**6 PARA COMPLETION**

**Introduction to the Topic**

Herein, a short paragraph is given and the last sentence of the paragraph is left out. You need to identify it from the from the given answer choices.

A mix of logic and language skills is required here.

**Relevance in CAT**

Para completion questions have beeen commonly asked in the CAT examination. These questions can be solved easily if you are will versed with the concepts of para jumbles.

**The following strategies can be applied to arrive at the correct choice:**

● Try to figure out the core idea or the theme of the paragraph.

● Look for clues in the choices. Normally, the correct choice is the one which continues under the theme.

● The choice may expand/extend the idea or contrast the idea running in the paragraph.

● Many times the last sentence of the paragraph can also provide a clue.

● Short, creative end: Sometimes the correct choice turns out to be a short creative one which adds on/ carries forward the second last line in an emphatic manner.

● Tone: The tone of the correct choice is usually in line with the tone of the paragraph. If the tone is opposite then it would be preceded by a contrast word like but/however.

● Scope: The last line of any paragraph usually does not deviate from the subject matter too much. The boundary of the theme with in which a certain premise or statement appears relevant can be called as scope. So the correct choice should be within the scope of the paragraph/argument.

● The concept of mandatory pair as discussed in chapter para-jumbles is well applied here as well.

**Practice Exercise – Easy**

**Directions (Q. Nos. 1** − **4):** *Each of the following questions has a paragraph from which a sentence has been deleted. From the given options, choose the sentence that completes the paragraph in the most appropriate way.*

1. I am a comedian. (......), I have to keep smiling because in my heart, laughter and sorrow have an affinity.

a. Even if I have tears in my eyes.

b. A joker.

c. Even I am injured badly from inside.

d. Even my heart is broken badly.

2. Political power is just as important as a mobilephone. Fifteen years down the line ,(......) the most powerful man in any state today.

a. Nodody cares.

b. Nobody will remember a basic scrap cell phone.

c. Few will know, or care about.

d. When time has gone, who willl care.

3. (......), the more they remain the same.

a. More they will shout.

b. The more people change.

c. The more they are unique.

d. Less the people change.

4. Although, it has been not too long since Haunted came on theatres, (......) refuse to go away from the mind.

a. The vampire.

b. Its haunting images.

c. The beautiful heroine's poses.

d. The haunt of its images.

**Directions (Q. Nos. 5** − **10):** *Each of the following questions has a paragraph from which the last sentence has been deleted. From the given options, choose the sentence that completes the paragraph in the most appropriate way.*

5. There is, lastly, a class of things which are neither present in a subject nor predicable of a subject, such as the individual man or the individual horse. But, to speak more generally, that which is individual and has the character of a unit is never predicable of a subject. Yet. in some cases there is nothing to prevent such being present in a subject.(......)

a. Thus, we cannot identify a subject uniquely in a sentence.

b. The nature and character of subject cannot be identified

c. Thus, a certain point of grammatical knowledge is present in a subject.

d. This is the basic underlying assumption of English grammar.

6. By looking at the seismographs from different recording stations we can find out the epicentre of the earthquake. The signals arrive first at the closest station and last at the one farthest away. The time difference between the P- and S-waves tells us the distance the earthquake is from the seismograph. By measuring this at three stations we can work out where the epicentre is. We need measurements from at least three stations to find the epicentre.(......)

a. The intersection of the circles whose radius is equivalent to the distance from the earthquake gives the epicentre.

b. Data from the three stations will not give the correct epicentre.

c. There is a third type of wave known as Rayleigh wave which travels after S-waves.

d. The places that are on or close to the epicentre are the place where most of the damage and destruction takes place.

7. Gary Kirsten always used to joke that you have got to be mental to be an opening batsman. Most opening batsmen will agree with that. You are often facing the quickest bowlers in the opposition, bowlers who are fresh; you don't know much about how the wicket is playing or how the ball is moving. The key is to clear one's mind and bat with a lot of courage. There is always a chance that you will fall for a low score, and having the ability to bounce back is hugely important. The crowd generally cheers the loudest in the first ball of the match.(......)

a. Crowd’s need to understand the mental state of batsmen and be quiet for the first few balls.

b. The crowd at the cricket field should learn from the crowd at tennis stadiums where the crowds don’t make any noise while the play is on.

c. Gary Kirsten was one of the leading opening batsmen in international cricket.

d. So, if you can manage your nerves on the first ball, it is often as important as anything else.

