

Direction (1-4): Study the following information and answer the questions that follow:

As the country is recovering from the pandemic, a majority of C-Suite executives and employees (73 per cent) across sectors feel hiring will not be adversely impacted due to any new wave of COVID-19, according to a survey. As COVID-19 cases continue to decline across the country, 73 per cent respondents believe that the new wave will not have an adverse impact on the hiring trends across sectors, while 27 per cent are unsure about the situation in the future, according to the survey by Genius Consultants.

The survey was done among 1,468 C-Suite executives and employees online across sectors including banking and finance, engineering, education, FMCG, hospitality, HR solutions, IT, ITeS and BPO, logistics, manufacturing, media, oil and gas, and pharma. Further, the survey showed that over 69 per cent respondents are not anticipating a rise in job insecurity with the advent of the new variant. The remaining fear that state-imposed restrictions and lockdowns could again halt businesses and possibly could result in salary cuts and layoffs, it noted.

When asked if the fear of the new variant could be more detrimental, over 71 per cent said it will not be as serious as hospitalisation had been low during Omicron and had a high recovery rate, which was encouraging. Meanwhile, 64 per cent respondents feel that most companies will encourage 'hybrid work models' if there is a surge in COVID-19 cases, to ensure the safety of their staff and for uninterrupted business operations.

The new variant causing the sudden rise in cases had been an extremely worrisome subject for industries across. The industries were slowly recovering and were performing quite satisfactorily.

"However, the new surge did not hamper and put any hurdle in the pathway of this growth. We hope that this variant is not as severe as the previous ones and that people recover quickly and remain safe," Genius Consultants Chairman and Managing Director R P Yadav said.

Q 1. The author of the passage is least likely to support the argument:

- 1) The effects of Covid 19 made the companies to introduce hybrid work models.
- 2) The job hiring will not be impacted by any new coronavirus variant.
- 3) The people don't have job insecurities amidst different coronavirus variants surfacing from time to time.
- 4)

Although the survey states that the majority of people think that any variant would not impact the working environment, many are fearful about the aftermath of another lockdown.

Q 2. Which sequence of words below best captures the narrative of the passage?

- 1)
Survey on employment - perception of C-Suite executives and employees across all sectors on the different variants of coronavirus - hybrid work models - people's fear of aftermaths of another lockdown
 - 2)
Statistics on unemployment – survey on the different variants of coronavirus – different work structures to ensure safety at the workplace – job insecurity among people due to the new wave
 - 3)
Statistics about people on the new wave of covid – a survey among employers and employees on the impact of coronavirus variants on hiring trends and job insecurity –the intensity of the outbreak of new variants and people's perception of it
 - 4)
Survey among C-Suite executives and employees on Covid's impact on the hiring process –safety at the workplace – different variants of coronavirus – fear of another lockdown's repercussions –
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Q 3. Which of the following invalidates the discussion regarding new wave in the passage:

- 1) It would have no impact on hiring trends.
 - 2) It would lead to another lockdown.
 - 3) Majority of the people involved in the survey have job security
 - 4) Majority of the people involved in the survey do not take it as life threatening.
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Q 4. Which of the following cannot be inferred from the survey mentioned in the passage?

- 1) Many people have job insecurity
 - 2) The impact of new wave would not affect the hiring trends
 - 3) The variants of corona virus are not fatal
 - 4) Majority of the people do not fear the consequences of new wave in work sector
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Direction (5-8): Study the following information and answer the questions that follow:

"At the core of the capitalist system... lies the complete separation of the consumer from the means of production" – (Marx, 1867)

150 years later, Marx's words feel more relevant than ever. With close to 800 new "mega farms" constructed over the past 6 years in the UK, global capitalism is driving the animal agriculture industry to expand further than ever before. Yet since the vast majority of farming units are built far removed from populated urban cores, consumers are both physically and socially separated from producers, deepening social inequality and increasing power for the industry.

Animal agriculture today operates as an international, industrialized market, dominated by global capitalism and accordingly facing unsustainable growth. Global meat consumption has quadrupled over the past 50 years and is predicted to rise a further 80% over the next decade as developing countries increasingly westernize their diet choices. The struggle to keep up with this exponential growth intersects with other dominant social systems world-wide, the pressure falling on already marginalized groups in the search to meet this demand.

The British dairy industry illustrates a prime example of the impacts of capitalism intersecting with animal agriculture. It is one of the least understood and most hidden aspects of the entire animal agriculture industry, and is notable in particular for its commodification of the female cow as a laborer.

The animal agriculture industry exemplifies Marx's theory of the objectification inherent in capitalism, commodifying non-human animals as "an external object, as a thing which through its qualities satisfies human needs of whatever kind". Those involved are no longer seen as individuals but as products. Animals are redefined as livestock and male calves as "surplus product" since they are unable to produce milk. They become objects owned by the industry and, ultimately, an item to be sold to consumers.

Commodification and ownership by others is a direct result of the division of labor and is a fundamental part of Marx's analysis of capitalism, leading to his theory of alienation. Extending Marxist analysis to include non-human laborers, we can understand the impacts of this alienation within the dairy industry. The dairy cow is alienated from the product: her own milk, as well as her fellow beings, particularly her calves. Human workers likewise become alienated, performing repetitive tasks under increasingly industrialized production processes. Crucially, consumers are alienated from the producers, leading to a lack of understanding and alienation from other classes, races and species; giving power to some over others. This division and alienation is prolific within industrialized animal agriculture, perpetuating and accelerating the socio-spatial impacts it has across all scales.

