worldwide.
- E In recent years, per hectare production of tomato has remained the same worldwide.

11. Grotesque is related to Macabre in a similar way as \_\_\_\_\_

- A Classics is related to Ruins
- B History is related to Palaeontology
- C Marriage is related to Funeral
- D Sorcery is related to Necromancy

E Science is related to Thanatology

12. Choose the option with all the correct words and their correct accent (underlined syllable) that fits the blanks.

The suspension of the captain may \_\_\_\_\_ the number of spectators, who turn up for this match.

Transportation costs will directly \_\_\_\_\_ the cost of retail goods.

Grandmother's advancing age could \_\_\_\_\_ her ability to take care of the house.

She \_\_\_\_\_ a Texan accent throughout the interview.

A affect, effect, effect, effected

B affect, effect, affect, affected

C affect, affect, affect, affected

D effect, affect, effect, effected

E effect, affect, effect, affected

### Instructions [13 - 14]

Writing is both my vocation and my avocation: that's all I do.

You may wonder why I should write a genealogy. Well, to begin with, my story is interesting. And, next, I am a mystery - more so than a tree or a sunset or even a flash of lightning. But, sadly, I am taken for granted by those who use me, as if I were a mere incident and without background. This supercilious attitude relegates me to the level of the commonplace. This is a species of the grievous error in which mankind cannot too long persist without peril. For, as a wise man, G. K. Chesterton, observed, "We are perishing for want of wonder, not for want of wonders."

I, simple though I appear to be, merit your wonder and awe, a claim I shall attempt to prove. In fact, if you can understand me - no, that's too much to ask of anyone - if you can become aware of the miraculousness that I symbolize, you can help save the freedom mankind is so unhappily losing. I have a profound lesson to teach. And I can teach this lesson better than an automobile or an airplane or a mechanical dishwasher because - well, because I am seemingly so simple.

Simple? Yet, not a single person on the face of this earth knows how to make me. This sounds fantastic, doesn't it? Especially when you realize that there are about one and one-half billion of my kind produced in the U.S. each year.

Pick me up and look me over. What do you see? Not much meets the eye - there's some wood, lacquer, the printed labeling, graphite lead, a bit of metal, and an eraser.

13. "I" in the passage, most likely, refers to:

A the author of the passage

B a geometry box

C a study table

D a pencil

E the evolution of a book

14. A "supercilious attitude" in this passage implies:

- A Failure to perceive the mystery of the sunset.
- B Arrogance of treating all simple things as trivial.
- C Lack of curiosity in seeking the mystery behind the lighting.
- D A tendency to break down intricacies of creation into its simple parts.
- E Prosaic attitude immune to the mysteries of the world.

### Instructions [15 - 17]

It's taken me 60 years, but I had an epiphany recently: Everything, without exception, requires additional energy and order to maintain itself. I knew this in the abstract as the famous second law of thermodynamics, which states that everything is falling apart slowly. This realization is not just the lament of a person getting older. Long ago I learnt that even the most inanimate things we know of —stone, iron columns, copper pipes, gravel roads, a piece of paper —won't last very long without attention and fixing and the loan of additional order. Existence, it seems, is chiefly maintenance.

What has surprised me recently is how unstable even the intangible is. Keeping a website or a software program afloat is like keeping a yacht afloat. It is a black hole for attention. I can understand why a mechanical device like a pump would break down after a while —moisture rusts metal, or the air oxidizes membranes, or lubricants evaporate, all of which require repair. But I wasn't thinking that the nonmaterial world of bits would also degrade. What's to break? Apparently everything.

Brand-new computers will ossify. Apps weaken with use. Code corrodes. Fresh software just released will immediately begin to fray. On their own —nothing you did. The more complex the gear, the more (not less) attention it will require. The natural inclination toward change is inescapable, even for the most abstract entities we know of: bits.

And then there is the assault of the changing digital landscape. When everything around you is upgrading, this puts pressure on your digital system and necessitates maintenance. You may not want to upgrade, but you must because everyone else is. It's an upgrade arms race.