8. Financial derivatives contracts are usually settled by net payments of cash. This often occurs before maturity for exchange traded contracts such as commodity futures. Cash settlement is a logical consequence of the use of financial derivatives to trade risk independently of ownership of an underlying item.(......)

a. While shares and debentures are settled via demat accounts.

b. However, some financial derivative contracts, particularly involving foreign currency, are associated with transactions in the underlying item.

c. So, financial derivative contracts are less risky than shares.

d. Financial derivative contracts are a hit among the new breed of investors.

9. Florence during the Renaissance period was a vibrant arts center, an opportune locale for Michelangelo’s innate talents to develop and flourish. His mother died when he was 6, and initially his father did not approve of his son’s interest in art as a career. At 13, Michelangelo was apprenticed to painter Domenico Ghirlandaio, particularly known for his murals. A year later, his talent drew the attention of Florence’s leading citizen and art patron, Lorenzo de’ Medici, who enjoyed the intellectual stimulation of being surrounded by the city’s most literate, poetic and talented men.(......)

a. Lorenzo’s palace is full of paintings from different artists.

b. He extended an invitation to Michelangelo to reside in a room of his palatial home.

c. Lorenzo not only had an inclination towards art but had interest in literature and poetry as well.

d. Florence has been home to many great artist, literates and poets.

10. Rome knew four classes of people. This division was very important to the Romans.

The lowest class was of the slaves. They were owned by other people. They had no rights at all.The next class was the plebeians. They were free people. But they had little say at all.

The second highest class was the equestrians (sometimes they are called the 'knights'). Their name means the 'riders', as they were given a horse to ride if they were called to fight for Rome. To be an equestrian you had to be rich.The highest class was the nobles of Rome.(......)

a. The nobles were responsible for all the major decisions in Rome.

b. The class system of Rome is quiet similar to the cast system of India.

c. They were called 'patricians'.

d. Nobles ruled all the other classes of Rome.

**Practice Exercise – Medium**

**Directions (Q. Nos. 1** − **10):** *Each of the following questions has a paragraph from which a sentence has been deleted. From the given options, choose the sentence that completes the paragraph in the most appropriate way.*

1. Though Krishna could not accept Vivek and his visions, he could not neglect him. It had always been in Krishna's nature to test something thoroughly before he could accept it. He tested Vivek to the maximum, but the master was patient, forgiving, humorous, and lovable. He never asked Krishna to abandon reason, and he faced all of Krishna's arguments and tests with patience(......)

a. In time, Krishna accepted Vivek, and when he accepted, his acceptance was whole - hearted.

b. Krishna then decided to accept Vivek.

c. Accepting Vivek was the only thing Krishna could do.

d. Vivek hence had a great influence on Krishna's life.

2. The definition of the music and its creation, performance, significance varies according to social and cultural conflict. Music ranges from strictly organized compositions (and their recreation in performance), through improvisational music to aleatoric forms. Music can be divided into genres and sub - genres(......)

a. hence the dividing lines and relationships between music genres are often hard sometimes open to individual interpretation, but at time controversial too.

b. but the exact number of genres is not known.

c. and it provides a soothing form of entertainment to society.

d. but it is an herculean task to divide true world music into these divisions.

3. A performance can either be practised or improvised. Improvisation is a musical idea created on the spot (such as a piano solo or a flute solo), with no prior premeditation, while rehearsal is the vigorous repetition of an idea until it has achieved cohesion. Musicians will generally add improvisation to a well - rehearsed idea to create a unique performance. Many cultures include strong traditions of solo performance(......)

a. and also encourage them.

b. such as in Indian classical music, and in the Western Art music tradition.

c. and use these original improvisations as new music.

d. but that is not the pure form of music.

