

MBA Pro 2024

Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension

DPP: 13

RC- PYQs- 2020

Directions (1-4) Read the following passage and answer the given questions.

The exploration of the roles played by mesolimbic and neostriatal dopamine systems in the realm of reward has been a topic of considerable interest and debate in the field of neuroscience. The central question revolves around whether these dopamine systems are instrumental in mediating the hedonic impact of rewarding stimuli, essentially the 'feel-good' aspect, or whether they play a pivotal role in the learning and associative prediction of such hedonic rewards. A thorough review of existing literature, in tandem with findings from a novel study examining the residual capacity for reward following dopamine depletion, suggests that the answer to these questions is negative. Instead, it appears that dopamine systems might be more crucial in modulating the incentive salience of rewards. This implies that dopamine could be influencing the motivational value of rewards, an aspect that is distinctly separate from both the hedonic experience (hedonia) and the learning process associated with rewards.

To investigate this hypothesis further, a detailed study was conducted where rats underwent dopamine depletion in specific brain areas - the nucleus accumbens and the neostriatum. This depletion was achieved through the administration of 6-hydroxydopamine, resulting in a reduction of dopamine levels by up to 99%. The study comprised a series of experiments that employed the 'taste reactivity' measure. This involved observing and assessing the affective reactions of rats, such as gaping, to determine their ability to experience normal

affect (both hedonic and aversive reactions), the modulation of hedonic affect through associative learning (as seen in taste aversion conditioning), and the enhancement of hedonic affect by non-dopaminergic pharmacological manipulation (achieved through the administration of benzodiazepine).

The results of these experiments were intriguing. The dopamine-depleted rats displayed typical hedonic reaction patterns when exposed to sucrose (a sweet substance) versus quinine (a bitter substance), indicating an intact hedonic response system. Furthermore, these rats demonstrated the ability to learn new hedonic stimulus values, indicating a change in palatability based on predictive relationships. Additionally, the pharmacological enhancement of palatability, which was independent of the dopamine system, was found to be normal.

These findings provoke a reevaluation of the roles of dopamine systems in reward. The evidence, encompassing neurochemical, electrophysiological, and behavioral data, strongly suggests that dopamine systems are not essential for mediating the hedonic pleasure derived from reinforcers or for facilitating the associative learning involved in hedonic reward learning. Instead, dopamine might play a more significant role in attributing incentive salience to the neural representations of reward-related stimuli.

Incentive salience, as posited by this research, emerges as a distinct and critical component of motivation and reward. It essentially refers to the 'wanting' of incentives, which is distinct from 'liking' them or learning new preferences or



aversions ('likes' and 'dislikes'). Thus, while dopamine systems are crucial for the 'wanting' aspect of incentives, their role in 'liking' or in learning new 'likes' and 'dislikes' appears to be negligible.

Q1 Among the statements below, which one diverges from the central premise in the paragraph concerning dopamine's role in reward, challenging the conclusion drawn therein?

- (A) Dopamine is instrumental in the learning process of new preferences and aversions.
- (B) Dopamine primarily facilitates the hedonic experience of pleasure in reward scenarios.
- (C) It is the key chemical mediator for both 'wanting' rewards and experiencing their pleasure.
- (D) Dopamine's role is pivotal in attributing 'incentive salience' to rewards, leaning towards 'wanting' rather than 'liking.'

Q2 Considering the information provided in the passage about the study on dopamine-depleted rats, which of the following statements inaccurately represents the study's methodology as described in the passage?

- (A) Rats were observed for changes in their natural aversion to bitter substances like quinine after dopamine depletion.
- (B) The 'taste reactivity' measure was employed to assess the affective reactions of rats to different taste stimuli.
- (C) Dopamine-depleted rats showed enhanced hedonic reaction patterns to sucrose compared to normal rats.
- (D) Dopamine levels in the rats were reduced by approximately 99% using a specific neurotoxin.

Q3

The passage affirms that dopamine systems are not needed to mediate the hedonic pleasure of reinforcers. Which of the following options, if NOT FALSE, challenges this assertion?

- (A) Dopamine-depleted rats were unable to experience any form of pleasure in response to sucrose.
- (B) The study found that rats without dopamine still showed normal hedonic reactions to sucrose and quinine.
- (C) Dopamine systems play a crucial role in the associative learning of hedonic rewards.
- (D) Pharmacological manipulation of palatability was ineffective in dopamine-depleted rats.

Q4 Which of the following, if introduced as a fact, aligns most closely with the author's findings in the passage regarding the role of dopamine?

- (A) Dopamine is necessary for experiencing the pleasure of rewards and for associative learning of such pleasures.
- (B) Incentive salience attributed by dopamine is a distinct component of motivation separate from hedonic pleasure.
- (C) The absence of dopamine leads to a complete lack of hedonic response to rewarding stimuli.
- (D) Dopamine plays a minimal role in both the 'wanting' and 'liking' aspects of reward processing.

Directions (5-8) Read the following passage and answer the given questions.

Recently, the biological basis of human emotions has come into question by thinkers who focus largely on higher-level emotions and our cultural narratives about emotional life. This approach has done great work in celebrating



the diversity of emotional cultures, and their historical and anthropological differences, but it loses something crucial when it rejects natural emotions altogether. One of its most vocal and popular proponents is the social psychologist Lisa Feldman Barrett. In her book *How Emotions Are Made*, Barrett argues that emotions are conceptual events, and our emotions, such as anger or sadness, are very fast mental constructions – almost like real-time, miniature theories about our experiences.

Emotions, in this formulation, are intellectual processes, requiring language to carve raw feelings into discrete emotions. Instead of biological or physiological systems, emotions are said to be more like thoughts, and each person learns early in life how to name and organise them into seemingly natural kinds, which in truth, according to Barrett, are cognitively and culturally constructed conventions. When your stomach churns in a bakery, Barrett argues that your brain labels those feelings as 'hunger', whereas a different context – say, a hospital waiting room – leads your brain to label the same feelings as 'worry'. She applies this same logic to all emotions, claiming that there is no such thing as innate anger or lust, but that there are merely contextual interpretations of bodily arousal.

The argument for this counterintuitive view rests precariously on an analogy with certain top-down aspects of sensory perception. That perception is subject to distortion under even quite slight cognitive suggestion is well-known, and psychologists have made careers 'priming' subjects to misperceive something, or notice something that would not otherwise stand out. Barrett claims, our minds automatically suggest ways to categorise feelings into apparently instinctual emotions – they appear instinctual because we do not have conscious access to this mental categorising activity. However, those who follow the innovations of affective science think that deep emotions such as lust,

rage, care, fear, seeking, grief and play are not conceptually constructed, even though they might be conceptually elaborated in the kinds of minds that have conceptual capabilities.

On closer examination, the analogy between perception and emotions breaks down. For a start, while some perception is open to top-down structuring, most is not. Recent work from the Yale Perception and Cognition Lab, particularly by Chaz Firestone and Brian Scholl, shows that most perception is reliably free of top-down influence. Perception is not as penetrable to higher cognitive function, as Barrett and others contend. In fact, the empirical work seems to suggest that repeatable constraints or influences on perception come mostly from feelings, emotions or affects, not language, beliefs or concepts. In other words, it is not enough to have a top-down personal or cultural theory about the danger of crocodiles, say, to make you recoil when you see them. A bottom-up fear association can heavily influence the way you see this new percept of a crocodile. The feeling state makes one define the croc encounter as fearful, whereas Barrett and other constructionists think that defining it as fearful is what produces the feeling state. This means that the permeability of perception in fact cuts against the argument that emotion is another form of cognition since it reveals a physiological causal force that shapes and constraints perception and cognition.

Q5 Which of the following options, if true, can be seen as supporting the viewpoint presented by Lisa Feldman Barrett regarding the nature of emotions, as discussed in the passage?

- (A) Cross-cultural studies have demonstrated insignificant variations in emotional expressions and interpretations, indicating that emotions are not shaped by cultural



contexts and are biologically predetermined.

- (B) Recent studies in neuroscience have shown that language centers in the brain are highly active during emotional experiences, suggesting a strong connection between language and the construction of emotions.
- (C) Behavioral experiments have revealed that individuals cannot interpret their emotional experiences based on cognitive appraisal, providing evidence for the role of non-conceptual processes in shaping emotions.
- (D) Research on emotional processing in infants has indicated that while basic affective reactions may be present from birth, the development of nuanced emotional responses relies heavily on their motor skills.

Q6 ONLY this option, if true, would weaken the conclusion drawn about the biological basis of human emotions, as discussed in the passage -

- (A) Studies indicate a consistent neurological pattern universally linked to specific emotions across diverse cultures.
- (B) Research reveals strong correlations between particular emotional experiences and distinct biological markers in the brain.
- (C) Experiments showing wide variations in emotional responses based on cultural contexts, rather than consistent biological underpinnings
- (D) Neuroscientific evidence linking the same neural pathways to emotional and cognitive processes, emphasises that emotions are primarily non-intellectual events.