I used to upgrade my gear begrudgingly (Why upgrade if it still works?) and at the last possible moment. You know how it goes: Upgrade this and suddenly you need to upgrade that, which triggers upgrades everywhere. I would put it off for years because I had the experiences of one "tiny" upgrade of a minor part disrupting my entire working life. But as our personal technology is becoming more complex, more co-dependents upon peripherals, more like a living ecosystem, delaying upgrading is even more disruptive. If you neglect ongoing minor upgrades, the change backs up so much that the eventual big upgrade reaches traumatic proportions. So I now see upgrading as a type of hygiene: You do it regularly to keep your tech healthy. Continual upgrades are so critical for technological systems that they are now automatic for the major personal computer operating systems and some software apps. Behind the scenes, the machines will upgrade themselves, slowly changing their features over time. This happens gradually, so we don't notice they are "becoming."

We take this evolution as normal.

Technological life in the future will be a series of endless upgrades. And the rate of graduations is accelerating. Features shift, defaults disappear, menus morph. I'll open up a software package I don't use every day expecting certain choices, and whole menus will have disappeared.

No matter how long you have been using a tool, endless upgrades make you into a newbie —the new user often seen as clueless. In this era of "becoming" everyone becomes a newbie. Worse, we will be newbies forever. That should keep us humble.

That bears repeating. All of us —every one of us —will be endless newbies in the future simply trying to keep up. Here's why: First, most of the important technologies that will dominate life 30 years from now have not yet been invented, so naturally you'll be a newbie to them. Second, because the new technology requires endless upgrades, you will remain in the newbie state. Third, because the cycle of obsolescence is accelerating (the

average lifespan of a phone app is a mere 30 days!), you won't have time to master anything before it is displaced, so you will remain in the newbie mode forever. Endless Newbie is the new default for everyone, no matter your age or experience.

**15.** Which of the following statements would the author agree with the most?

- A** The second law of thermodynamics states that things need more energy as they separate.
- B** When it comes to erosion, intangibles behave differently from tangible.
- C** Up-gradation is no longer an option but an obligation.
- D** Up-gradation though simple is disruptive.
- E** In the next thirty years, one's experience in up-grading will be greatly valued.

**16.** Which of the following quotes would the author agree with the most?

- A** Life is like riding a bicycle. In order to avoid falling, you must keep moving.
- B** The only thing constant in life is change.
- C** You must be the change you wish to see in the world.
- D** If you do not change you will be changed.
- E** What we can't cure we must endure.

**17.** The CEO of a technology company was thinking of the following policies.

- 1.Life time employment
- 2.Promotion based on seniority
- 3.Hire new competent employees and fire old incompetent employees
- 4.Regular training and retraining

If a CEO were to consult the author of the passage, which of the above policies should the author recommend?

- A** 1 or 3
- B** 1 or 4
- C** 2 or 4
- D** 3 or 4
- E** 1, 3 and 4

### **Instructions [18 - 21 ]**

Every age has its pet contradictions. A few decades back, we used to accept Marx and Freud together, and then wonder, like the chameleon on the turkey carpet, why life was so confusing. Today there is similar trouble over the question whether there is, or is not, something called Human Nature. On the one hand, there has been an explosion of animal behavior studies, and comparisons between animals and men have become immensely popular. People use evidence from animals to decide whether man is naturally aggressive, or naturally territorial; even whether he has an aggressive or territorial instinct. Moreover, we are still much influenced by Freudian psychology, which depends on the notion of instinct. On the other hand, many still hold what may be

called the Blank Paper view, that man is a creature entirely without instincts. So do Existentialist philosophers. If man has no instincts, all comparison with animals must be irrelevant. (Both these simple party lines have been somewhat eroded over time, but both are still extremely influential.)

According to the Blank Paper view, man is entirely the product of his culture. He starts off infinitely plastic, and is formed completely by the society in which he grows up. There is then no end to the possible variations among cultures; what we take to be human instincts are just the deep-dug prejudices of our own society. Forming families, fearing the dark, and jumping at the sight of a spider are just results of our conditioning. Existentialism at first appears a very different standpoint, because the Existentialist asserts man's freedom and will not let him call himself a product of anything. But Existentialism too denies that man has a nature; if he had, his freedom would not be complete. Thus Sartre insisted that "there is no human nature .... Man first of all exists, encounters himself, surges up in the world, and defines himself afterwards. If man as the Existentialist sees him is not definable, it is because to begin with he is nothing. He will not be anything until later, and then he will be what he makes himself." For Existentialism there is only the human condition, which is what happens to man and not what he is born like. If we are afraid of the dark, it is because we choose to be cowards; if we care more for our own children than for other people's, it is because we choose to be partial. We must never talk about human nature or human instincts. This implicit moral notion is still very influential, not at all confined to those who use the metaphysic of essence and existence. So I shall sometimes speak of it, not as Existentialist, but as Libertarian — meaning that those holding it do not just (like all of us) think liberty important, but think it supremely important and believe that our having a nature would infringe it.

