PARACOMPLETION

Top of Form

1. I was only 4 years old when my dad was working with elephants, lions, and tigers. ----. When I was 14, I was already taking care of and raising baboons and lion cubs, leopard cats and other animals. At 17, I began working professionally with elephants. I did that for about 8 years and then gave it up. I have been working in the construction business since then

A. Elephants and many other animals are just like people

B. Therefore, I always had animals around me

C. You have to love them unconditionally

D. But nothing would happen to elephants

E. They are the type of animal that demands food all the time

2. 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 the default mode, setting up project teams of people who get along nicely.

A. The result, however, is disastrous.

B. The result is mediocrity.

C. The result is the creation of experts who then become elitists.

D. Naturally, they drive innovations.

3. Nanotechnology is the 1 \_\_\_\_\_\_ of ‘miniature’. It is the engineering of working 2 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at the molecular level. Due to advancement in the technology area,  
nanotechnology is the 3 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ field that interests many people. From the clothes and sunglasses we wear to computer drives and even cleaning products, nanotechnology which is 4 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by the natural world, plays a big part in manufacturing many familiar products of our daily use.

A. fiction, art, science, project

B. style, systems, flair, ability

C. impending, forthcoming, upcoming, awaiting

D. transpired, emerged, inspired, revealed

E. All of these

4. Shopping complex-destroyed-bomb-7 o’clock-80 people burnt alive-two young men-seen speeding off-police assured immediate arrest of culprits.  
  
The citizens of Kantipur were shocked when one of its (a) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by a (b) \_\_\_\_\_ The place was crowded and about (c) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Witnesses say that (d) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on a two wheeler soon after the blast. The police commissioner assured the people that (e) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

A. shopping complexes was destroyed

B. bomb explosion at 7o’clock

C. 80 people were burnt alive

D. they had seen two young men speeding

E. the culprits will be soon arrested

F. All of these

5. Every year 100 million holiday-makers go to the Mediterranean. With one third of the world's tourist trade it is the most popular of all the holiday areas: yet, it is also the most polluted. \_\_\_\_\_

A. Therefore, the tourist industry here is in great danger.

B. Several European countries have changed their economic policies.

C. The housing problem has increased over the years.

D. However, the great civilizations of the past are no longer tourist attractions.

6. We owe the name and the concept of Atlantis to Plato. It was first mentioned in his dialogues Timaeus and Critias, where he claims to be reporting a conversation that had taken place between his ancestor, Solon, and an Egyptian priest. The dialogues tell us the overwhelming of a culture by a catastrophe which by modern chronology would have occurred about 9600 BC, at the end of the last Ice Age \_\_\_\_. Therefore, it’s hard for archaeologists to believe that it’s fictitious and this has given rise to a host of speculations about where Atlantis might have been and even to expeditions aiming to discover, vestiges of the civilization itself.

A. Nevertheless, the story doesn’t appeal to the logical reader

B. Atlantis was said to have been under the Atlantic Ocean in the accounts of Plato

C. In the dialogues, epic voyages in primitive craft proved that they could have sailed immense distances simply by drifting with the current

D. Atlantis was destroyed by a group of primitive huge creatures which had human intelligence but a body of a monster

7. In 1585, Sir Walter Raleigh tried to start the first English settlement in North America \_\_\_\_\_. Many settlers became sick and others died of hunger or in battles with the Native  
Americans. When another ship came from England a few years later, the newcomers found that all the settlers were dead.

A. The settlers were not glad to see the native people

B. However, the settlement was not successful

C. Therefore, they all married Indians

D. The settlement had grown

8. It is important for HR and talent management professionals to understand the distinction between happy, satisfied employees and engaged employees. Engaged employees are happy, satisfied employees, but not all happy, satisfied employees are engaged employees (\_\_\_\_\_). Similarly, satisfied employees are happy to show up to work each day and do  
their work, but will be equally happy to take their satisfaction elsewhere for a salary increase.

A. The renewed interest in improving employee engagement in organizations has originated from actions executives took during the recession.