Q7

Which aspect of Lisa Feldman Barrett's theory of emotions is challenged by researchers from the Yale Perception and Cognition Lab?

- (A) The role of neuro-receptors in shaping emotional experiences.
- (B) The idea that emotions are innate and biologically determined.
- (C) The analogy between top-down influences on perception and the construction of emotions.
- (D) The concept that emotions may not be primarily influenced by language and conscious thought processes.

Q8 Which of the following, IF NOT UNTRUE, would **least** support the idea that emotions are intellectual processes requiring language to shape raw feelings into discrete emotions?

- (A) A study highlights infants' limited expression of nuanced emotions until language development.
- (B) A study shows cultures with richer emotional vocabularies have enhanced emotional identification.
- (C) A study reveals the absence of nuanced emotional distinctions in individuals with language impairments.
- (D) A study shows that the best linguistic experts and top leaders often do not have a nuanced emotional spectrum.

Directions (9–12) Read the following passage and answer the given questions.

I was born smaller than a slice of bread. For more than three months, an army of doctors and nurses at the Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston monitored my incubator to keep my paper-thin skin from peeling away. Every night, my parents counted the tiny heartbeats – each one a promise of what their son might achieve, if only I could grow. If only I could make it home.



I left the hospital with a condition that has a long medical name – retinopathy of prematurity – and which means that I am legally blind. As a child, I encountered some unique obstacles. While my classmates struggled to colour within the lines, I struggled to see the lines within which to colour.

For most of my life, I hated having a disability. The accommodations I received in school, like my black-and-white enlarged textbooks or a seat at the front of the room, made me feel different and alone. I wanted my books in colour and to sit with my friends. During gym class when we played softball, I hit the ball off a tee. Three times a week, that rubber ball reminded me that, just because I was born a certain way, my world and my potential had limits.

After college, I started a fellowship at Human Rights Watch that taught me a new way to think about disability. I learned to treat disability not as a medical condition that limits my potential or as something that requires ‘fixing’, but as a condition that interacts with attitudes and barriers that are disabling themselves. This ‘social model’ of disability shifts the focus away from an impairment and asks what we can all do to promote inclusion.

The social model says that a person using a wheelchair is disabled because the building they are trying to enter lacks ramps or elevators, not because they cannot walk.

Seeing disability in this more empowering light, I feel it as just one part of my identity that makes me resilient and resourceful.

My friend Michelle is blind. She was born with low vision, and lost most of her sight as a child. Michelle sometimes uses a cane to help her navigate. When she does, complete strangers make assumptions about her before she says a single word. Surely, they think, she must be confused, or afraid, or lost. They rarely assume that Michelle is capable, confident, or exactly where she wants to be.

Several months ago, Michelle and I had dinner at a leafy Filipino restaurant in Washington, DC. It was a trendy place: rowhouses squashed together on either side, string lights wrapped around a white fence, techno music blaring from a busy outdoor bar that served up bright pink and orange cocktails. Our stomachs growled as we smelled tangy curries and sweet coconut milk.

The other customers seemed confused from the moment we arrived.

They could tell Michelle was blind, her cane gave that away, and they assumed that I could guide her to a table. When they realised I also could not see, the confusion turned into a mix of emotions: embarrassment, uncertainty, pity.

The confusion is natural. After all, how often do you actually have the blind leading the blind?

Yet no one asked us if we needed assistance or offered options on where to sit. They made those choices for us based on snap assumptions.

Q9 Considering the narrator’s initial and evolved views on disability, which of the following assumptions, if true, would most significantly contradict his final perspective?

- (A) Embracing one’s disability can lead to personal growth and a more profound understanding of societal dynamics.
- (B) Environmental and societal adjustments are crucial in transforming how a disability is experienced.
- (C) Disability should primarily be viewed as a personal medical condition that needs to be overcome.
- (D) Disability, when perceived through a societal lens, loses its significance as a personal identity marker.

Q10 Which of the following scenarios, if it were to occur, would create the most significant complication for the narrator’s



viewpoint on the 'social model' of disability?

- (A) A community where people with disabilities experience no societal barriers but still feel limited by their conditions.
- (B) Implementation of policies that significantly reduce physical barriers for people with disabilities in public spaces.
- (C) Increased public awareness and acceptance of people with disabilities leading to better social integration.
- (D) Advancements in medical technology that enhance the functional abilities of individuals with disabilities.

Q11 Which of the following best describes the primary message conveyed by the narrator's experience with disability in school?

- (A) Disability is an inherent personal limitation that cannot be overcome.
- (B) Social attitudes and barriers can exacerbate the challenges faced by individuals with disabilities.
- (C) Accommodations provided in schools are sufficient to address the needs of students with disabilities.
- (D) Disability should be viewed solely as a medical condition rather than a societal issue.

Q12 Which of the following declarations most precisely conveys the core theme of the passage?

- (A) Disability is an intrinsic personal challenge that shapes an individual's identity and life choices.
- (B) The social model of disability emphasizes the role of societal attitudes and environmental barriers in defining disability.
- (C)

Disability is a mutable concept that changes with advances in medical science and technology.

- (D) Recognizing and embracing one's disability is essential for personal growth and societal acceptance.

Directions (13-15) Read the following passage and answer the given questions.

The Right to Information Act, 2005 stands as a beacon of reformative light in the opaque corridors of power, promising to dismantle the arcane fortresses of bureaucracy and lay bare the inner machinations of government. With its inception, it unfurls a transformative canvas depicting newfound possibilities for democratic discourse and civic engagement, portraying a future where governance is not a secluded enclave but an open book.

This legislation isn't just a legal document; it is an embodiment of a newfound societal ethos, where the citizen is not a mere subject but an active participant in the democratic symphony, having the power to probe the hidden recesses of governmental decision-making. It confers the invaluable right to question, to know, and to understand, painting strokes of transparency over the canvas of governance, allowing for a clearer, more vivid depiction of the national tableau.

Yet, in this seemingly utopian landscape, there linger shadows of uncertainty and contention. The act, while a revolutionary stride towards administrative transparency, opens a Pandora's Box of interpretative ambiguities and operational dilemmas, thereby creating a delicate dance between national security and public right to know. The act sparks debates, raises eyebrows and beckons a re-evaluation of the equilibrium between governmental secrecy and public scrutiny.

Each clause and provision within the act invites a meticulous examination, a nuanced understanding of its implications, and a careful



weighing of its merits and demerits. It necessitates a discerning eye to navigate through its intricate layers, to decode its underlying essence and to reconcile its transformative potential with pragmatic constraints.

In the pursuit of bureaucratic transparency, the act empowers citizens to hold the wielders of power accountable, to challenge the entrenched norms of governance and to reshape the contours of democratic engagement. It brings forth a paradigm shift, redefining the relationship between the government and the governed, heralding an era where information is not a privileged commodity but a democratic right.

However, the journey towards a fully realized, information-empowered society is strewn with obstacles and dilemmas. The act, while a monumental step forward, isn't a magical cure for all societal ills. It raises profound questions about the limits of transparency, the ethics of information dissemination, and the balance between individual rights and collective security.

Q13 The depiction of the Act in the passage subtly conveys its foundational principles and aspirational objectives. Which of the following extrapolations aligns most accurately with the inherent tenets and philosophical underpinnings of the Act as insinuated by the author?

- (A) The Act remains confined to theoretical aspirations, offering no pragmatic solutions for enhanced administrative openness.
- (B) The Act's blueprint is navigated by the singular aim of dissecting governmental operations, devoid of any interpretative or operational dilemmas.
- (C) The Act represents a nuanced amalgamation of aspirational

transparency and pragmatic constraints, woven together by meticulous legal articulations.

- (D) The Act is anchored in the pursuit of absolute transparency, negating the essence of administrative discretion and operational secrecy.

Q14 The author's elucidation of the Act seems to intertwine the strands of its transformative potential and its inherent challenges. What can be inferred about the author's stance on the Act's operationalization and its intersection with real-world governance paradigms?

- (A) The author perceives the Act as a panacea for all governance-related anomalies, attributing to it an unblemished operational efficacy.
- (B) The author delineates the Act as an embodiment of pure and undiluted transparency, immune to practical impediments and ethical quandaries.
- (C) The author underscores the Act's lack of substantive impact due to its inextricable entanglement with ambiguous interpretations and practical dilemmas.
- (D) The author posits that the Act, while laden with transformative promises, is ensnared in a complex web of interpretative ambiguities and practical trade-offs, necessitating discerning evaluation.

Q15 Drawing upon the intricate mix of notions and speculations embedded within the passage, which option most accurately captures the envisaged interplay between the citizens and the Act, as construed by the author?

- (A) The Act is perceived as an impenetrable legal labyrinth, estranging the citizens and reinforcing



the asymmetry in governmental dynamics.

