

**English Language Set- 3**  
**Asst Manager (Sys) 2024: Pre-Examination Training for Eligible Candidates**

**Directions (1-5) Read the given passage carefully and answer the following questions. Certain parts have been highlighted to help answer the questions.**

Enjoyed by humans since prehistoric times, music has been variously described as the food of love, a shorthand for emotion, and the universal language of humankind. For some, those seemingly rare individuals who do not express an enthusiasm for music are viewed with deep suspicion, like those who don't eat chocolate, who are unmoved by Shakespearean drama, or who fail to express delight over an Ashes victory. Yet recently the assumption that the enjoyment of music is a near-universal human trait has been questioned, with evidence that some people simply don't derive pleasure from music, and that this does not reflect or result from a general lack of pleasure in life's activities. It is evident that these systems evolved to process stimuli of biological significance: the ability to discriminate tones in human speech provides information about the gender, size and emotional state of the speaker, and \_\_\_\_\_(1)\_\_\_\_\_ in some languages. Music is assumed to be a fortuitous by-product of this evolutionary development and is more fully processed in the brain's right hemisphere, which is more associated with the representation of emotions than the left hemisphere.

It has been theorised that aesthetic responses to music may derive from the similarity of musical tones to tonal characteristics of human speech associated with different emotional states. If so, it would be hypothesised that the pleasure one finds in music would be related to skills in and enjoyment of social intercourse. Conversely, a lack of musical appreciation would predict deficiencies in social engagement: in Shakespeare's words, for the man that hath no music in himself, "the motions of his spirit are dull as night and his affections dark as Erebus: Let no such man be trusted". The inability to enjoy music has been investigated by a team of Spanish researchers, who started with the assumption that the condition may result from deficits in music perception – termed amusia – or a more general inability to derive pleasure from everyday activities – formally labelled anhedonia.

In Current Biology the research team reported on their investigation of the hypothesis that those who do not enjoy music may exhibit broader abnormalities of the systems of the brain involved in reward, motivation and arousal. They examined three groups of participants with high, average and low pleasure ratings in response to music. They undertook a monetary incentive delay task, which required them to respond quickly to targets in order to earn or avoid losing real money. The results confirmed that some otherwise healthy and happy people with normal music perception report that they do not enjoy music and show no autonomic responses to its presentation. This occurs in the presence of a normal behavioural and physiological response to monetary rewards, which demonstrates that a lack of enjoyment of music is not associated with general dysfunction in the brain's reward network. This demonstration of the existence of a domain-specific anhedonia – in this case, specific musical anhedonia – suggests that there are individual differences in access to the brain's reward system.

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- 1.** How has the author biologically connected music with emotions?
- (a) general improper functioning of brain to lead to imbalance of emotions thus resulting in music anhedonia
  - (b) both of them are processes within the right hemisphere of the brain
  - (c) reduction in the activity of certain hemisphere of the brain affects emotions thus reducing joy arising from music
  - (d) both (a) and (b)
  - (e) all are correct
- 2.** Which of the following statement is not correct in context of the study conducted in relation to music anhedonia?
- (a) there were certain complete normal and healthful participants who didn't enjoy music
  - (b) they deduced that even within a usual brain functioning and response mechanism, it was possible not to enjoy music
  - (c) researchers had used monetary incentive within the study they conducted
  - (d) lack of ability to enjoy could be clearly related to malfunctioned responses towards rewards
  - (e) not feeling the pleasure of music might be related with larger malfunctioning within the brain
- 3.** Which of the following statement can be inferred from the passage given above?
- (i) Specific musical anhedonics show reduced functional connectivity between cortical regions associated with auditory processing.
  - (ii) While most people enjoy music and find it rewarding, there is substantial individual variability in the experience and degree of music-induced reward.
  - (iii) While music may be the universal language, it doesn't speak to everyone.
- (a) only (iii)
  - (b) only (i) and (ii)
  - (c) only (ii) and (iii)
  - (d) all of the above
  - (e) none of these
- 4.** What would be the presumption drawn in case there exists a connection between response to music and characteristics of human speech?
- (a) lack of brain connectivity with fluency of speech might result to anhedonia
  - (b) music would fail to acquire reward value if a person isn't able to identify emotions through speech
  - (c) a person enjoying social dealings would find pleasure in music
  - (d) subjects could be insensible to music if they lack the ability to speak
  - (e) none of these

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**5.** Which of the following phrases could fit in the blank (1), to make the statement grammatically correct and contextually meaningful?