B. Engaged employees speak positively about their organizations to their co-workers, potential employees, and customers.

C. Happy employees, for example, may gladly show up for work on most days, but that happiness does not necessarily translate into productivity and profitability

D. Not all satisfied, emotionally invested professionals are engaged at the same level in an organization.

9. Providing benefits for women on maternity leave and children is a societal responsibility which can be funded in a large country through a combination of general taxation and contributory payments from those who have the means. Health care should be treated as a right and deliveries handled without cost to women. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Such a policy would harmonize the varying harmonize benefit provisions found in different laws that govern labour at present.

A. The income guarantees during the pregnancy period can be ensured through a universal social insurance system.

B. Beneficiaries covered by the latest amendment must be protected from discrimination through clear provisions.

C. Mandating creche facilities to help women workers under the changed law is a forward-looking move.

D. Women’s empowerment can be achieved through universal initiatives, not by imposing conditionalities to avail benefits.

10. Traditional pharmacies have been knocking at the doors of the government for some time now as they face intense competition from e-pharmacies. Their profit margins and market share have faced pressure in recent years from e-pharmacies that often offer medicines at cheaper prices \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The AIOCD has repeatedly accused repeatedly accusedide range of malpractices, including selling fake drugs and enabling self-medication. The organisation has been citing these issues to seek a ban on the sale of drugs online.

A. While this has improved the accessibility of drugs to a wider population, the concern of traditional pharmacists too is easy to understand.

B. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare proposed the setting up of an e-portal to track and regulate the sale of drugs across the retail chain.

C. The risks associated with e-pharmacies, especially when it comes to the dispensation of prescription drugs without the necessary checks, cannot be taken lightly.

D. However, the Ministry’s plan on regulating e-pharmacies is a rather outdated one.

E. But perhaps the only thing clear from the All India Organisation of Chemists and Druggists (AIOCD)’s demands is its intention to protect the business interests of traditional brick-and-mortar pharmacies.

If I were you, I\_\_\_\_\_\_ this jacket. It fits you perfectly.

bought

buy

will buy

would buy

2. She doesn't have a garden. If she had a garden, she \_\_\_\_\_\_ her favorite flowers.

can grow

could grow

might have grown

would have grown

3. If he \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ an hour earlier, he wouldn't have missed his train.

had left

left

might leave

would leave

4. I wish I \_\_\_\_\_\_ go there with you.

can

could

could have

would have

5. I wish you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ play the music so loudly. I have a headache.

don't

shouldn't

won't

wouldn't

6. I wish you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ me about it yesterday, before I sent out the invitations.

could tell

had told

told

would tell

7. It is imperative that he\_\_\_\_\_\_ before one o'clock.

arrive

had arrived

has arrived

will arrive

8. She looked ill. I insisted that she \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a doctor.

had seen

might see

should see

would have seen

9. I suggest that these questions \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ discussed at the next meeting.

be

have been

should have been

will be

10. What would you do if your car \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the middle of the road?

break down

broke down

has broken down

will break down

**Reading Comprehension**

**RC Passage 1:**

Caffeine, the stimulant in coffee, has been called “the most widely used psychoactive substance on Earth.”Synder, Daly and Bruns have recently proposed that caffeine affects behavior by countering the activity in the human brain of a naturally occurring chemical called adenosine. Adenosine normally depresses neuron firing in many areas of the brain. It apparently does this by inhibiting the release of neurotransmitters, chemicals that carry nerve impulses from one neuron to the next. Like many other agents that affect neuron firing, adenosine must first bind to specific receptors on neuronal membranes. There are at least two classes of these receptors, which have been designated A1 and A2.

Snyder et al propose that caffeine, which is structurally similar to adenosine, is able to bind to both types of receptors, which prevents adenosine from attaching there and allows the neurons to fire more readily than they otherwise would.

For many years, caffeine’s effects have been attributed to its inhibition of the production of phosphodiesterase, an enzyme that breaks down the chemical called cyclic AMP. A number of neurotransmitters exert their effects by first increasing cyclic AMP concentrations in target neurons. Therefore, prolonged periods at the elevated concentrations, as might be brought about by a phosphodiesterase inhibitor, could lead to a greater amount of neuron firing and, consequently, to behavioral stimulation. But Snyder et al point out that the caffeine concentrations needed to inhibit the production of phosphodiesterase in the brain are much higher than those that produce stimulation. Moreover, other compounds that block phosphodiesterase’s activity are not stimulants.