- (B) The Act is depicted as a catalyst for democratic rejuvenation, enabling citizens to pierce the bureaucratic veil and reshape the democratic discourse.
- (C) The Act is portrayed as a symbolic gesture, with no substantial alteration in the citizen-government power equilibrium.
- (D) The Act merely pays lip service to the concept of citizen empowerment without initiating any substantial shifts in the democratic paradigm.

Directions (16-20) Read the following passage and answer the given questions.

In the tapestry of ancient Mesopotamian history, approximately 4,200 years ago, a significant chapter of unrest and rebellion was being scripted in what is now identified as southern Iraq. The storied landscape of Sumer, which once boasted of free and sovereign city-states, had been politically and culturally annexed by the formidable King Sargon of Akkad. This annexation wasn't merely territorial; it marked the beginning of a transformative era, now referred to as the Old Akkadian period by historians and archaeologists.

During this period, the socio-political fabric of Sumer underwent a radical metamorphosis. Archaic nobilities were systematically relegated, making way for new power hierarchies. Age-old adversaries were vanquished, and a novel blueprint of governance emerged. This led to an expansion of Sumerian territories, swelling trade coffers, and burgeoning urban centers. But this growth came at a price. The once cohesive cities began showing cracks, with simmering discontent against the Akkadian hegemony. This led to sporadic yet fervent attempts by cities to secede and reclaim their lost autonomy.

Amid this backdrop of political upheavals, a singular work of literature titled 'The Exaltation of Inana' provides a poetic yet poignant snapshot of the era. Beyond its literary elegance, 'The Exaltation' is historically significant for being possibly the earliest piece of literature attributed to an identifiable author, as opposed to emanating from an anonymous tradition or being a product of collective folklore. The narrative voice of this poem is attributed to Enheduana, the erstwhile high priestess of the city-state of Ur. Notably, she was also the daughter of the very architect of the Akkadian empire, Sargon.

'The Exaltation' sketches a tumultuous episode where Enheduana finds herself exiled, a consequence of one of the many rebellions against the Akkadian dominion. The veracity of this narrative remains shrouded in historical ambiguity. Was this a memoir penned by Enheduana herself, providing a firsthand account of her banishment? Or was it a literary creation by a subsequent poet, a homage to the revered priestess, reminiscent of historical fiction in today's parlance?

Regardless of its origins, 'The Exaltation' serves as a window to an era characterized by deep-seated turbulence. It's either a direct testament of a historical figure who navigated these tumults or a later reflection, a cultural echo from a bygone era. This duality, coupled with its timeless themes, makes Enheduana's works perennially relevant. Today, as we find ourselves in a world grappling with uncertainties, Enheduana's verses resonate with contemporary audiences. They don't just chronicle historical events; they metamorphose these into profound reflections, insights into the world's ever-changing nature, and musings on existence itself.

- Q16** Based on the passage, which of the following best captures the political atmosphere of the Old Akkadian period?



- (A) A peaceful integration of Sumerian city-states.
- (B) An era marked by Akkadian dominance and sporadic rebellions from the Sumerian cities.
- (C) The decline of the Akkadian empire due to constant revolts.
- (D) A collaborative alliance between Akkadian rulers and Sumerian nobilities.
- Q17** Enheduana's 'The Exaltation of Inana' is historically significant primarily because:
- (A) It details the political strategies of King Sargon.
- (B) It might be the earliest literary work attributed to a known historical figure.
- (C) It provides an account of every rebellion against the Akkadian empire.
- (D) It highlights the cultural practices of the city-state of Ur.
- Q18** The narrative voice of 'The Exaltation of Inana' serves to:
- (A) Provide a detailed biography of Enheduana's life.
- (B) Offer an unequivocal historical account of the Akkadian rule.
- (C) Present a perspective, whether firsthand or reflective, of a turbulent era.
- (D) Advocate for the restoration of the old Sumerian power structures.
- Q19** In the context of the passage, what does the reference to the "world grappling with uncertainties" imply about Enheduana's works?
- (A) They serve as historical archives for modern scholars.
- (B) They have lost relevance in today's world.
- (C) Their themes of change and reflection find resonance in contemporary times.
- (D)

They offer solutions to modern political upheavals.

- Q20** Which of the following assertions best aligns with the passage's portrayal of the Old Akkadian period's influence on Sumerian cities?
- (A) The Akkadian rule led to the cultural decline of the Sumerian city-states.
- (B) Sumerian cities flourished economically but were politically oppressed under Akkadian dominion.
- (C) The Akkadian reign marked an era of consistent peace and stability in Sumer.
- (D) Despite prosperity, the Akkadian period introduced heightened socio-political instability to Sumerian city-states.

Directions (21-25) Read the following passage and answer the given questions.

Several industrial processes produce huge amounts of wastewater contaminated with different organic and inorganic substances. Due to their industrial relevance, phenolic compounds (PC) are amongst the most common organic pollutants found in many industrial wastewater. The use of PC as antioxidants, flavoring agents, and in many other industrial applications offering health benefits and many other opportunities in human endeavors are well documented.

Phenol and its derivatives, collectively known as phenolic compounds are compounds possessing an aromatic ring(s) attached to one or more hydroxyl groups (OH). They belong to a variety of groups of chemical substances naturally existing in many living tissues of plants and are also synthesized at lower concentrations by microorganisms. Similarly, a number of them are synthesized industrially for a variety of domestic and industrial applications as components of drugs,



polymers, dyes, and many other organic chemicals. The structure of phenol, the parent compound, has an aromatic benzene ring structure attached to an OH. The entire PC is based on phenol.

However, under certain environmental conditions and/or above certain concentrations, some PCs are susceptible to possess significant varying health impacts on humans and other living organisms, even at low concentrations. Due to their high solubility and volatility, exposure to PC in water and wastewater via nasal, oral, eye, or skin and dermal contact can cause harmful effects, with higher levels of exposure even causing eventual death. Additionally, the presence of some of these compounds in water and wastewater can lead to the further formation of more harmful byproducts during chemical treatment processes, thereby exacerbating their environmental and health impacts. Moreover, mutagenic and carcinogenic toxicity effects on humans and other living organisms have been directly attributed to many PC.

Consequently, the removal of PC from water and wastewater streams has become an integral component of environmental sustainability. For that, several physicochemical technologies have been proposed for the removal of PC from aqueous streams. In recent decades, one of the promising, cost-effective, and environmentally benign options for removal of PC from water streams is adsorption onto sewage sludge (SS)-based activated carbon (SBAC). This is attributed to the excellent adsorptive characteristics of SBAC and also the approach serves as a strategy for sustainable management of huge quantities of SS that are in continual production globally. SBAC can possess uptake capacity for PC exceeding that of some commercially available Granular activated carbon(s) (GAC). Thus, this option becomes a catalyst for ensuring environmental sustainability, which could allow offsetting

increasing cost of sewage sludge waste disposal costs. Recently, as a result of the abundance and diversity of SS, the low cost of SBAC production processes, and ease of operational conditions, SBAC adsorption of PC has been receiving tremendous attention from researchers.

Q21 What is the main idea of the passage?

- (A) Understanding the processes of production of SBAC and their utilization for the removal of PC from water.
- (B) SBAC production processes, the physicochemical characteristics of SBAC, and factors affecting PC adsorption onto SBAC
- (C) The uptake mechanisms and regeneration potentials of the spent SBAC for future studies.
- (D) The excellent adsorptive characteristics of SBAC serve as a strategy for sustainable management of SS.

Q22 According to the passage, what are some potential adverse effects of exposure to phenolic compounds (PC) present in water and wastewater?

- (A) Reduced solubility and volatility leading to decreased environmental impact.
- (B) Mutagenic and carcinogenic toxicity effects on humans and other living organisms.
- (C) Enhanced health benefits due to their use as antioxidants and flavoring agents.
- (D) Formation of harmless byproducts during chemical treatment processes.

Q23 What contradiction is presented by the author in the argument, in contrast to the statement, 'PC as antioxidants, flavoring



agents and in many other industrial applications offering health benefits and many other opportunities in human endeavors are well documented'?

- (A) PC has health benefits, and they belong to a variety of groups of chemical substances naturally existing in many living tissues of plants and are synthesized at lower concentrations by microorganisms.
- (B) PC is beneficial to humankind as a number of them are synthesized industrially for a variety of domestic and industrial applications as components of drugs, polymers, dyes, and many other organic chemicals.
- (C) The presence of PC in water and wastewater can lead to further formation of more harmful byproducts during chemical treatment processes
- (D) The industrial revolution has led to the increase of phenolic compounds (PC), which are amongst the most common organic pollutants found in many industrial wastewater.

Q24 What can be inferred regarding SBAC adsorption of PC in the given passage?