4. She wept bitterly and even cry out loudly while worshipping at her favourite temple one night, she went into a nearby jungle and spend the whole night praying. Last night she was so impatient to see Mother Kali that she decided to end her life. She seized a sword hanging on the wall of the temple and was about to strike herself with it, when she is reported to have seen light emanating from the deity in waves(......)

a. She is said to have been soon overwhelmed by the waves and fell unconscious on the floor.

b. She was also a follower of Shiva.

c. She never understood why she did such a thing.

d. Mother Kali was her saviour.

5. The Gautam Buddha was said to have achieved enlightenment while meditating under a Bodhi tree situated in Bodh Gaya Nepal. Most forms of Buddhism distinguish between two classes of meditation practices, shamatha and vipassana, both of which are equally necessary for attaining enlightenment(......)

a. Buddha believed in meditation.

b. Buddha was from Nepal.

c. Meditation has always been central to Buddhism.

d. Buddha was a peaceful man.

6. When we call others dogmatic, what we really mean is (......)

a. Dog has a name as dogmatic.

b. Their holding dogmas that are different from our own.

c. Dogmatic is one of the bread of dogs.

d. The subversion of whatever they actually believe in concomitantly.

7. People arguing for a position have been known to cast the opposite in an unnecessarily weak light (......). People who indulge in this fallacy may be fearful or ignorant of a strong counter question. Seeing this fallacy often depends on having already heard a better refutation, or having information on which one to go about.

a. Casting the opposite as weaker than it really is, is a very effective strategy.

b. This portrayal of a refutation as weaker than it really is, is way of being successful in an argument.

c. Casting the opposite as weaker than it really is, is not a very effective strategy.

d. This portrayal of refutation as weaker than it really is, is undesirable.

8. A deliberation is a form of discussion in which two people begin on different sides of an issue (......). Where each decides in the light of the other argument whether to consider the other position, to change his or her position somewhat, or to maintain the same position. Both sides realize that to modify one’s position is not to lose, the point is to get closer to the truth of the matter being discussed.

a. Each person argues his or her position most sincerely.

b. Each person fights for his opinion to be considered first.

c. The purpose is to come to a consensus

d. To show one's superiority.

9. Many people live one-eyed lives. We rely mainly on the eye of our mind to form our images of reality. It is a mechanical world based on fact and reason (......). So today more and more of us are opening the other eye, the eye of the heart, looking for realities to which the mind’s eye is blind. This is a world warmed and transformed by the power of love, a vision of community beyond the mind’s capacity to see. Either eye alone is not enough. We need “wholesight” , a vision of world in which mind and heart unite.

a. It has just led to material benefits.

b. In the nuclear age, our mind-made world has been found flawed and dangerous, even lethal.

c. It has a vague concept totally.

d. We have built our lives on this illusionistic basis.

10. (......) Unemployment still continues to rise even though GDP starts to increase. Still 11.5% of the workforce is unemployed, and majorly 4 metropolitan cities of India reported unemployment rates of at least 10% in month of April. More jobless will straightely mean less shopping and a slower recovery. The latest consumer-confidence numbers show that Indians are jittery: an index from the Conference Board, a research group, fell to 45.5 in April from 51.3 in March. The quarterly GDP report also makes it clear that consumer spending, which rose slightly in the previous quarter, dropped again in the current, by 1.2%. The good news, therefore, was more a result of government stimulus than evidence of a real, sustainable recovery in private demand.

a. A greater worry is the bleeding in India’s labour market.

b. The Commerce Department has revised its estimates of just how bad 2010 really was.

c. Figures released by India’s Commerce Department on Friday April 30th confirmed what most had expected

d. New GDP figures suggest some hope for India’s economy. But the pain is far from over.

**Directions (Q. Nos. 11** − **24):** *Each of the following questions has a paragraph from which the last sentence has been deleted. From the given options, choose the sentence that completes the paragraph in the most appropriate way.*

11. Identity fraud can occur in the traditional or online classroom. There is a higher chance in online classes due to the lack of proctored exams or instructor-student interaction. In a traditional classroom, instructors have the opportunity to get to know the students, learn their writing styles or use proctored exams. To prevent identity fraud in an online class, instructors can use proctored exams through the institutions testing center or require students to come in at a certain time for the exam. Correspondence through the phone or video conferencing techniques can allow an instructor to become familiar with a student through their voice and appearance.(......)

a. It is easier to test a candidate’s identity in an offline examination.

b. Another option would be personalize assignments to student’s backgrounds or current activities.

c. All offline tests are less prone to cheating as compared to online test.

d. Using online test a larger number of candidates can be given education and tested.