Philosophers have not yet made much use of informed comparison with other species as a help in the understanding of man. One reason they have not is undoubtedly the fear of fatalism. Another is the appalling way terms such as instinct and human nature have been misused in the past. A third is the absurdity of some ethological propaganda.

**18.** A business school led by an existentialist director, wanted to decide on admission policy for its executive MBA program, which requires candidates to possess minimum five years of managerial experience.

With respect to the selection process, which of the following statements will be closest to the director's belief:

- A** Tenth standard marks should be given highest weightage.
- B** Twelfth standard marks should be given highest weightage.
- C** Marks scored in the engineering college should be given highest weightage.
- D** Marks scored by the candidate in all previous examinations be given equal weightage.
- E** Recent work experience and contribution to the organization should be given highest weightage.



**19.** Which of the following statements would the author agree with the most?

- A** Existentialism can be extended to Libertarianism.
- B** Existentialism and Libertarianism are the same.
- C** Existentialism encompasses Libertarianism.
- D** Animal behaviour should not be compared with human behaviour.
- E** Liberty and existentialism are unrelated.

**20.** Who among the following, as stated in the third paragraph, would the author be the most sympathetic to?

- A** PETA (People for the ethical treatment of animals) activists
- B** Save the tiger activists
- C** Architect
- D** Physicists
- E** Zoologists

**21.** Which sentence in the passage distances man from “nature”, the most?

- A** The sixth sentence of the first paragraph.
- B** The first sentence of the second paragraph.
- C** The sentence third from the last in the passage.
- D** The sentence second from the last in the passage.
- E** The last sentence of the passage.

## Instructions [22 - 24 ]

Some psychologists and sociologists believe that psychopathy can be an asset in business and politics and that, as a result, psychopathic traits are overrepresented among successful people. This would be a puzzle if it were so. If our moral feelings evolved through natural selection, then it shouldn't be the case that one would flourish without them. And, in fact, the successful psychopath is probably the exception. Psychopaths have certain deficits. Some of these are subtle. The psychologist Abigail Marsh and her colleagues find that psychopaths are markedly insensitive to the expression of fear. Normal people recognize fear and treat it as a distress cue, but 13 psychopaths have problems seeing it, let alone responding to it appropriately. Other deficits run deeper. The overall lack of moral sentiments—and specifically, the lack of regard for others—might turn out to be the psychopath's downfall. We non-psychopaths are constantly assessing one another, looking for kindness and shame and the like, using this information to decide whom to trust, whom to affiliate with. The psychopath has to pretend to be one of us. But this is difficult. It's hard to force yourself to comply with moral rules just through a rational appreciation of what you are expected to do. If you feel like strangling the cat, it's a struggle to hold back just because you know that it is frowned upon. Without a normal allotment of shame and guilt, psychopaths succumb to bad impulses, doing terrible things out of malice, greed, and simple boredom. And sooner or later, they get caught. While psychopaths can be successful in the short term, they tend to fail in the long term and often end up in prison or worse. Let's take a closer look at what separates psychopaths from the rest of us. There are many symptoms of psychopathy, including pathological lying and lack of remorse or guilt, but the core deficit is indifference toward the suffering of other people. Psychopaths lack compassion. To understand how compassion works for all of us non-psychopaths, it's important to distinguish it from empathy. Now, some contemporary researchers use the terms interchangeably, but there is a big difference between caring about a person (compassion) and putting yourself in the person's shoes (empathy).