To buttress their case that caffeine acts instead by preventing adenosine binding, Snyder et al compared the stimulatory effects of a series of caffeine derivatives with their ability to dislodge adenosine from its receptors in the brains of mice. “In general,” they reported, “the ability of the compounds to compete at the receptors correlates with their ability to stimulate locomotion in the mouse; i.e., the higher their capacity to bind at the receptors, the higher their ability to stimulate locomotion.” Theophylline, a close structural relative of caffeine and the major stimulant in tea, was one of the most effective compounds in both regards. There were some apparent exceptions to the general correlation observed between adenosine-receptor binding and stimulation.One of these was a compound called 3-isobuty1-1-methylxanthine(IBMX), which bound very well but actually depressed mouse locomotion. Snyder et al suggest that this is not a major stumbling block to their hypothesis. The problem is that the compound has mixed effects in the brain, a not unusual occurrence with psychoactive drugs. Even caffeine, which is generally known only for its stimulatory effects, displays this property, depressing mouse locomotion at very low concentrations and stimulating it at higher ones.

**Based on the Passage, answer the following questions:**

**1. The primary purpose of the passage is to**

**(A)**discuss a plan for investigation of a phenomenon that is not yet fully understood

**(B)**present two explanations of a phenomenon and reconcile the differences between them

**(C)** summarize two theories and suggest a third theory that overcomes the problems encountered in the first two

**(D)**describe an alternative hypothesis and provide evidence and arguments that support it

**(E)**challenge the validity of a theory by exposing the inconsistencies and contradictions in it

**2. According to Snyder et al, caffeine differs from adenosine in that caffeine**

**(A)** stimulates behavior in the mouse and in humans, whereas adenosine stimulates behavior in humans only

**(B)**has mixed effects in the brain, whereas adenosine has only a stimulatory effect

**(C)** increases cyclic AMP concentrations in target neurons, whereas adenosine decreases such concentrations

**(D)** permits release of neurotransmitters when it is bound to adenosine receptors, whereas adenosine inhibits such release

**(E)**inhibits both neuron firing and the production of phosphodiesterase when there is a sufficient concentration in the brain, whereas adenosine inhibits only neuron firing

**3. In response to experimental results concerning IBMX, Snyder et al contended that it is not uncommon for psychoactive drugs to have**

**(A)**mixed effects in the brain

**(B)** inhibitory effects on enzymes in the brain

**(C)** close structural relationships with caffeine

**(D)** depressive effects on mouse locomotion

**(E)** the ability to dislodge caffeine from receptors in the brain

**4. According to Snyder et al, all of the following compounds can bind to specific receptors in the brain EXCEPT**

**(A)** IBMX

**(B)**caffeine

**(C)** adenosine

**(D)**theophylline

**(E)**phosphodiesterase

**5. Snyder et al suggest that caffeine’s ability to bind to A1 and A2 receptors can be at least partially attributed to which of the following?**

**(A)** The chemical relationship between caffeine and phosphodiesterase

**(B)** The structural relationship between caffeine and adenosine

**(C)** The structural similarity between caffeine and neurotransmitters

**(D)** The ability of caffeine to stimulate behavior

**(E)** The natural occurrence of caffeine and adenosine in the brain

**RC Passage 2**

Archaeology as a profession faces two major problems.

First, it is the poorest of the poor. Only paltry sums are available for excavating and even less is available for publishing the results and preserving the sites once excavated. Yet archaeologists deal with priceless objects every day.

Second, there is the problem of illegal excavation, resulting in museum-quality pieces being sold to the highest bidder.

I would like to make an outrageous suggestion that would at one stroke provide funds for archaeology and reduce the amount of illegal digging. I would propose that scientific archeological expeditions and governmental authorities sell excavated artifacts on the open market. Such sales would provide substantial funds for the excavation and preservation of archaeological sites and the publication of results. At the same time, they would break the illegal excavator’s grip on the market, thereby decreasing the inducement to engage in illegal activities.

