

CSAT – Reading Comprehension - Practice Test

Passage - 01

DIRECTION: Read the following passage carefully and answer the question/s that follow/s it on the basis of what is written/ implied therein.

The phenomenon of the so-called “honour killing” is unique to the sub-continent. These infamous honour killings are ostensibly meant to protect the family honour by killing a daughter, who makes the mistake of falling in love with a “lower caste” boy, marrying him or eloping with him. And the caste is not the only marker here; it may be easily replaced with religion, too, especially among those having extremist religious views. Did you ever wonder which “honour” is sought to be protected with such killings? Very simply, the family honour which the girl violated by crossing certain pre-set boundaries fixed for her by way of social conditioning and upbringing. Further, since she is thought to be the family “property”, she should be “disposed of” by its “owners” in the manner of their choice as she has no rights over her mind or body -the root cause of these honour killings, which rock our country from time to time.

Which of the following statements is/are CORRECT on the basis of this passage?

1. Honour killings happen as girls enjoy little rights over their lives.
2. Honour killings presumably seek to protect the girl’s honour

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| A. Only 2 | B. Both 1 and 2 |
| C. Only 1 | D. Neither 1 nor 2 |

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Passage - 02

DIRECTION: Read the following passage carefully and answer the question/s that follow/s it on the basis of what is written/ implied therein.

“Give me 12 babies of any background and I promise to pick any of them at random and make it into whomsoever you may like- a musician, a beggar, a criminal or a writer.”

JB Watson’s rather outlandish claim isn’t surprising given that for hundreds of years, psychologists and philosophers believed that a child’s mind was a *tabula rasa* i.e. a blank slate i.e. a child isn’t born with anything written on its mind and that its parental and social world is competent enough to write on it anything it likes. This conception dominated psychology for long until it was successfully challenged by revolutionary scientific research, which proved that the baby’s mind is, after all, not a blank slate and has a lot already written on it. In fact, a significant part of this “writing” is not amenable to any ink remover or ink whitener, so to say. For example, you will find many young babies rather easy-going, friendly and adjusting right from their birth while others may be cranky, irritable and grumpy. And many of these behaviours may continue well into their adulthood despite much training to the contrary.

Which of the following statements is/are CORRECT on the basis of this passage?

1. A baby enters the world with all the codes already imprinted on its mind as to what it will become as an adult.
2. Some human behaviours are not learned even after much training.

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| A. Only 1 | B. 1 and 2 |
| C. Only 2 | D. Neither 1 nor 2 |

ANSWER KEY

PASSAGE-01:

Key –C

Examine the following excerpts:

Very simply, the **family honour** which the girl violated by crossing certain pre-set boundaries fixed for her...
.....she has **no rights** over her mind or body -the root cause of these honour killings...

PASSAGE-02:

Key –C

Examine the following excerpts:

revolutionary scientific research proved that the baby's mind is, after all, not a blank slate and has a **lot** already written on it.

The highlighted word clearly means that **not** everything is written on a baby's mind

Note the word **despite** in the sentence below:

And many of these behaviours may continue well into their adulthood **despite** much training to the contrary.