- (A) SBAC adsorption of PC increases the cost of sewage sludge waste disposal costs and enhances ease of operational conditions.
- (B) SBAC adsorption of PC helps in improving environmental sustainability by eradicating PC and eliminating its mutagenic and carcinogenic toxicity effects.
- (C) SBAC adsorption of PC works because of the abundance and diversity of SS, which has garnered the appreciation of the researchers.
- (D) SBAC adsorption of PC not only works on such organic pollutants but also

helps in eradicating other inorganic pollutants from industrial wastewater.

Q25 All of the following statements can be inferred from the given passage, EXCEPT:

- (A) PC is a beneficial industrial product that generates several health benefits and many other opportunities in human endeavors
- (B) Phenol and its derivatives have high solubility and volatility, which if highly exposed to, can lead to death.
- (C) The existence of PC in industrial wastewater can form more harmful byproducts during chemical treatment processes, further leading to environmental and health impacts.
- (D) All PC, even at low concentrations, leads to significantly varying health impacts on humans and other living organisms.

Directions (26–30) Read the following passage and answer the given questions.

Art and literature have long been intertwined, forming a symbiotic relationship that enriches human culture and expression. While they are distinct forms of creative expression, they often intersect, influencing and enhancing each other in profound ways. This passage explores the connection between art and literature and the impact of this relationship on our understanding and appreciation of both.

Artistic expressions come in various forms, from paintings and sculptures to literature and poetry. Each medium has its unique characteristics, but they share a common thread—the desire to convey emotions, ideas, and stories. Literature, through the written word, weaves narratives and explores the depths of human experience. Art, on the other hand, uses visual elements to evoke emotions and communicate messages.



One prominent way in which art and literature intersect is through visual storytelling. Paintings and illustrations often accompany literature, enhancing the reader's imagination by providing visual cues. Classic novels like "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" feature iconic illustrations by John Tenniel, bringing Lewis Carroll's whimsical world to life. These visuals not only aid in comprehension but also offer a deeper layer of engagement with the text.

Conversely, literature serves as a wellspring of inspiration for visual artists. Countless paintings and sculptures have been created based on literary works, from Da Vinci's "Mona Lisa" to Delacroix's "Liberty Leading the People," inspired by Victor Hugo's "Les Misérables." These artworks allow artists to interpret and reimagine the written word, bringing it to a broader audience and provoking discussions about the themes and ideas presented in the original work.

Moreover, the relationship between art and literature extends to the interpretation of symbolism and allegory. Both forms of expression employ symbols and metaphors to convey deeper meanings. For example, the use of the "green light" in F. Scott Fitzgerald's "The Great Gatsby" and its various interpretations by artists and scholars alike demonstrates how literature can inspire artistic exploration and analysis.

Furthermore, art and literature often reflect the cultural and societal contexts in which they are created. They act as mirrors that reflect the values, beliefs, and challenges of their time. For instance, the Romantic era saw a convergence of visual art and literature, with both forms emphasizing emotion, individualism, and a connection to nature as a response to the industrial revolution. In modern times, the digital age has brought new dimensions to the intersection of art and literature. Graphic novels and digital art have emerged as innovative mediums that combine visual storytelling with

written narratives, offering a unique and immersive reading experience.

In conclusion, art and literature are intertwined in a rich and complex relationship that enhances our understanding and appreciation of both forms of creative expression. Whether through visual storytelling, interpretation of symbolism, or reflecting cultural contexts, they continue to inspire and enrich human culture. As we explore the world of art and literature, we find a harmonious connection that transcends boundaries and deepens our understanding of the human experience.

Q26 According to the passage, which of the following is correct about the ways the Romantic era demonstrates the intersection of visual art and literature, emphasizing themes responding to the societal changes of the time?

- (A) Highlights the rise of industrialization and its impact on nature
- (B) Emphasizes the importance of digital art in the modern era
- (C) Integrates symbolic interpretations of classic literature
- (D) Explores emotional and nature-centric themes in both visual art and literature as a reaction to the Industrial Revolution.

Q27 IF TRUE, which of the following conclusions is NOT likely to go against the passage while describing the relationship between art and literature characterized as per the passage?

- (A) A transient association influenced by cultural shifts
- (B) A fusion fostering perpetual cultural evolution
- (C) A sporadic connection with occasional profound impacts
- (D) A superficial blend of artistic expressions without significance



Q28 Taking the discussion about art and literature into consideration, based on the context of the passage, which of these options would NOT strengthen the argument that art and literature are intrinsically linked?

- (A) Literature not only seldom draws inspiration from visual artworks.
- (B) The Romantic era did not significantly undermine the connection between art and literature.
- (C) Digital art has entirely replaced traditional forms of visual storytelling in modern times.
- (D) Symbolism and allegory are explicitly inclusive to literature and visual arts..

Q29 IF TRUE, then ONLY this option would be highlighting the central theme that is primarily explored by the passage regarding the intersection of the two major studies discussed in the passage -

- (A) The competitive nature between visual artists and literary writers

- (B) The historical evolution of art and literature over different eras
- (C) The cooperative relationship and mutual influence between art and literature
- (D) The technical differences in creative expression between various art forms

Q30 ALL of the subsequent options are most likely to NOT be the primary focus of the passage regarding the impact of cultural context on creative expressions, EXCEPT -

- (A) The universal applicability of creative works regardless of cultural background
- (B) The influence of technological advancements on the creative process
- (C) The multifaceted roles of artists and writers in shaping societal values
- (D) The reflection of cultural values and societal changes in art and literature



Answer Key

Q1 (A)
Q2 (C)
Q3 (A)
Q4 (B)
Q5 (B)
Q6 (C)
Q7 (C)
Q8 (D)
Q9 (C)
Q10 (A)
Q11 (B)
Q12 (B)
Q13 (C)
Q14 (D)
Q15 (B)

Q16 (B)
Q17 (B)
Q18 (C)
Q19 (C)
Q20 (D)
Q21 (A)
Q22 (B)
Q23 (C)
Q24 (B)
Q25 (D)
Q26 (A)
Q27 (B)
Q28 (C)
Q29 (C)
Q30 (A)



Hints & Solutions

Q1. Text Solution:

Topic: Reading Comprehension

Subtopic: Science (Biology)

Approach to the Question:

- The aspirants should focus on understanding the passage's main assertion about dopamine's role in reward processing. It's important here to differentiate between dopamine's involvement in 'wanting' versus 'liking.'

Correct Answer - A:

- **Explanation:** Dopamine's role in the learning process of new preferences and aversions is not supported by the passage. The passage emphasizes dopamine's role in 'wanting' rewards, not in learning new likes and dislikes. This makes Option A the statement that diverges from the passage's central premise.

Incorrect Options Analysis:

- **B:** While this option might seem plausible, the passage clearly states that dopamine does not primarily mediate the hedonic experience.
- **C:** This option is a common misconception. The passage differentiates between 'wanting' and 'liking,' not combining them as this option suggests.
- **D:** This may be a tricky option as it is almost correct. However, it correctly aligns with the passage's assertion about dopamine's role – Thus it does not diverge as A.

Trap of the Question: Options B and C might mislead aspirants due to common beliefs about dopamine's role in pleasure and reward.

Q2. Text Solution:

Topic: Reading Comprehension

Subtopic: Science (Biology)

Approach to the Question:

- The key here is to focus on the details of the study's methodology as described in the

passage.

Correct Answer - C:

- **Explanation:** The statement about dopamine-depleted rats showing enhanced hedonic reaction patterns to sucrose compared to normal rats is not supported by the passage. The passage indicates that these rats displayed normal, not enhanced reactions, which makes Option C the incorrect representation.

Incorrect Options Analysis:

- **A:** This option might seem plausible but is accurate according to the passage.
- **B:** It correctly describes the 'taste reactivity' measure used in the study.
- **D:** Accurately represents the method used for dopamine depletion in the study.

Trap of the Question: Option C can mislead because of the subtle alteration in the description of the study's findings, tempting those who didn't pay close attention to detail. Without closer inspection, it may pass as correct.

Q3. Text Solution:

Topic: Reading Comprehension

Subtopic: Science (Biology)

Correct answer: A

Essence of the Question: The essence of the question is to identify the option that challenges the assertion made in the passage, which states that dopamine systems are not necessary to mediate the hedonic pleasure of reinforcers.

Explanation for the Correct Answer: Option A challenges the assertion by suggesting that dopamine-depleted rats were unable to experience any form of pleasure in response to sucrose. If this were true, it would contradict the assertion made in the passage that dopamine systems are not essential for mediating hedonic pleasure.



Explanation for Incorrect Answers:

B. This option aligns with the conclusion drawn from the passage rather than challenging it. It states that rats without dopamine still showed normal hedonic reactions to sucrose and quinine, supporting the idea that dopamine systems are not necessary for hedonic pleasure.

C. This option addresses the role of dopamine systems in associative learning rather than directly challenging the assertion about hedonic pleasure. It suggests that dopamine systems play a crucial role in the associative learning of hedonic rewards, which is not necessarily contradictory to the passage's assertion.