You might object that professionals excavate to acquire knowledge, not money. Moreover, ancient artifacts are part of our global cultural heritage, which should be available for all to appreciate, not sold to the highest bidder. I agree. Sell nothing that has unique artistic merit or scientific value. But, you might reply, everything that comes out of the ground has scientific value. Here we part company. Theoretically, you may be correct in claiming that every artifact has potential scientific value. Practically, you are wrong.

I refer to the thousands of pottery vessels and ancient lamps that are essentially duplicates of one another. In one small excavation in Cyprus, archaeologists recently uncovered 2,000 virtually indistinguishable small jugs in a single courtyard, even precious royal seal impressions known as melekh handles have been found in abundance — more than 4,000 examples so far.

The basement of museums is simply not large enough to store the artifacts that are likely to be discovered in the future. There is not enough money even to catalogue the finds; as a result, they cannot be found again and become as inaccessible as if they had never been discovered. Indeed, with the help of a computer, sold artifacts could be more accessible than are the pieces stored in bulging museum basements. Prior to sale, each could be photographed and the list of the purchasers could be maintained on the computer A purchaser could even be required to agree to return the piece if it should become needed for scientific purposes. It would be unrealistic to suggest that illegal digging would stop if artifacts were sold in the open market. But the demand for the clandestine product would be substantially reduced. Who would want an unmarked pot when another was available whose provenance was known, and that was dated stratigraphically by the professional archaeologist who excavated it?

**Based on the Passage, answer the following questions:**

1. **The primary purpose of the passage is to propose**

**(A)**an alternative to museum display of artifacts

**(B)** a way to curb illegal digging while benefiting the archaeological profession

**(C)** a way to distinguish artifacts with scientific value from those that have no such value

**(D)** the governmental regulation of archaeological sites

**(E)** a new system for cataloging duplicate artifacts

1. **The author implies that all of the following statements about duplicate artifacts are true EXCEPT:**

**(A)** A market for such artifacts already exists.

**(B)**Such artifacts seldom have scientific value.

**(C)** There is likely to be a continuing supply of such artifacts.

**(D)** Museums are well supplied with examples of such artifacts.

**(E)** Such artifacts frequently exceed in quality in comparison to those already cataloged in museum collections

1. **Which of the following is mentioned in the passage as a disadvantage of storing artifacts in museum basements?**

**(A)** Museum officials rarely allow scholars access to such artifacts.

**(B)** Space that could be better used for display is taken up for storage.

**(C)** Artifacts discovered in one excavation often become separated from each other.

**(D)** Such artifacts are often damaged by variations in temperature and humidity.

**(E)** Such artifacts’ often remain uncatalogued and thus cannot be located once they are put in storage

1. **The author’s argument concerning the effect of the official sale of duplicate artifacts on illegal excavation is based on which of the following assumptions?**

**(A)** Prospective purchasers would prefer to buy authenticated artifacts.

**(B)** The price of illegally excavated artifacts would rise.

**(C)** Computers could be used to trace sold artifacts.

**(D)** Illegal excavators would be forced to sell only duplicate artifacts.

**(E)** Money gained from selling authenticated artifacts could be used to investigate and prosecute illegal excavators

1. **The author anticipates which of the following initial objections to the adoption of his proposal?**

**(A)** Museum officials will become unwilling to store artifacts.

**(B)** An oversupply of salable artifacts will result and the demand for them will fall.

**(C)** Artifacts that would have been displayed in public places will be sold to private collectors.

**(D)** Illegal excavators will have an even larger supply of artifacts for resale.

**(E)** Counterfeiting of artifacts will become more commonplace

**RC Passage 3:**

Federal efforts to aid minority businesses began in the 1960’s when the Small Business Administration (SBA) began making federally guaranteed loans and government-sponsored management and technical assistance available to minority business enterprises. While this program enabled many minority entrepreneurs to form new businesses, the results were disappointing, since managerial inexperience, unfavorable locations, and capital shortages led to high failure rates. Even 15 years after the program was implemented, minority business receipts were not quite two percent of the national economy’s total receipts. Recently federal policymakers have adopted an approach intended to accelerate development of the minority business sector by moving away from directly aiding small minority enterprises and toward supporting larger, growth-oriented minority firms through intermediary companies. In this approach, large corporations participate in the development of successful and stable minority businesses by making use of government-sponsored venture capital. The capital is used by a participating company to establish a Minority Enterprise Small Business Investment Company or MESBIC. The MESBIC then provides capital and guidance to minority businesses that have potential to become future suppliers or customers of the sponsoring company.