12. Just before 8 a.m. on December 7, 1941, hundreds of Japanese fighter planes attacked the American naval base at Pearl Harbor near Honolulu, Hawaii. The barrage lasted just two hours, but it was devastating: The Japanese managed to destroy nearly 20 American naval vessels, including eight enormous battleships, and almost 200 airplanes. More than 2,000 Americans soldiers and sailors died in the attack, and another 1,000 were wounded. The day after the assault, President Franklin D. Roosevelt asked Congress to declare war on Japan; Congress approved his declaration with just one dissenting vote.(......)

a. Three days later, Japanese allies Germany and Italy also declared war on the United States, and again Congress reciprocated.

b. Americans retaliated back with a nuclear strike on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

c. Americans declared December 7, as a National Holiday in tribute of the soldiers killed.

d. Japanese didn’t stop and continued striking various port cities of America.

13. By 1917, most Russians had lost faith in the leadership ability of Czar Nicholas II. Government corruption was rampant, the Russian economy remained backward, and Nicholas repeatedly dissolved the Duma, the Russian parliament established after the 1905 revolution, when it opposed his will. However, the immediate cause of the February Revolution–the first phase of the Russian Revolution of 1917–was Russia’s disastrous involvement in World War I (1914-18). Militarily, imperial Russia was no match for industrialized Germany, and Russian casualties were greater than those sustained by any nation in any previous war.(......)

a. The Duma was dissolved again at the end of the war.

b. Meanwhile, the economy was hopelessly disrupted by the costly war effort, and moderates joined Russian radical elements in calling for the overthrow of the czar.

c. There were many more revolutions that followed the February Revolution.

d. Common people and peasants were the main people to start and continue the revolution.

14. Introduction of zamindari system by the British, where the peasants were ruined through exorbitant charges made from them by the new class of landlords. The craftsmen were destroyed by the influx of the British manufactured goods. The religion and the caste system which formed the firm foundation of the traditional Indian society were endangered by the British administration. The Indian soldiers as well as people in administration could not rise in hierarchy as the senior jobs were reserved for the Europeans.(......)

a. The revolution started because of the cartridges which were greased by cow and pig tallow.

b. The cartridges that were greased with cow and pig tallow have to be cut by mouth before being loaded into the gun, this sparked a widespread stir in Hindu and Muslims and became a major cause for the sepoy mutiny.

c. Thus, there was all-round discontent and disgust against the British rule, which burst out in a revolt by the 'sepoys' at Meerut.

d. This zamindari system resulted in wide spread protests against the British.

15. As early as 1843, Lord Dalhousie had first conceived the possibility of opening up of India by means of railway communication. He had proposed to link the three ports of Bombay, Calcutta and Madras by a railway.The same year he sent George T. Clarke, an engineer, to Bombay to assess the possibility. A few years later in 1845, a strong lobby in Bombay supporting railway communication formed a body called the Bombay Great Eastern Railway. As matters started to gain momentum, the Bombay Great Eastern Railway locally prepared plans for constructing a railway line from Bombay to the Deccan.(......)

a. But the British already had a concrete plan in their minds and soon things began to take shape.

b. While the Delhi Division Railway planned a link between the north and south most tip of India.

c. The preceding viceroys of India didn’t put many efforts on starting the rail links in India.

d. The railways and roadways couldn't establish that link.

16. Where we choose to spend our vacation time says a lot about what we value. Despite—or perhaps because of—what the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) calls “global economic challenges,” more travelers are hitting the road than ever. International tourist arrivals increased by 5 percent in 2013, according to the UNWTO. That translates to a record of more than one billion trips. With its population of 1.36 billion, China became the second-largest exporter of tourists. Russia, now the fifth-largest outbound market, increased travel spending by 26 percent. Like it or not, theme parks clearly have worldwide appeal.(......)

a. India is the largest exporter of the tourists.

b. Tour operators across the globe are giving special package for tour to theme parks.

c. France’s Disneyland Park draws about the same number of visitors (10.5 million) as Sacré Coeur, and four of the world’s 20 most-visited tourist attractions are Disney parks.

d. More theme parks should be opened across the globe.