D. Similarly, this option does not directly challenge the assertion. It suggests that pharmacological manipulation of palatability was ineffective in dopamine-depleted rats, which does not necessarily contradict the idea that dopamine systems are not essential for mediating hedonic pleasure.

Trap of the question:

The trap of this question lies in option C, which challenges another aspect of the question than challenging the assertion quoted in the question.

Q4. Text Solution:

Topic: Reading Comprehension

Subtopic: Science (Biology)

Approach to the Question:

Aspirants need to identify the option that aligns with the author's underlying assumptions about dopamine's role.

Correct Answer – B:

Explanation: The passage suggests that dopamine is involved in attributing 'incentive salience' to rewards, distinct from hedonic pleasure. Option B aligns with this by stating that incentive salience attributed by dopamine is a separate component of motivation, making it the correct choice.

Incorrect Options Analysis:

A: This option incorrectly states that dopamine is necessary for experiencing pleasure and learning, which is contrary to the passage.

C: This overstates dopamine's role in response to rewarding stimuli, which the passage does not support.

D: Understates dopamine's role in 'wanting,' which is its primary function as per the passage, i.e., incentive salience.

Trap of the Question: Option A might appear correct due to a common misconception about dopamine's role in pleasure and learning.

Q5. Text Solution:

Topic: Reading Comprehension

Subtopic: Human Psychology

Correct answer: B) Recent studies in neuroscience have shown that language centers in the brain are highly active during emotional experiences, suggesting a strong connection between language and the construction of emotions.

Essence of the Question: The essence of this question lies in understanding Lisa Feldman Barrett's viewpoint regarding the nature of emotions, particularly focusing on the role of language in their construction.

Explanation for the Correct Answer: Barrett argues that emotions are not solely biologically predetermined but are constructed through cognitive processes, including language. Option B aligns with this viewpoint by indicating that recent neuroscience studies have found high activity in language centers of the brain during emotional experiences, implying that language plays a significant role in the construction of emotions, as Barrett suggests.

Explanation for Incorrect Answers:

A) This option suggests that cross-cultural studies have shown insignificant variations in emotional expressions and interpretations, implying that emotions are biologically predetermined and not shaped by cultural contexts. This contradicts Barrett's viewpoint,



which emphasizes the influence of cultural context and cognitive processes, including language, in the construction of emotions.

C) This option states that behavioral experiments have revealed that individuals cannot interpret their emotional experiences based on cognitive appraisal, implying that non-conceptual processes shape emotions. However, this contradicts Barrett's argument, which emphasizes the role of cognitive processes, including language, in the construction of emotions.

D) This option suggests that emotional processing in infants heavily relies on motor skills for the development of nuanced emotional responses. While it acknowledges the role of development in emotional responses, it does not address the role of language, which is central to Barrett's viewpoint.

Trap of the Question: The trap in this question lies in selecting an option that seems to align with general knowledge or intuition about emotions but does not specifically address Barrett's viewpoint regarding the role of language in their construction. Options A, C, and D all present perspectives that may seem plausible but do not directly support Barrett's argument.

Q6. Text Solution:

Topic: Reading Comprehension

Subtopic: Human Psychology

Correct Answer: C

Essence of the Question: This is a premise-weakening question that asks you to find an option that, if considered true, would weaken the premise about the biological basis of human emotions within the context of the passage.

Explanation for Correct Answer: The passage discusses a debate regarding the biological basis of human emotions. In the debate, we can see that it is being questioned whether emotions are primarily biologically

predetermined or more culturally and contextually influenced. This option weakens the conclusion drawn about the biological basis of emotions by suggesting that emotional responses vary widely based on cultural contexts. This challenges the idea of consistency for emotions, aligning with the idea that emotions are influenced by cultural contexts rather than being primarily biologically determined. Therefore, this is the correct option.

Explanation for Incorrect Answers:

A) This option supports the idea of a consistent neurological pattern universally associated with specific emotions across diverse cultures, strengthening the argument for a biological basis of emotions. However, the question asks for an answer that weakens the conclusion drawn about the biological basis of human emotions, so this statement does not align with that objective and therefore, this option is incorrect.

B) Option B strengthens the idea that there are strong correlations between emotional experiences and distinct biological markers in the brain, which supports the argument for a biological basis of emotions. As this option fails to weaken the conclusion and instead strengthens the perspective of emotions being biologically grounded, this option becomes incorrect.

D) This option provides evidence linking neural pathways to both emotional and cognitive processes but says the emotions to be non-intellectual. This does not weaken the conclusion but rather reinforces the view of emotions as primarily tied to non-intellectual and biological processes. Hence, this option is incorrect as well. If it did not have the last part, and just said about neural pathways, then it could have been the answer.

Trap of the Question: To answer this question you need to clear two traps which are "conclusion" and "weakening" The word "ONLY" suggests that there is one option that, if



considered true, would weaken the conclusion for the given idea. You need to carefully understand what the conclusion can be possibly drawn from the given idea and then you have to look for the answer that would weaken it.

Q7. Text Solution:

Topic: Reading Comprehension

Subtopic: Human Psychology

Correct Answer: C

Essence of the Question:

The question seeks to identify which aspect of Lisa Feldman Barrett's theory of emotions is challenged by researchers from the Yale Perception and Cognition Lab.

Explanation for the Correct Answer:

Option C correctly identifies the aspect challenged by researchers from the Yale Perception and Cognition Lab: the analogy between top-down influences on perception and the construction of emotions. The researchers contest this analogy, suggesting that perception is less subject to top-down influences than Barrett posits, which undermines her theory's comparison between perception and emotion construction.

Explanation for Incorrect Answers:

A) This option is not an aspect of Barrett's theory. This option suggests that researchers from the Yale Perception and Cognition Lab challenge the role of neuro-receptors in shaping emotional experiences. However, there is no mention in the passage of Barrett's theory focusing on neuro-receptors, nor is there any indication that this aspect is challenged by the researchers.

B) This option is not an aspect of Barrett's theory. This option suggests that researchers from the Yale Perception and Cognition Lab challenge the notion that emotions are innate and biologically determined. However, this is not part of Barrett's theory and hence not challenged.

D) This option is not an aspect of Barrett's theory. Barrett's theory emphasizes the influence of language and conscious thought processes on emotions. This option represents that Barrett's theory suggests that language and consciousness do not influence emotions. This is wrong in itself and hence not challenged.

Trap of the Question:

The trap of the question lies in options A, B, and D, which introduce plausible aspects of Barrett's theory that could potentially be challenged. However, none of these options directly address the specific aspect challenged by researchers from the Yale Perception and Cognition Lab, which is the analogy between top-down influences on perception and the construction of emotions (Option C). Therefore, careful attention to the specifics of the challenge mentioned in the passage is necessary to identify the correct answer.

Q8. Text Solution:

Topic: Reading Comprehension

Subtopic: Human Psychology

Correct answer: D

Essence of the Question:

The question asks which option, if not untrue, would least support the idea that emotions are intellectual processes requiring language to shape raw feelings into discrete emotions.

Explanation for the Correct Answer:

Option D, "A study shows that the best linguistic experts and top leaders are often not so good at expressing emotions," is the correct answer because it does not explicitly discuss how language shapes emotional experiences. It mentions linguistic experts and leaders who have excellent language development and mentions that they do not have a well-developed emotional spectrum, indicating that language may not be a role player in emotions. Therefore, it is the least supportive of the idea that emotions are intellectual processes requiring language.



Explanation for Incorrect Answers:

A) Option A indirectly supports the idea that emotions are intellectual processes requiring language by highlighting infants' limited expression of nuanced emotions until language development. This implies that language plays a crucial role in shaping emotional expression, making it more supportive than Option D.

B) Option B directly supports the idea that emotions are intellectual processes requiring language by showing that cultures with richer emotional vocabularies have enhanced emotional identification. This suggests that language enriches emotional experiences and helps individuals identify and articulate their emotions better.

C) Option C directly supports the idea that emotions are intellectual processes requiring language by revealing the absence of nuanced emotional distinctions in individuals with language impairments. This implies that language impairment affects emotional expression and understanding, indicating the role of language in shaping emotions.

Trap of the Question:

The trap in this question lies in Option D, which might appear plausible due to its mention of linguistic experts and leaders. However, it diverts from discussing how language directly shapes emotional experiences, unlike the other options. Candidates might mistakenly choose Option D because of its superficial connection to language without considering its lack of direct relevance to the shaping of emotions through language. Therefore, careful attention to the direct relationship between language and emotions is necessary to select the correct answer.

Q9. Text Solution:

Topic: Reading Comprehension

Subtopic: Humans & Culture

Essence of the Question:

This is a moderately challenging question that tests the understanding of the narrator's evolved perspective on disability. It asks to identify an assumption that would most contradict this perspective.