I am too much of an adaptationist to think that a capacity as rich as empathy exists as a freak biological accident. It most likely has a function, and the most plausible candidate here is that it motivates us to care about others. Empathy exists to motivate compassion and altruism. Still, the link between empathy (in the sense of mirroring another's feelings) and compassion (in the sense of feeling and acting kindly toward another) is more nuanced than many people believe. First, although empathy can be automatic and unconscious—a crying person can affect your mood, even if you're not aware that this is happening and would rather it didn't—we often choose whether to empathize with another person. So when empathy is present, it may be the product of a moral choice, not the cause of it. Empathy is also influenced by what one thinks of the other person. Second, empathy is not needed to motivate compassion. As the psychologist Steven Pinker points out, "If a child has been frightened by a barking dog and is howling in terror, my sympathetic response is not to howl in terror with her, but to comfort and protect her" Third, just as you can have compassion without empathy, you can have empathy without compassion. You might feel the person's pain and wish to stop feeling it—but choose to solve the problem by distancing yourself from that person instead of alleviating his or her suffering. Even otherwise good people sometimes turn away when faced with depictions of pain and suffering in faraway lands, or when passing a homeless person on a city street.

**22.** The core deficit of Psychopaths affects their long term success because,

- A** they cannot sustain the behaviour.
- B** they are less likely to succeed as HR managers than as finance managers.
- C** they cannot hide their lack of compassion for long.
- D** empathy is essential for long term success.
- E** natural selection enables moral feelings.

**23.** Which of the following options is correct according to the author?

- A** Compassion exists for a reason.
- B** Empathy is a chance event.
- C** Empathy is the cause of moral choice.
- D** Caring for others is psychopathy.
- E** Long term success in business is a freak accident.

**24.** A student approached a faculty pleading to increase his marks because failure in one more subject will result in the student having to leave the program. The faculty said, "I am sorry. But I cannot change your grades as it would be unfair to others".

In the given circumstance, which of the following best describes the faculty?

- A** The faculty is a psychopath.
- B** The faculty was compassionate.
- C** The faculty was both empathetic and compassionate but unfair.
- D** The faculty displayed empathy but not compassion.
- E** The faculty displayed compassion but not empathy.

## Answers

1.D	2.C	3.B	4.B	5.C	6.A	7.E	8.E
9.D	10.C	11.D	12.C	13.D	14.B	15.C	16.A
17.D	18.E	19.A	20.E	21.B	22.C	23.A	24.D

## Explanations

### 1. D

The first paragraph highlights the inflation conditions prevalent in the country. In the second paragraph, the author states that the inflation is a concern for the RBI too since it will have to explain if the inflation exceeds 11%. Therefore, we can infer that RBI is responsible for keeping the inflation in check. The rise in inflation hints that the RBI is inefficient in handling the issue.

The first paragraph talks about inflation and the second paragraph talks about RBI's inefficiency in handling the same. Therefore, option D is the right answer.

### 2. C

"Brazier" is a portable heater consisting of a pan or stand for holding lighted coals. Option C, which fondly recalls the climate, is a better choice than option D. The verse is about the fond remembrance of the climatic atmosphere and not really about "missing the braziers and steam."

### 3. B

The sequence begins with sentence 2 which introduces the region to us and its impact on Russian nationalists. Then, we can see that sentence 1 has "the mountains" which means the sentence preceding 1 must describe/talk about a certain mountain range. This is done in 3 which has "six hundred mile chain of mountains.....". Hence, the sequence begins with 2-3-1. Coming now to the people inhabiting the said region, sentence 4 tells us the different races of people who live in this region and lastly sentence 5 closes the paragraph by telling us what kind of impact it had on Russians. Hence, the order is 23145.

### 4. B

Statement 1 introduces the topic: "The Periodic Table". Hence, it will be the first statement.

4-3 forms a logical pair as 4 gives the example of Fluorine and 3 explains the aim behind it.

Only option B satisfies the criteria.

Hence, the answer is option B.

### 5. C

Let us note down the main points.

Usually, commercial films are considered inferior to art films. The attitude is changing but it is not changing as much as it is described to be. The very fact that the critics justify their interest in commercial movies reveals how they still consider art movies superior.

The author feels that the change in attitude is exaggerated a bit. Therefore, 'overstated' should be used to fill the first blank.

The critics justify their liking for mass entertainers. Therefore, 'penchant for' should be used to fill the second blank.

The critics still hold art movies dear. Therefore, 'investment in' should be used to fill the third blank.

The words represented by 3, 4, and 6 should be used to fill the blanks in that order. Therefore, option C is the right answer.

### 6. A

Only option A is grammatically correct. Remaining options do not follow the parallelism.