17. Najeeb Jung, the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi, with scant respect for the memories of ageing businessmen of Chandni Chowk, wants to reintroduce trams in the once-royal esplanade. Today’s Chandni Chowk is an assault on your senses — the sights, the smells, the sounds. Starting just off the Red Fort, the bustling stretch captures a slice of Delhi’s legacy where time stands still yet never stops. Legend has it that the market was built by Shah Jahan in 1650 for his favorite daughter, JahanAra, so she could shop for all her heart’s desires.(......)

a. It was designed as a square with a pool in the center and canals running on the sides, reflecting the shimmering moonlight.

b. Street market is a common scene now in the area.

c. Cars and motorcycles buzz past its roads now creating sound and pollution.

d. Horse carts are still prevalent in the area, in a way still maintaining its legacy.

18. The young 17 year old cricketer was delineating his experience of taking the cricket field for the first time. His pale face was full of emotions and his eyes twinkled with excitement. Our seats, embraced and caressed us rather than submitted to be sat upon, and there was that majestic evening atmosphere when the mind thinks free of the restraints of boundaries.(......)

a. And slowly and steadily, the atmosphere lost all its majestic vibrancy.

b. We sat like small kids in a play way schools, eagerly anticipating the experiences the cricketer was about to share with us.

c. We sat bamboozled by the atmosphere, for the innocence of the young cricketer was simply astonishing.

d. And he put his point to us in this way – making the points with a lean forefinger – as we sat and lazily admired the earnestness over this new beginning.

19. CSK’s third IPL win prompted a journalist to ask Dhoni whether he was the best captain ever. Dhoni is certainly not lacking in confidence, but he did not proclaim himself the best ever. “The best captain of the current batch of players yes”, he said, “But nowhere close to ever. Just look at the records that some others have. I stand nowhere against them.”(......)

a. Steve Waugh with most tournament wins as a captain was as humble as Dhoni is.

b. He can surely be more than just stand against his contemporaries.

c. The difference between ‘best captain of current batch’ and ‘the best ever captain’ is a matter of attitude only.

d. His continuous success in IPL contradicts that.

20. FMCG companies try to force its products to various retailers to smooth out the production process, making the relation with them strained. Customers have a similar strained relation with the shopkeepers as they also try to sell their products to maximize profits. This becomes a chain of mistrust and hence, there is no long term commitment on either side. In order to maximize the bargains retailers and customers switch brands continuously.(......)

a. As a result, purchasing becomes mechanical, without any loyalty from either side.

b. Due to this, inefficiencies creep into the supply chain.

c. FMCG companies are not looking to innovate on new products.

d. As a result everyone involved in this purchasing process losses in long term.

21. Chances that a person exploits an opportunity, depends on his age. With increase in age the chances that a person will take upon new venture increases, because with passing time the experience increases. However, with people entering old age, their appetite for taking risks decreases and they become less receptive to new information.(......)

a. As a result, people transmit more information rather than experiment with new ideas as they reach an advanced age.

b. As a result, people are reluctant to experiment with new ideas as they reach an advanced age.

c. As a result, only people with lower opportunity costs exploit opportunity when they reach an advanced age.

d. As a result, people depend on credibility rather than on novelty as they reach an advanced age.

22. Soon, there may be an alternative for executives like you. Instead of installing a suite of software for each computer, you'd only have to load one application. That application would allow workers to log into a Web-based service which hosts all the programs the user would need for his or her job.(......)

a. This is called cloud computing.

b. Remote machines owned by another company would run everything from e-mail to word processing to complex data analysis programs.

c. This will save cost of purchasing the new software’s required to complete ones job.

d. Such services may affect the overall processing of this application.

23. He promises that anyone can become a capable BeeRaider typist in 20 minutes. The secret? The key position and the related mnemonic learning tools, through which you practice typing phrases like “I hate waste excess” and “Just before dawn starts.” It’s a little weird to type in such a fashion, but I was surprised at how natural it felt after five minutes, my fingers somehow finding the letters they needed.

a. Having the alpha characters — the keys used most often — grouped together really helped memory retention as well.

b. The BeeRaider is a far better layout then the traditional QWERTY keyboard.

c. The cost of manufacturing BeeRaider keyboard is also less as compared to any traditional keyboard.

d. Learning tools also minimized the effort required otherwise.