Correct Option: C

Explanation: The narrator's final view is that disability should be understood not just as a medical condition but in the context of societal attitudes and environmental barriers. Therefore, an assumption that views disability purely as a medical condition to be overcome directly contradicts his perspective.

Incorrect Options Analysis:

Option A: Embracing disability as part of one's identity resonates with the narrator's acceptance and understanding of his condition.

Option B: This aligns with the narrator's view of disability as influenced by societal and environmental factors.

Option D: While this might seem tricky, it doesn't contradict the narrator's view. He acknowledges disability as part of identity, but also emphasizes the societal aspect.

Trap of the Question:

The key here is to avoid the misconception that the narrator views disability solely as a societal issue. He integrates it into his identity, making options that solely focus on societal aspects less likely to be contradictory.

Q10. Text Solution:

Topic: Reading Comprehension

Subtopic: Humans & Culture

Essence of the Question:

This question is complex as it requires considering hypothetical scenarios that could challenge the narrator's viewpoint on the 'social model' of disability.

Correct Option: A

Explanation: If a community exists where people with disabilities don't face societal barriers yet still feel limited by their conditions, it



challenges the narrator's belief that societal attitudes and barriers are the primary factors defining disability.

Incorrect Options Analysis:

Option B: This would actually support the narrator's viewpoint by reducing physical barriers.

Option C: Increased acceptance and social integration align with the narrator's views.

Option D: While medical advancements are beneficial, they do not directly challenge the social model of disability.

Trap of the Question:

The difficulty lies in distinguishing between what supports and what challenges the social model. Remember, the narrator's view is that societal factors are key in defining disability.

Q11. Text Solution:

Topic: Reading Comprehension

Subtopic: Humans & Culture

Correct answer: B) Social attitudes and barriers can exacerbate the challenges faced by individuals with disabilities.

Essence of the Question: The question seeks to identify the primary message conveyed by the narrator's experience with disability in school.

Explanation for the Correct Answer: The narrator's experience highlights how social attitudes and barriers, rather than the disability itself, contribute significantly to the challenges faced by individuals with disabilities. The narrative emphasizes the impact of societal perceptions and the lack of inclusivity in exacerbating difficulties for those with disabilities.

Explanation for Incorrect Answers:

A) Disability is an inherent personal limitation that cannot be overcome. This option contradicts the central message of the passage, which emphasizes the role of societal attitudes and barriers in shaping the experiences of individuals with disabilities. It overlooks the importance of social factors in

understanding and addressing disability-related challenges.

C) Accommodations provided in schools are sufficient to address the needs of students with disabilities. The passage suggests that while accommodations are provided in schools, they may not always be adequate in mitigating the impact of social attitudes and barriers. This option overlooks the broader societal context and the ongoing need for inclusive practices beyond educational settings.

D) Disability should be viewed solely as a medical condition rather than a societal issue. This option fails to capture the nuanced understanding presented in the passage, which emphasizes viewing disability as both a medical condition and a societal issue. It overlooks the importance of addressing societal attitudes and barriers in promoting inclusivity and support for individuals with disabilities.

Trap of the question: Candidates might fall into the trap of selecting option A because it presents a simplistic view of disability as solely an inherent personal limitation. However, the passage highlights the multifaceted nature of disability, emphasizing the role of societal factors in shaping individuals' experiences.

Q12. Text Solution:

Topic: Reading Comprehension

Subtopic: Humans & Culture

Essence of the Question:

This is a straightforward question asking for the declaration that best captures the core theme of the passage.

Correct Option: B

Explanation: The passage primarily focuses on viewing disability through a societal lens, emphasizing how societal attitudes and environmental barriers define disability. This option directly reflects that theme.

Incorrect Options Analysis:

Option A: While it mentions identity, it misses the societal aspect which is central to the



passage.

Option C: This option doesn't capture the main theme as it emphasizes the mutable nature of disability.

Option D: While recognizing disability is part of the narrative, it is not the core theme of the passage.

Trap of the Question:

The challenge here is to identify the broader theme of the passage without being misled by options that focus on aspects of the narrative but don't capture its essence.

Q13. Text Solution:

Correct Option: C

What the Question Asks: The question demands a refined interpretation of the author's implicit and explicit intimations regarding the foundational principles and objectives of the Act. It necessitates the discernment of subtle nuances and the synthesis of underlying themes to align with the author's philosophical delineation of the Act.

Explanation for the Correct Option: Thoroughly scrutinizing the author's intricate portrayal reveals that the Act is perceived as a symphonic integration of transparency aspirations and realistic constraints, meticulously articulated within legal frameworks. Option C succinctly encapsulates this intricate depiction, representing the Act as a nuanced amalgamation of aspirational transparency and pragmatic constraints.

Incorrect Options:

- Option A misconstrues the author's portrayal by depicting the Act as devoid of pragmatic merit, a representation not corroborated by the passage.
- Option B erroneously isolates the Act's aim to dissect governmental operations without acknowledging the insinuated interpretative and operational dilemmas presented by the author.

- Option D inaccurately anchors the Act in absolute transparency, neglecting the emphasized essence of administrative discretion and operational secrecy insinuated within the passage.

Q14. Text Solution:

Correct Option: D

What the Question Asks: This question delves into the author's nuanced stance on the Act's operational dynamics and its congruence with the practicalities of governance. It seeks to extract the author's inferred viewpoints on the Act's real-world implications and its interaction with existing governance structures.

Explanation for the Correct Option:

Option D accurately reflects the nuanced perspective presented by the author in the passage. The author acknowledges the transformative potential of the Act but also highlights the challenges and complexities it faces in practice. By emphasizing the need for discerning evaluation and navigating interpretative ambiguities and practical trade-offs, the author suggests a cautious and critical approach to understanding the Act's impact on governance paradigms.

Incorrect Options:

- A) The author perceives the Act as a panacea for all governance-related anomalies, attributing to it an unblemished operational efficacy. This option presents an overly optimistic view of the Act, suggesting that it can single-handedly solve all governance-related issues without acknowledging the challenges and limitations discussed in the passage.
- B) The author delineates the Act as an embodiment of pure and undiluted transparency, immune to practical impediments and ethical quandaries. Option B portrays the Act as flawless and immune to practical challenges and ethical considerations, which



contradicts the nuanced perspective presented in the passage.

C) The author underscores the Act's lack of substantive impact due to its inextricable entanglement with ambiguous interpretations and practical dilemmas. This option implies that the Act has failed to have a meaningful impact due to its complexities and challenges, which does not align with the author's acknowledgement of its transformative potential.

Q15. Text Solution:

Correct Option: B

What the Question Asks: The question seeks to unveil the author's conceptualization of the interplay between citizens and the Act. It probes the reader's understanding of the author's intricate portrayal of the envisaged dynamic between democratic participants and the legislative provision.

Explanation for the Correct Option: Careful navigation through the author's conceptual landscape indicates that the Act is envisioned as a democratic revitalizer, empowering citizens to navigate and influence governmental processes. Option B succinctly captures this envisioned dynamic, presenting the Act as a catalyst for democratic rejuvenation and citizen empowerment.

Incorrect Options:

- Option A misrepresents the author's envisioned dynamic by portraying the Act as an alienating entity, reinforcing power asymmetries, a portrayal not corroborated by the passage.
- Option C inaccurately diminishes the Act's impact on democratic dynamics, presenting it as a mere symbolic gesture, a notion not reflective of the author's intricate depiction.
- Option D incorrectly minimizes the Act's transformative capacity, depicting it as a superficial entity with no substantial impact

on democratic paradigms, a representation contrary to the author's nuanced narrative.

Q16. Text Solution:

Topic: Reading Comprehension

Subtopic: History and Culture

Correct Answer: B

Explanation for Correct Answer:

The political atmosphere of the Old Akkadian period, as conveyed in the passage, was heavily influenced by the dominance of the Akkadian empire over the Sumerian city-states. However, this dominance was not accepted without resistance. The Sumerian cities, time and again, showcased their dissent through sporadic rebellions. This resistance emphasizes the underlying tensions and the power dynamics of the era.

Explanation for Incorrect Answers:

Option A is misleading. While the Akkadians might have had intentions of integrating the Sumerian city-states, the process was far from peaceful, as evidenced by the repeated rebellions.

Option C, on the other hand, overemphasizes the impact of the revolts. While there were revolts, the Akkadian empire, for the most part, maintained its dominance.

Option D hints at a cooperative relationship, suggesting a mutual agreement between the Akkadian rulers and the Sumerian nobilities, which wasn't the case.

Trap of the Question;

The trap lies in the incorrect interpretation of either the essence of the passage or the question or the answers. A fault in interpretation in any one of the three can lead to a wrong selection.