- (a) sensitivity based on their responses
- (b) measuring their level of sensitivity
- (c) origins of specific musical anhedonia
- (d) differentiates meaning of utterances
- (e) none of these

**Directions (6 - 10):** In the following passage, there are blanks each of which has been numbered. For each number, some words are suggested below the passage, one of which fits the blank appropriately. Find the appropriate words.

The \_\_6\_\_ before the Chinese leadership is to create more jobs at home. According to reports, the country is \_\_7\_\_ out seven million graduates every year. Their \_\_8\_\_ is not a comfortable thought for policy makers. So, China needs to go for a \_\_9\_\_ change. How it does is a \_\_10\_\_ dollar, not an RMB question.

**6.**

- a) Challenge
- b) Issue
- c) Opportunity
- d) Storm
- e) None of the above

**7.**

- a) Burning
- b) Churning
- c) Making
- d) Dealing
- e) None of the above

**8.**

- a) Happiness
- b) Forwardness
- c) Restlessness
- d) Tiredness
- e) None of the above

**9.**

- a) Model
- b) Modal
- c) Module
- d) Middle
- e) None of the above

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**10.**

- a) Billion
- b) Million
- c) Trillion
- d) Thousands
- e) None of the above

**Directions (Q11 To Q16 ):** Each question below has two blanks, each blank indicating that something has been omitted. Choose the set of words for each blank that best fits the meaning of the sentence.

**11.** If he would have tried he would have succeeded.

- (a) is tried
- (b) was tried
- (c) had tried
- (d) will have tried
- (e) no change required

**12.** The place where her father disappeared and the reason why he did are unknown to her.

- (a) her father disappeared and the reason why he did
- (b) where her father disappeared and the reason he did
- (c) her father disappeared and the reason he did
- (d) where her father disappeared and the reason why he did
- (e) no change required

**13.** His wrongdoing was completely exposed, but not once he apologised for his actions.

- (a) not once did he apologise
- (b) never he made an apology
- (c) not once did he give apology
- (d) not once he made an apology
- (e) no change required

**14.** The Municipal Council can no longer wash its hands off its responsibilities.

- (a) wash its hands from its
- (b) wash their hands off their
- (c) wash their hand of their
- (d) wash its hands of its
- (e) no change required

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**15.** The letter states that one can avail the service offered of the company till September 25, 2024

- (a) avail the service on offer from
- (b) avail the service on offer by
- (c) avail of the service offered by
- (d) avail of the service offered from
- (e) no change required

**16.** In a world of tight budgets, recycling content is not so much an option rather a necessity.

- (a) not so much an option but rather a necessity.
- (b) not so much an option as a necessity.
- (c) not so much an option but a necessity.
- (d) not so much an option but also a necessity.
- (e) no change required

**Directions (17-20):** In each of the questions given below, a situation has been stated. Answer the question, based on the paragraph.

**17.** 'X' is a longtime employee true to the company and respected, maybe even revered, by the workforce. But he just does not seem to be supportive of the company's lean initiative. Even worse, 'X' is beginning to negatively influence some employees. 'X' is \_\_\_\_\_ about company's lean initiative?

- (a) empathetic
- (b) scientific
- (c) passionate
- (d) pessimistic
- (e) discreet

**18.** 'Y' was a manager at hotel. After his retirement he started his own food outlet in a small town and gained success. Later, due to some construction plans of government, 'Y' has to close down his business in the area. He again purchases the land in another area, starts his business and works for the success of his restaurant, day and night. 'Y' is a \_\_\_\_\_ person?