Answer is option A.

### 7. E

Throughout the poem, the poet describes how something binds seemingly individual objects. The poet highlights natural phenomena such as the combination of atoms to form a compound, seeds growing from the ground, stars floating in the sky forming constellations to establish his point. Therefore, option E is the right answer.

**8. E**

All the given statements are grammatically correct.

Answer is option E.

**9. D**

Option A: This option, if true, will incentivise cheating and hence is not the correct option.

Option B: This can be rejected on the same grounds as A.

Option C: Since this option is stating contrary to what happened, this is not the correct option.

Option D: If this option is true, then it would justify the increase in the stock price in a fair manner; acknowledgement of deceit increases the trust of investors in the company. Thus, this is the correct option.

Thus, the correct option is D.

**10. C**

Tomato cultivation area is expanding worldwide into average productive lands. On the other hand, it is losing the most productive areas at a rate of almost 2 million hectares per year.

Thus, it can be inferred that the net production of tomatoes per hectare is decreasing( average productive land will produce fewer tomatoes per hectare as compared to the traditional lands).

Thus, the correct option is C.

**11. D**

Grotesque is used to describe something ugly.

Macabre is used to describe something that is disturbing to the extent of invoking fear of causing death.

The 2 words vary in their severity, though they are similar in their meaning.

Among the give options, Sorcery and Necromancy are the words that are similar in meaning.

Sorcery is used to define the use of black magic.

Necromancy means using sorcery to communicate with the dead.

Therefore, option D is the right answer.

**12. C**

'Affect' is used to describe that an action causes some effect on the result.

The suspension of the captain will impact the number of spectators.

Transportation costs will impact the price of goods.

Grandmother's increasing age will impact her ability to take care of the house.

'Affect' should be used to fill the first 3 blanks.

Therefore, option C is the right answer.

**13. D**

Towards the end of the passage, the author describes the thing he is talking as. He says that he is made up of wood, lacquer, some printed labeling, graphite lead, some metal and an eraser. Clearly, the author is describing a pencil. Therefore, option D is the right answer.

**14. B**

The author states that he (pencil) is taken for granted since he is simple. The author states that a pencil is no less a wonder than many other things but its wonder is overlooked due to its simplicity and abundance. The author deems this attitude 'supercilious'. Therefore, option B is the right answer.

**15. C**

Option B is exact opposite of what the author says. Option A is also untrue because the natural order of the world is to separate and that energy is needed to keep things together. Option D is also incorrect because upgradation is no longer a simple thing but a complex interlinking of all our ecosystem's member objects. Hence, Option C is the most apt answer.

**16. A**

While the author would agree with both A and B, the larger focus of the author trying to tell the reader is that we must always be on our toes by keeping up with the change that is a constant feature of our lives now. The focus is not just on the fact that change is a part of our lives but also on the importance of keeping up with it because the cost of not doing so can be perilous to ourselves in the longer run.

**17. D**

We can infer from the given passage that the author is of the view that upgrading continuously is necessary for survival.

Suggestions 1 and 2 go against the views of the author.

Life time employment and promoting just based on seniority eliminates the need for the person to upgrade himself continuously. Therefore, we can eliminate these suggestions.

Suggestions 3 and 4 ensure that the employees upgrade themselves. Therefore, the author is likely to recommend 3 or 4 and hence, option D is the right answer.

**18. E**

The author says that, "Existentialist asserts man's freedom and will not let him call himself a product of anything. But Existentialism too denies that man has a nature".

Essentially, we evaluate the past credentials or achievements to gauge the tendencies or nature of an individual. As per an existentialist, humans have absolute freedom and their experiences in certain exams cannot be used to define them.

The author also says, "For Existentialism there is only the human condition, which is what happens to man and not what he is born like. We must never talk about human nature or human instincts.". This implies that the current state of human condition is the only thing that matters and we shouldn't look at one's historical achievements or performances to understand their nature because we do not have a nature. We only have the present human condition.