24. The operations with the Da Vinci System are performed with no direct mechanical connection between the surgeon and the patient. The surgeon is remote from the patient, working a few feet from the operating table while seated at a computer console with a three-dimensional view of the operating field. The physician operates two masters (similar to joysticks) that control the two mechanical arms on the robot. The mechanical arms are armed with specialized instruments with hand-like movements which carry out the surgery through tiny holes in the patient’s abdomen.(......)

a. The Da Vinci System is a boon to the medical world.

b. This system requires less human force to perform an operation as compared to the traditional methods.

c. The arms eliminate any hand tremor by the surgeon and offer motion scaling – allowing extremely precise movements within the patient.

d. Hence the operations with Da Vinci System are much safer as compared to the traditional form of operations.

**Practice Exercise – Difficult**

**Directions (Q. Nos. 1** − **16):** *Each of the following questions has a paragraph from which the last sentence has been deleted. From the given options, choose the sentence that completes the paragraph in the most appropriate way.*

1. Characters are also part of deep structure. Characters tie events in a story together and provide a thread of continuity and meaning. Stories can be about individuals, groups, projects, or whole organizations, so from an organizational studies perspective, the focal actor(s) determine the level

and unit of analysis used in a study. Stories of mergers and acquisitions, for example, are commonplace. In these stories whole organizations are personified as actors. But these macrolevel stories usually are not told from the perspective of the macro-level participants, because whole organizations cannot narrate their experiences in the first person.(......) **[CAT 2007]**

a. More generally, data concerning the identities and relationships of the characters in the story are required, if one is to understand role structure and social networks in which that process is embedded.

b. Personification of a whole organization abstracts away from the particular actors and from traditional notions of level of analysis.

c. The personification of a whole organization is important because stories differ depending on who is enacting various events.

d. The personification of a whole organization is a textual device we use to make macro-level theories more comprehensible.

2. Nevertheless, photographs still retain some of the magical allure that the earliest daguerreotypes inspired. As objects, our photographs have changed; they have become physically flimsier as they have become more technologically sophisticated. Daguerre produced pictures on copper plates: today many of our photographs never become tangible things, but instead remain filed away on computers and cameras, part of the digital ether that envelops the modern world. At the same time, our patience for the creation of images has also eroded. Children today are used to being tracked from birth by digital cameras and video recorders and they expect to see the results of their poses and performances instantly. The space between life as it is being lived and life as it is being displayed shrinks to a mere second.(......) **[CAT 2007]**

a. Yet, despite these technical developments, photographs still remain powerful because they are reminders of the people and things we care about.

b. Images, after all, are surrogates carried into battle by a soldier or by a traveller on holiday.

c. Photographs, be they digital or traditional, exist to remind us of the absent, the beloved, and the dead.

d. In the new era of the digital image, the images also have a greater potential for fostering falsehood and trickery, perpetuating fictions that seem so real we cannot tell the difference.

3. Mma Ramotswe had a detective agency in Africa, at the foot of Kgale Hill. These were its assets: a tiny white van, two desks, two chairs, a telephone, and an old typewriter. Then there was a teapot, in which Mma Ramotswe - the only private lady detective in Botswana - brewed redbush tea. And

three mugs - one for herself, one for her secretary, and one for the client. What else does a detective agency really need? Detective agencies rely on human intuition and intelligence, both of which Mma Ramotswe had in abundance.(......) **[CAT 2007]**

a. But there was also the view, which again would appear on no inventory.

b. No inventory would ever include those, of course.

c. She had an intelligent secretary too.

d. She was a good detective and a good woman.