Q17. Text Solution:

Topic: Reading Comprehension

Subtopic: History and Culture

Correct Answer: B

Explanation for Correct Answer:



Enheduana's 'The Exaltation of Inana' stands out in historical literature, primarily because of its potential distinction of being among the earliest literary works directly attributed to a known historical figure. This fact itself elevates the work's significance in the annals of history. The writings provide a unique, personalized insight into an ancient era that is otherwise mostly shrouded in mystery.

Explanation for Incorrect Answers:

Option A, suggesting the work details King Sargon's political strategies, is limited in scope. The text, while it may provide some insights into the politics of the time, is not a strategic playbook.

Option C is inaccurate as the primary focus of the work isn't about detailing every rebellion against the Akkadian empire.

Option D, while touching upon the cultural aspects of the city-state of Ur, does not encapsulate the broader significance of the work.

Trap of the Question;

The trap lies in the incorrect interpretation of either the essence of the passage or the question or the answers. A fault in interpretation in any one of the three can lead to a wrong selection

Q18. Text Solution:

Topic: Reading Comprehension

Subtopic: History and Culture

Correct Answer: C

Explanation for Correct Answer:

Despite their ancient origins, Enheduana's writings resonate deeply in today's world grappling with uncertainties. The themes of transformation, introspection, and reflection are universal and timeless. The passage implies that while the world has evolved, the core human experiences, challenges, and reflections remain interconnected across eras.

Explanation for Incorrect Answers:

Option A limits the works' significance to the academic realm.

Option B, suggests they've lost relevance, directly contradicts the passage's emphasis on their contemporary resonance.

Option D, which posits the works as solutions, misrepresents their nature, which is more reflective than prescriptive.

Trap of the Question;

The trap lies in the incorrect interpretation of either the essence of the passage or the question or the answers. A fault in interpretation in any one of the three can lead to a wrong selection

Q19. Text Solution:

Topic: Reading Comprehension

Subtopic: History and Culture

Correct Answer: C

Explanation for Correct Answer:

The Old Akkadian period, while marked by growth and prosperity, was also a time of significant political upheaval for the Sumerian city-states. The dominance of the Akkadian empire and the resulting tensions and revolts brought about an era of instability. The Sumerian cities, despite their economic advancements, had to constantly grapple with the challenges posed by the Akkadian dominance.

Explanation for Incorrect Answers:

Option A, suggesting a cultural decline, is too narrow to capture the period's essence.

Option B, while highlighting economic growth, reduces the influence to just economic prosperity and political oppression, not taking into account the broader socio-political challenges.

Option C presents an overly optimistic picture, not in line with the described sporadic rebellions and tensions.

Trap of the Question;

The trap lies in the incorrect interpretation of either the essence of the passage or the



question or the answers. A fault in interpretation in any one of the three can lead to a wrong selection

Q20. Text Solution:

Topic: Reading Comprehension

Subtopic: History and Culture

Correct Answer: D

Explanation for Correct Answer:

The Old Akkadian period was a complex era characterized by both prosperity and socio-political instability for the Sumerian city-states. The very essence of this period is encapsulated in the balance between economic growth, seen in the flourishing of city-states, and the political tensions that arose due to the dominance of the Akkadian empire. The Sumerian cities, although prospering economically, were not free from the overarching shadow of the Akkadian regime, leading to sporadic rebellions and political tensions.

In choosing Option D, we recognize the multifaceted nature of the Old Akkadian period. It acknowledges the prosperity that came during this time while also not shying away from the socio-political challenges that arose due to the friction between the Akkadian empire and the Sumerian city-states. This duality, where growth and instability coexisted, defines the essence of the period as portrayed in the passage.

Explanation for Incorrect Answers:

Option A posits a more culturally negative stance, suggesting that the Akkadian rule led to the decline of Sumerian culture. However, the passage does not provide evidence that cultural degradation was a significant consequence of Akkadian dominance.

Option B, while acknowledging the economic growth of the period, simplifies the narrative by suggesting that the cities only faced political oppression. The reality, as portrayed in the passage, was more complex, with the cities

grappling with both growth and socio-political challenges.

Option C paints a rather rosy picture of the Akkadian era, suggesting consistent peace and stability. This is in stark contrast to the passage's account, which emphasizes the intermittent tensions and revolts that marked the period.

Trap of the Question;

The trap lies in the incorrect interpretation of either the essence of the passage or the question or the answers. A fault in interpretation in any one of the three can lead to a wrong selection

Q21. Text Solution:

Topic: Reading Comprehension

Subtopic: Science and Technology

Essence of the Question: The question assesses the ability of the candidate to successfully read and retain information from the given text to answer the questions.

Correct Answer: Option A

Explanation: The central idea revolves around what PC is, and how it can be used using the SBAC production processes while discussing various adsorptive characteristics of SBAC. Thus, the main idea is option A.

Explanation for Incorrect Answers:

Option B revolves around the SBAC processes, its physicochemical characteristics, and factors affecting PC adsorption onto SBAC, and not the removal of PC from water, which is the key concern in the given passage.

Option C focuses on the mechanisms and regeneration potentials of the spent SBAC for future studies, again disregarding the removal of PC from water. The same explanation holds for option

D, which is quite a narrow option, like B and C, and thus foregoes the relevance of removal of PC from water.

Q22. Text Solution:



Topic: Reading Comprehension**Subtopic: Science and Technology**

Correct Answer: B) Mutagenic and carcinogenic toxicity effects on humans and other living organisms.

Essence of the Question:

The question seeks to identify the potential adverse effects of exposure to phenolic compounds (PC) present in water and wastewater as discussed in the passage.

Explanation for the Correct Answer:

Option B correctly identifies the mutagenic and carcinogenic toxicity effects of phenolic compounds on humans and other living organisms. The passage highlights these adverse effects, emphasizing the significant health risks associated with PC exposure.

Explanation for Incorrect Answers:

A) Reduced solubility and volatility leading to decreased environmental impact: This option incorrectly suggests a positive outcome of reduced solubility and volatility, which would not constitute adverse effects. The passage discusses the harmful impacts of PC exposure, not benefits from reduced solubility or volatility.

C) Enhanced health benefits due to their use as antioxidants and flavoring agents: This option incorrectly portrays PC as having health benefits, which contradicts the passage's focus on their adverse effects. The passage discusses the potential health risks associated with PC exposure, not health benefits.

D) Formation of harmless byproducts during chemical treatment processes: This option incorrectly suggests the formation of harmless byproducts, which does not align with the passage's emphasis on the adverse effects of PC exposure. The passage highlights the mutagenic and carcinogenic toxicity effects of PC, indicating significant harm, not harmless byproducts.

Trap of the Question:

The trap lies in options A, C, and D, which present scenarios that may seem plausible but

do not accurately reflect the adverse effects discussed in the passage. Option B directly quotes the passage, potentially leading candidates to select it without considering the broader context of the question. Candidates may fall into the trap of selecting option B based solely on familiarity with the phrase from the passage without critically evaluating the content of the other options.

Q23. Text Solution:**Topic: Reading Comprehension****Subtopic: Science and Technology**

Essence of the Question: The question assesses the ability of the candidate to successfully read and retain information from the given text to answer the questions.

Correct Answer: Option C

Explanation: Option C defies the positive side of PC and concentrates on the environmental conditions and varying health impacts it has on humans and other living organisms, even at low concentrations. Higher levels of exposure to PC can even cause eventual death and can lead to further formation of more harmful byproducts during chemical treatment processes. Thus, instead of reflecting on the pros of PC, the author contradicts the statement by targeting its adverse environmental and health impacts.

Explanation for Incorrect Answers:

Option A talks about the existence and promulgation of PC rather than contradicting the given statement.

Option B agrees with the given statement and strengthens the author's premises, rather than contradicting it.

Option D defines PC as one of the most common organic pollutants found in many industrial wastewaters, which although is a contradiction, yet, it fails to defy the central purpose as mentioned in the given statement.

Q24. Text Solution:**Topic: Reading Comprehension****Subtopic: Science and Technology**

Essence of the Question: The question assesses the ability of the candidate to successfully read and retain information from the given text to answer the questions.

Correct Answer: Option B

Explanation: After the conclusion about SBAC adsorption of PC is clearly stated, specifying its benefits in eradicating PC from industrial wastewater, it can be inferred that it will enhance environmental sustainability and eventually eliminate its mutagenic and carcinogenic toxicity effects.

Explanation for Incorrect Answers:

Option A incorrectly suggests that SBAC adsorption increases the cost of waste disposal, which contradicts the passage's assertion that SBAC is a cost-effective option. Furthermore, it does not align with the passage's discussion of SBAC's benefits for environmental sustainability.

Option C attributes the success of SBAC adsorption of PC to the abundance and diversity of SS, which cannot be inferred from the given argument. It basically says that the adsorption 'works' because of an abundance of SS, which is not the case. It is a preferable abundance but it is not the reason behind its capability for adsorption.

Option D is too extreme and can be stated as an off-the-track far-fetched inference. The given passage does not include the extermination of inorganic pollutants; thus, this statement can be eliminated.