MESBIC’s are the result of the belief that providing established firms with easier access to relevant management techniques and more job-specific experience, as well as substantial amounts of capital, gives those firms a greater opportunity to develop sound business foundations than does simply making general management experience and small amounts of capital available. Further, since potential markets for the minority businesses already exist through the sponsoring companies, the minority businesses face considerably less risk in terms of location and market fluctuation. Following early financial and operating problems, sponsoring corporations began to capitalize MESBIC’s far above the legal minimum of $500,000 in order to generate sufficient income and to sustain the quality of management needed. MESBIC’s are now emerging as increasingly important financing sources for minority enterprises.

Ironically, MESBIC staffs, which usually consist of Hispanic and Black professionals, tend to approach investments in minority firms more pragmatically than do many MESBIC directors, who are usually senior managers from sponsoring corporations. The latter often still think mainly in terms of the “social responsibility approach” and thus seem to prefer deals that are riskier and less attractive than normal investment criteria would warrant. Such differences in viewpoint have produced uneasiness among many minority staff members, who feel that minority entrepreneurs and businesses should be judged by established business considerations. These staff members believe their point of view is closer to the original philosophy of MESBIC’s and they are concerned that, unless a more prudent course is followed, MESBIC directors may revert to policies likely to re-create the disappointing results of the original SBA approach.

**Based on the Passage, answer the following questions:**

1. **Which of the following best states the central idea of the passage?**

**(A)** The use of MESBIC’s for aiding minority entrepreneurs seems to have greater potential for success than does the original SBA approach.

**(B)** There is a crucial difference in point of view between the staff and directors of some MESBIC’s.

**(C)** After initial problems with management and marketing, minority businesses have begun to expand at a steady rate.

**(D)** Minority entrepreneurs wishing to form new businesses now have several equally successful federal programs on which to rely.

**(E)** For the first time since 1960, large corporations are making significant contributions to the development of minority businesses

1. **According to the passage, the MESBIC approach differs from the SBA approach in that MESBIC’s**

**(A)** seek federal contracts to provide markets for minority businesses

**(B)** encourage minority businesses to provide markets for other minority businesses

**(C)** attempt to maintain a specified rate of growth in the minority business sector

**(D)** rely on the participation of large corporations to finance minority businesses

**(E)** select minority businesses on the basis of their location

1. **Which of the following does the author cite to support the conclusion that the results of the SBA program were disappointing?**

**(A)** The small number of new minority enterprises formed as a result of the program

**(B)** The small number of minority enterprises that took advantage of the management and technical assistance offered under the program

**(C)** The small percentage of the nation’s business receipts earned by minority enterprises following the programs, implementation.

**(D)** The small percentage of recipient minority enterprises that were able to repay federally guaranteed loans made under the program

**(E)** The small number of minority enterprises that chose to participate in the program

1. **Which of the following statements about the SBA program can be inferred from the passage?**

**(A)** The maximum term for loans made to recipient businesses was 15 years.

**(B)** Business loans were considered to be more useful to recipient businesses than was management and technical assistance.

**(C)** The anticipated failure rate for recipient businesses was significantly lower than the rate that actually resulted.

**(D)** Recipient businesses were encouraged to relocate to areas more favorable for business development.

**(E)** The capitalization needs of recipient businesses were assessed and then provided for adequately

1. **The author’s primary objective in the passage is to**

**(A)** disprove the view that federal efforts to aid minority businesses have been ineffective

**(B)** explain how federal efforts to aid minority businesses have changed since the 1960’s

**(C)** establish a direct link between the federal efforts to aid minority businesses made before the 1960’s and those made in the 1980’s

**(D)** analyze the basis for the belief that job-specific experience is more useful to minority businesses than is general management experience

**(E)** argue that the “social responsibility approach” to aiding minority businesses is superior to any other approach