An easiest way to define the current human condition would be to use the most recent experience or something that is ongoing i.e. current form of work. Hence, among the given options, E is the most suitable

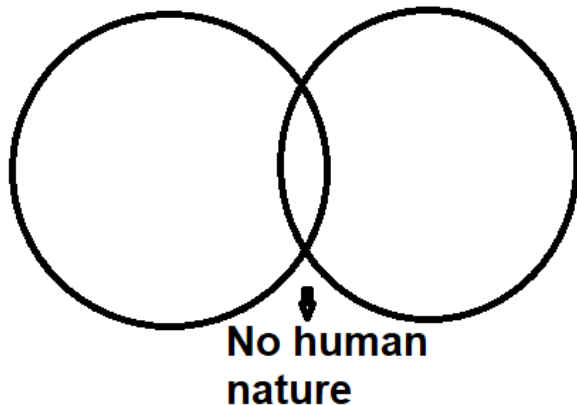
**19. A**

"We must never talk about human nature or human instincts. This implicit moral notion is still very influential, not at all confined to those who use the metaphysic of essence and existence. So I shall sometimes speak of it, not as Existentialist, but as Libertarian"

The notion that human instinct does not exist is still widely popular. It is not only confined to the discussions of metaphysics/philosophy etc, this notion is also popular in the general discourse in masses. Clearly, the author is extending the theory of existentialism to a generic political philosophy such as libertarianism. He is suggesting that this notion is not just accepted or followed by few individuals of metaphysics etc, it can also be easily adopted by libertarians such as himself.

The usage of words implies that, the author is suggesting a commonality of "this notion" in both existentialism and libertarianism. Hence we can say, these 2 philosophies are likely to appear such as this. We can infer the following information from the given sentence.

## Existentialism    Libertarianism



Hence, option B, C and E are incorrect representation as per the author.

Option D: The author in the next paragraph emphasizes that we need to conduct research on the relation of human and animal behavior. In the above lines(this notion), however, he merely suggests that we shouldn't say that human nature exists .

### 20. E

In the last paragraph, the author says that "Philosophers have not yet made much use of informed comparison with other species as a help in the understanding of man". He is emphasizing that we need to explore the relation of humans and animals in order to make an informed comparison.

Among the given options, the group of people most relevant to conduct any research between the overlap of humans and animals are zoologists(zoology is the branch of biology devoted to the study of animal life i.e. human and other animals both included)

### 21. B

The five sentences mentioned by the author are :

Option A : Moreover, we are still much influenced by Freudian psychology, which depends on the notion of instinct.

Option B : According to the Blank Paper view, man is entirely the product of his culture

Option C : One reason they have not is undoubtedly the fear of fatalism

Option D : Another is the appalling way terms such as instinct and human nature have been misused in the past.

Option E : A third is the absurdity of some ethological propaganda.

The last three sentences of the passage are citing reasons as to why extensive research has not been conducted on the relation between humans and animals.

Option C: Fatalism means the belief that everything has a set destiny. The researchers did not conduct research fear that the research might reveal that everything has a predetermined destiny. This is completely opposed to the existentialist idea and nature is in complete authority.

Option D & E : Misuse of terms and certain propoganda are reasons for the apprehension to conduct research. However, these do not distance humans from nature in any way.

Option A : It again indicates humans indeed have a certain nature.



Option B : Among the given option, only B suggests that humans are infinitely plastic and not influenced by anything except nature.

Hence, among the given option, B is correct.

**22. C**

The author says:

"Without a normal allotment of shame and guilt, psychopaths succumb to bad impulses, doing terrible things out of malice, greed, and simple boredom. And sooner or later, they get caught. While psychopaths can be successful in the short term, they tend to fail in the long term and often end up in prison or worse."

Very clearly, psychopaths cannot hold themselves back from doing terrible things for long and end up getting caught. These terrible things can almost always be traced to having a lack of compassion.

**23. A**

The author very clearly states that empathy is not a chance event as most people believe and says that it is the product of a moral choice that we make. Hence, by this we can easily negate options B and C. Option D is also incorrect because a major feature of psychopathy is a lack of caring for others. Option E is unrelated.

hence, A can clearly seen to be the answer.

**24. D**

If we are to assume that the faculty's "I am sorry" was well meaning and in sincerity (and not just because one is habituated to saying it in such situations), we can say that the faculty has placed himself in the student's shoes and understood his problem/pain and feels bad about it. However, by refusing to change grades and not getting the student to pass the subject, the faculty has not alleviated the student's suffering and thus, failed to display compassion.

Hence, we can say that the faculty has displayed empathy but not compassion.