- (a) hardworking
- (b) persevering
- (c) diligent
- (d) enthusiastic
- (e) all of the above

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**19.** Two goats came face to face while crossing a narrow bridge. “Let me pass”, said one of them. “Never, you get out of my way”, said the other goat. They quarrel each other and lost their balance. They fell into the stream down below and died! Both the goats were \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) intuitive
- (b) stubborn
- (c) persuasive
- (d) epicurean
- (e) all of the above

**20.** Today, at the animal shelter where I volunteer, a little boy and his mom, who had adopted a kitten last week, came into our lobby carrying big bags full of food, toys, blankets, and other supplies we desperately need. The boy’s mom said, ‘Today is his birthday. Instead of birthday presents, he asked his dad and me to help donate to the shelter. The boy was \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) dramatic
- (b) creative
- (c) courageous
- (d) generous
- (e) none of the above

**ANSWERS**

**1. (b);** To validate the answer, refer to the first paragraph, which mentions, “*Music is assumed to be a fortuitous by-product of this evolutionary development, and is more fully processed in the brain’s right hemisphere, which is more associated with the representation of emotions than the left hemisphere.*” Referring to the quoted text, we can infer that the statement given in option (b) is appropriate in context of the given question. Hence, option (b) is the most suitable answer choice.

**2. (d);** The answer can be validate from various statements given in paragraph four. Among the given statements, only the statement (d) cannot be inferred from the passage. Hence, option (d) is the most suitable answer choice.

**3. (c);** The entire passage is centered around inability of certain people to enjoy music inspite of having normal brain functioning. Here, the most suitable statement to justify the central idea of the passage would be “*While music may be the universal language, it doesn’t speak to everyone*”. Also, the statement (ii) is correct in context of the passage. Hence, option (c) is the appropriate answer to the given question.

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**4. (c);** To validate the answer, refer to the second paragraph, which mentions, *"It has been theorised that aesthetic responses to music may derive from the similarity of musical tones to tonal characteristics of human speech associated with different emotional states. If so, it would be hypothesised that the pleasure one finds in music would be related to skills in and enjoyment of social intercourse. Conversely, a lack of musical appreciation would predict deficiencies in social engagement"*. Referring to the quoted text, we can infer that the statement given in option (c) is correct in context of the given question.

**5. (d);** Among the given phrases, the most appropriate phrase to fit in the given blank will be *" "*. Apart from this, no other phrase could make a grammatically correct and contextually meaningful statement. Hence, option (d) is the most suitable answer choice.

**6. Answer: a)**

**7. Answer: b)**

**8. Answer: c)**

**9. Answer: a)**

**10. Answer: b)**

**11. (c)** The rule of conditional clauses states that "would" should be present in the main clause only. The subordinate clause must contain a past perfect tense. Hence option (c) is correct.

**12. (b)** 'The reason' does away with 'why'. Both need not be present in the same sentence, as they are one and the same.

**13. (a)** 'Not once' is used to emphasise the negation. While forming such negative sentences, verb is inverted just like the interrogative.

**14. (b)** Since Municipal Council is an entity that consists of a lot of members, we consider it as plural. Hence option (b) is correct.

**15. (b)** Option 2 is correct.

**16. (b)** 'Not so much...' is used to mean 'not ...but ....'

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**17. (d);** 'X' was although a valuable employee for the company yet his attitude towards company's initiative was negative and he wanted to develop similar feeling among his colleagues. Hence, 'pessimist' which means 'tending to see the worst aspect of things or believe that the worst will happen' best defines 'X's' attitude towards the initiative.

Empathetic: showing an ability to understand and share the feelings of another

Scientific: based on or characterized by the methods and principles of science

Passionate: having, showing, or caused by strong feelings or beliefs.

Discreet: intentionally unobtrusive

**18. (e);** Here, as per the given situation, all the given options define 'Y' as a person. Hence, option (e) is the most suitable answer choice.

**19. (b);** As per the given situations, both the goats were not willing to give way to each other and therefore has to face the consequences. From the situation, we can infer that the goats were stubborn. Hence, option (b) is the most suitable answer choice.

Intuitive: using or based on what one feels to be true even without conscious reasoning; instinctive

Stubborn: having or showing dogged determination not to change one's attitude or position on something

Persuasive: good at persuading someone to do or believe something through reasoning or the use of temptation

Epicurean: relating to or suitable for an epicure.

**20. (d);** Among the given options, "generous" which means "showing kindness towards others." defines the nature of the child who willingly visited the animal shelter for donation. Hence, option (d) is the most suitable answer choice.

Creative: having good imagination or original ideas

Courageous: not deterred by danger or pain; brave

Dramatic: (of an event or circumstance) sudden and striking