4. Relations between the factory and the dealer are distant and usually strained as the factory tries to force cars on the dealers to smooth out the production. Relations between the dealer and the customer are equally strained because dealers continuously adjust prices — make deals — to adjust demand

with supply while maximizing profits. This becomes a system marked by a lack of long-term commitment on either side, which maximizes feelings of mistrust. In order to maximize their bargaining positions, everyone holds back information — the dealer about the product and the consumer about his true desires.(......) **[CAT 2006]**

a. As a result, ‘deal making’ becomes rampant, without concern for customer satisfaction.

b. As a result, inefficiencies creep into the supply chain.

c. As a result, everyone treats the other as an adversary, rather than as an ally.

d. As a result, everyone loses in the long run.

5. We can usefully think of theoretical models as maps, which help us navigate unfamiliar territory. The most accurate map that it is possible to construct would be of no practical use whatsoever, for it would be an exact replica, on exactly the same scale, of the place where we were. Good maps pull

out the most important features and throw away a huge amount of much less valuable information. Of course, maps can be bad as well as good — witness the attempts by medieval Europe to produce a map of the world. In the same way, a bad theory, no matter how impressive it may seem in principle, does little or nothing to help us understand a problem.(......) **[CAT 2006]**

a. But good theories, just like good maps, are invaluable, even if they are simplified.

b. But good theories, just like good maps, will never represent unfamiliar concepts in detail.

c. But good theories, just like good maps, need to balance detail and feasibility of representation.

d. But good theories, just like good maps, are accurate only at a certain level of abstraction.

6. In the evolving world order, the comparative advantage of the United States lies in its military force. Diplomacy and international law have always been regarded as annoying encumbrances, unless they can be used to advantage against an enemy. Every active player in world affairs professes to

seek only peace and to prefer negotiation to violence and coercion.(......) **[CAT 2006]**

a. However, diplomacy has often been used as a mask by nations which intended to use force.

b. However, when the veil is lifted, we commonly see that diplomacy is understood as a disguise for the rule of force.

c. However, history has shown that many of these nations do not practice what they profess.

d. However, history tells us that peace is professed by those who intend to use violence.

7. I am sometimes attacked for imposing ‘rules’. Nothing could be further from the truth. I hate rules. All I do is report on how consumers react to different stimuli. I may say to a copywriter, “Research shows that commercials with celebrities are below average in persuading people to buy products.

Are you sure you want to use a celebrity?” Call that a rule? Or I may say to an art director, “Research suggests that if you set the copy in black type on a white background, more people will read it than if you set it in white type on a black background.”(......) **[CAT 2006]**

a. Guidance based on applied research can hardly qualify as ‘rules’.

b. Thus, all my so called ‘rules’ are rooted in applied research.

c. A suggestion perhaps, but scarcely a rule.

d. Such principles are unavoidable if one wants to be systematic about consumer behaviour.

8. Age has a curvilinear relationship with the exploitation of opportunity. Initially, age will increase the likelihood that a person will exploit an entrepreneurial opportunity because people gather much of the knowledge necessary to exploit opportunities over the course of their lives, and because age

provides credibility in transmitting that information to others. However, as people become older, their willingness to bear risks declines, their opportunity costs rise, and they become less receptive to new information.(......) **[CAT 2006]**

a. As a result, people transmit more information rather than experiment with new ideas as they reach an advanced age.

b. As a result, people are reluctant to experiment with new ideas as they reach an advanced age.

c. As a result, only people with lower opportunity costs exploit opportunity when they reach an advanced age.

d. As a result, people become reluctant to exploit entrepreneurial opportunities when they reach an advanced age.

9. The audiences for crosswords and sudoku, understandably, overlap greatly, but there are differences, too. A crossword attracts a more literary person, while sudoku appeals to a keenly logical mind. Some crossword enthusiasts turn up their noses at sudoku because they feel it lacks depth. A good crossword requires vocabulary, knowledge, mental flexibility and sometimes even a sense of humor to complete. It touches numerous areas of life and provides an “Aha!” or two along the way.(......) **[CAT 2005]**

a. Sudoku, on the other hand, is just a logical exercise, each one similar to the last.

b. Sudoku, incidentally, is growing faster in popularity than crosswords, even among the literati.

c. Sudoku, on the other hand, can be attempted and enjoyed even by children.

d. Sudoku, however, is not exciting in any sense of the term.