Q25. Text Solution:

Topic: Reading Comprehension

Subtopic: Science and Technology

Essence of the Question: The question assesses the ability of the candidate to successfully read and retain information from the given text to answer the questions.

Correct Answer: Option D

Explanation:

Option D cannot be inferred, as the passage says that under certain environmental conditions and/or above certain concentrations, SOME PCs, not all, are susceptible to possess significant varying health impacts on humans and other living organisms, even at low concentrations.

Option A can be inferred from the first paragraph of the given passage, which talks about its benefits in human industrial endeavors. Option B can be inferred from the passage, which showcases how it has high solubility and volatility. The passage also depicts that PC in wastewater traveling to human bodies through nasal, oral, eye, or skin and dermal contact can cause harmful effects, even eventual death. Option C is given as a verifiable fact in the given statement

Q26. Text Solution:

Topic: Reading Comprehension

Subtopic: Art and Literature

Essence of the Question:

This question seeks to identify the correct description of how the Romantic era demonstrates the intersection of visual art and literature, with a focus on themes responding to societal changes.

Correct answer: D) Explores emotional and nature-centric themes in both visual art and literature as a reaction to the Industrial Revolution.

Explanation for the Correct Answer:

Option D accurately describes how the Romantic era explored emotional and nature-centric themes in both visual art and literature as a reaction to the Industrial Revolution. The passage discusses how the Romantic movement emphasized emotion, individualism, and a connection to nature in response to the societal changes brought about by industrialization.

Explanation for Incorrect Answers:

A) Highlights the rise of industrialization and its



impact on nature:

While industrialization and its impact on nature are themes discussed in the Romantic era, this option does not specifically address the intersection of visual art and literature or the emphasis on emotional and nature-centric themes, as highlighted in the correct answer.

B) Emphasizes the importance of digital art in the modern era:

This option is irrelevant to the discussion of the Romantic era and its intersection of visual art and literature. It refers to the modern era and digital art, which are not relevant to the themes of the Romantic period.

C) Integrates symbolic interpretations of classic literature:

While symbolic interpretations of literature may be relevant to the Romantic era, this option does not specifically address the intersection of visual art and literature or the emphasis on emotional and nature-centric themes, as highlighted in the correct answer.

Trap of the Question:

Candidates might be drawn to option A because it mentions industrialization, which is discussed in the passage as a societal change during the Romantic era. However, this option does not specifically address the intersection of visual art and literature or the thematic emphasis on emotion and nature-centric themes, which are the focus of the correct answer.

Q27. Text Solution:

Topic: Reading Comprehension

Subtopic: Art and Literature

Essence of the Question: This is a conclusion-strengthening question of difficult level. This question is asking you to find an option that is the correct conclusion regarding describing the relationship between art and literature as described in the passage. The correct answer must also be aligned with the passage.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: This conclusion in the passage highlights the deep connection between art and literature. It suggests that there lies a harmonious and enriching relationship that transcends all the boundaries. The idea of a "fusion" denotes a merging or blending, and the idea of "perpetual cultural evolution" reflects the continuous, evolving impact on human culture and expression. Therefore, this answer is correct as it accurately characterises the relationship between art and literature.

Explanation for Incorrect Answers:

A) This answer suggests a temporary connection between art and literature that changes with cultural shifts, which contradicts the idea that focuses on the deeper and continuous relationship making the answer incorrect.

C) This choice implies that the relationship between art and literature is sporadic, suggesting occasional deep impacts. This conclusion is not accurate as per the information given in the passage as the passage emphasises a continuous connection rather than an occasional one. Therefore, the option is incorrect.

D) This answer suggests a superficial or insignificant connection between art and literature, which doesn't align with the passage's emphasis on a rich and profound relationship that enhances human culture and expression. Hence, this option is also incorrect.

Trap of the Question: This question is clearly full of various traps by putting NEGATION in combination with different keywords. you need to carefully decode such kinds of questions as wrong interpretation of any one keyword also can lead you to a different option or waste your time by creating confusion. The question says, if TRUE, which means that the answer needs to be true. Furthermore, it shouldn't go against the conclusion which we can also consider as strengthening the conclusion. So, the question



is asking to find an option that is true and also strengthens the conclusion.

Q28. Text Solution:

Topic: Reading Comprehension

Subtopic: Art and Literature

Essence of the Question: This is an argument-weakening question. In order to solve this question, you will need to consider what the passage describes about art and literature and based on that find an option that would not strengthen the given argument. In simpler words, you are supposed to find an option that weakens the given argument.

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: The passage refers to the emergence of digital art as an innovative medium in the modern era, but it doesn't suggest that it has replaced traditional forms of visual storytelling. It coexists and complements traditional art forms, indicating that while digital art has become prominent, it hasn't entirely replaced traditional methods. As this option is not as per the passage's suggestion and it is directed in another way challenging the relation between art and literature, this becomes the correct option.

Explanation for Incorrect Answers:

A) This statement is perfectly aligned with the passage where a number of events are highlighted when literature has taken inspiration from the arts. As this option is only strengthening the argument, this is not the correct option.

B) The Romantic era, as per the passage, highlights emotion, individualism, and a connection to nature. The passage highlighted this era's significance in stressing the link between art and literature, making this statement accurate. Hence, this option is correct.

D) The passage explains how both literature and visual arts utilise symbolism and allegory to convey deeper meanings. The option is aligned

with the passage in stating that these are inclusive to not only literature but visual arts also making the option incorrect.

Trap of the Question: This question also uses the NEGATION technique to make the question difficult. To answer this question correctly, first, you would need to understand what the passage has to say about the relationship between art and literature and how are they linked to each other. A proper comprehension of the topic would lead you to the right answer. After this, you can eliminate all the answers that strengthen the given argument in the question or not directly related to the given argument.

Q29. Text Solution:

Topic: Reading Comprehension

Subtopic: Art and Literature

Essence of the Question: This is a central theme-based question of a difficult level. It asks you to find an option that if considered true would underline the central theme regarding the two major studies (art and literature-based) been discussed in the given passage.

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: The passage openly discusses the interconnected and interdependent nature of art and literature, highlighting how they complement and influence each other, creating a symbiotic relationship. This option perfectly reflects the central theme of the passage which has discussed the cooperative nature of these two studies. Therefore, this option is correct.

Explanation for Incorrect Answers:

A) The passage doesn't emphasize a competitive relationship between visual artists and literary writers. Rather, it focuses on their collaborative and mutually influential dynamic. It presents an alien perspective to the discussion that hasn't been discussed, making the option incorrect.

B) This option is oversimplified because while the passage touches on different eras like the Romantic era and the modern digital age, the



primary focus is not solely on the historical evolution but more on the relationship between these creative expressions and their impact on culture and each other. Therefore, this option is incorrect.

D) This option too tries to suggest a broad perspective that is not there in the passage. As the passage doesn't concentrate on technical differences but on the interconnectedness and influence between art and literature, undermining their shared elements and how they enrich each other. Hence, this option is incorrect too.

Trap of the Question: Though this question is easy to decode it might take up your time while finding the correct answer. The passage has explained different scenarios where these two can be seen linked from which you are supposed to find the central theme only. you would need to understand the major emphasis of the passage to answer this question correctly.

Q30. Text Solution:

Topic: Reading Comprehension

Subtopic: Art and Literature

Essence of the Question: This is a primary focus-based question that asks you to find out the correct primary focus regarding the impact of cultural context on creative expressions. To answer this question correctly, find what the passage has highlighted mainly regarding the given aspect.

Correct Answer: D

Explanation: The passage frequently emphasizes how art and literature serve as mirrors reflecting the values, beliefs, and challenges of their respective cultural and societal contexts. It demonstrates the

connection between creative works and the cultural backdrop. This option also reflects the same idea regarding the impact of cultural context, hence this option is correct.

Explanation for Incorrect Answers:

A) The passage does not focus on the universal applicability of creative works; rather, it emphasizes how art and literature reflect and respond to the cultural context in which they are created. So, this option can't be the primary focus of the passage as it is not aligned with the question. Hence, this option is incorrect.

B) Although the passage touches on the impact of the digital age on the intersection of art and literature, it doesn't primarily focus on the influence of technological advancements on the creative process in general. Therefore, this option is incorrect.

C) While the passage acknowledges the roles of artists and writers, it's not the central theme. Instead, the passage primarily concentrates on how art and literature reflect the values and changes within a society rather than explicitly shaping them making this option incorrect too.

Trap of the Question: The trap here lies in assuming the central focus within the context of the passage. This question uses NEGATION in combination with "ALL-EXCEPT" keywords which leads to the inference that all the answers are not going to be the primary focus regarding the impact of cultural context on creative expressions if considered the context of the passage EXCEPT one which would be the right answer. out of all the highlighted facts you would need to find the most important one otherwise you might end up selecting the wrong answer.