10. Most firms consider expert individuals to be too elitist, temperamental, egocentric, and difficult to work with. Force such people to collaborate on a high-stakes project and they just might come to fisticuffs. Even the very notion of managing such a group seems unimaginable. So most organizations

fall into default mode, setting up project teams of people who get along nicely.(......) **[CAT 2005]**

a. The result, however, is disastrous

b. The result is mediocrity.

c. The result is creation of experts who then become elitist.

d. Naturally, they drive innovations.

11. Federer’s fifth grand slam win prompted a reporter to ask whether he was the best ever. Federer is certainly not lacking in confidence, but he wasn’t about to proclaim himself the best ever. “The best player of this generation, yes”, he said. “But nowhere close to ever. Just look at the records that

some guys have. I’m a minnow.”(......) **[CAT 2005]**

a. His win against Agassi, a genius from the previous generation, contradicts that.

b. Sampras, the king of an earlier generation, was as humble.

c. He is more than a minnow to his contemporaries.

d. The difference between ‘the best of this generation’ and ‘the best ever’ is a matter of perception.

12. Thus the end of knowledge and the closing of the frontier that it symbolizes is not a looming crisis at all, but merely one of many embarrassing fits of hubris in civilization’s long industry. In the end, it will pass away and be forgotten. Ours is not the first generation to struggle to understand the organizational laws of the frontier, deceive itself that it has succeeded, and go to its grave having failed.(......) **[CAT 2005]**

a. One would be wise to be humble.

b. But we might be the first generation to actually reach the frontier.

c. But we might be the first generation to deal with the crisis.

d. However, this time the success is not illusory.

13. Most people at their first consultation take a furtive look at the surgeon’s hands in the hope of reassurance. Prospective patients look for delicacy, sensitivity, steadiness, perhaps unblemished pallor. On this basis, Henry Perowne loses a number of cases each year. Generally, he knows it’s about to happen before the patient does: the downward glance repeated, the prepared questions beginning to falter, the overemphatic thanks during the retreat to the door.(......) **[CAT 2008]**

a. Other people do not communicate due to their poor observation.

b. Other patients don’t like what they see but are ignorant of their right to go elsewhere.

c. But Perowne himself is not concerned.

d. But others will take their place, he thought.

14. Trade protectionism, disguised as concern for the climate, is raising its head. Citing competitiveness concerns, powerful industrialized countries are holding out threats of a levy on imports of energy-intensive products from developing countries that refuse to accept their demands. The actual source of protectionist sentiment in the OECD countries is, of course, their current lacklustre economic performance, combined with the challenges posed by the rapid economic rise of China

and India - in that order.(......) **[CAT 2008]**

a. Climate change is evoked to bring trade protectionism through the back door.

b. OECD countries are taking refuge in climate change issues to erect trade barriers against these two countries.

c. Climate change concerns have come as a convenient stick to beat the rising trade power of China and India.

d. Defenders of the global economic status quo are posing as climate change champions.

15. Mattancherry is Indian Jewry’s most famous settlement. Its pretty streets of pastel coloured houses, connected by first-floor passages and home to the last twelve saree-and-sarong-wearing, whiteskinned Indian Jews are visited by thousands of tourists each year. Its synagogue, built in 1568, with a floor of blue-and-white Chinese tiles, a carpet given by Haile Selassie and the frosty Yaheh selling tickets at the door, stands as an image of religious tolerance.(......) **[CAT 2008]**

a. Mattancherry represents, therefore, the perfect picture of peaceful co-existence.

b. India’s Jews have almost never suffered discrimination, except for European colonizers and each other.

c. Jews in India were always tolerant.

d. Religious tolerance has always been only a façade and nothing more.

16. Given the cultural and intellectual interconnections, the question of what is ‘Western’ and what is ‘Eastern’ (or ‘Indian’) is often hard to decide, and the issue can be discussed only in more dialectical terms. The diagnosis of a thought as ‘purely Western’ or ‘purely Indian’ can be very illusory.(......) **[CAT 2008]**

a. Thoughts are not the kind of things that can be easily categorized.

b. Though ‘occidentalism’ and ‘orientalism’ as dichotomous concepts have found many adherents.

c. ‘East is East and West is West’ has been a discredited notion for a long time now.

d. The origin of a thought is not the kind of thing to which ‘purity’ happens easily.