A vicious cycle is maintained. Seeking to minimize costs, factory farms, slaughterhouses, producers and suppliers are located where land is cheap, detached from urban centers and in depopulated, often deprived areas. This brings a spatial division between producer and consumer. Industry power and control is elevated, allowing unrealistic marketing of products, while producers' power increasingly diminishes. Marginalized persons are forced to accept poor working and living conditions with little or no wage, subconsciously justified

by society's existing prejudices and further consolidated through their objectification as workers by the industry. This deepening of the oppression of marginalized persons further widens the separation between producer and consumer, facilitating further industry control. Capital is reinvested in the consumer side, in advertising rather than housing for the cows, as farms become ever more industrialized and oppressive in an ever deepening cycle.

Q 5. The author of the passage is least likely to support the argument:

- 1) factory farming is leading to objectification of animals and workers
 - 2) the effect of factory farming in developed countries is equal to that of developing countries
 - 3) meat consumption has increased drastically over the last few decades
 - 4) factory farming leads to deepening of social inequality
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Q 6. Which sequence of words below best captures the narrative of the passage?

- 1) Marx's theory- Abuse of animals- Increasing poverty- Separation between consumers and producers
 - 2) Marx's quote- Exploitation of animals- Profits of factory farming- Alienation effect
 - 3) Commodification- Effects of factory farming- Alienation effect- Increasing poverty
 - 4) Effects of factory farming- Commodification of labourers- Separation between consumers and labourers-Deepening of social inequality
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Q 7. Which of the following invalidate the argument regarding factory farming made in the passage:

- 1) It brings prosperity in regions where they are set up
 - 2) It creates physical separation between consumers and producers
 - 3) It leads to deepening of social systems
 - 4) It leads to mass production of meat
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Q 8. Which of the following cannot be inferred from Marx's theory of alienation?

- 1) There is an increasing separation between consumers and producers
 - 2) The consumers have easy access to food
 - 3) The animals and workers are seen as objects
 - 4) The class difference between consumers and workers increases further
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Direction (9-12): Study the following information and answer the questions that follow:

Chinese factories were shuttered again in late August, a frequent occurrence in a country that has imposed intermittent lockdowns to fight the coronavirus. But this time, the culprit was not the pandemic. Instead, a record-setting drought crippled economic activity across southwestern China, freezing international supply chains for automobiles, electronics and other goods that have been routinely disrupted over the past three years.

Such interruptions could soon become more frequent for companies that source parts and products from around the world as climate change, and the extreme weather events that accompany it, continue to disrupt the global delivery system for goods in highly unpredictable ways, economists and trade experts warn.

Much remains unknown about how the world's rapid warming will affect agriculture, economic activity and trade in the coming decades. But one clear trend is that natural disasters like droughts, hurricanes and wildfires are becoming more frequent and unfolding in more

locations. In addition to the toll of human injury and death, these disasters are likely to wreak sporadic havoc on global supply chains, exacerbating the shortages, delayed deliveries and higher prices that have frustrated businesses and consumers.

The supply chains that have stretched around the world in recent decades are studies in modern efficiency, whizzing products like electronics, chemicals, couches and food across continents and oceans at ever-cheaper costs.

But those networks proved fragile, first during the pandemic and then as a result of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, with companies struggling to source their goods amid factory and port shutdowns. With products in short supply, prices have spiked, fueling rapid inflation worldwide.

The drought in southwestern China has also had ripple effects for global businesses. It drastically reduced hydropower production in the region, requiring power cuts to factories and scrambling supply chains for electronics, car parts and other goods. Volkswagen and Toyota curtailed production at nearby factories, as did Foxconn, which produces electronics, and CATL, a manufacturer of batteries for electric cars.

Companies had to scramble to secure trucks to move their goods to Chinese ports, while China's food importers hunted for more trucks and trains to carry their cargo into the country's interior. The heat and drought have wilted many of the vegetables in southwestern China, causing prices to nearly double, and have made it hard for the surviving pigs and poultry to put on weight, driving up meat prices.

Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, the W.T.O.'s director general, has described trade as "a mechanism for adaptation and resilience" that can help countries deal with crop failure and natural disasters. In a speech in January, she cited economic models estimating that climate change was on track to contribute to severe malnutrition, with as many as 55 million people at risk by 2050 because of local effects on food production. But greater trade could cut that number by 35 million people, she said. She further quoted that, "Trade is part of the solution to the challenges we face, far more than it is part of the problem."

Q 9. Which of the following statements is the least likely supported by the author in the passage?

- 1) Climate change is playing a pivotal role in economic and trade inactivity.
- 2) Climate change is affecting food production.
- 3) Climate change could worsen supply chain turmoil
- 4) Climate change is affecting trade business in China.

Q 10. Which sequence of words below best captures the narrative of the passage?

- 1)
Effects of climate change on trade business in China – Challenges that Chinese market is facing due to the draught situation – Affected supply chain globally – Difficulty faced by Chinese food and poultry industries – Possible measure to stand against malnutrition
- 2)
Case study on Chinese market – Adverse effect of climate in trade business and economy around the world – Challenges that companies are facing due to climate change – Trade business as a prospect solution for possible malnutrition around the world
- 3)
Effects of pandemic in Chinese market – Global effects of climate change – Natural disasters as a hindrance in global trade market – Challenges faced by the companies due to affected supply chain – Trade business as the solution to improve the supply chain
- 4)
Climate change and its adverse effects on supply chain globally – inactivity in economy and trade business due to disrupted supply chain – case study on Chinese market – adverse effects on food market due to climate change – possible solution to malnutrition

Q 11. Which of the following invalidates the discussion regarding trade business in the passage:

- 1) Climate change is playing a crucial role in affecting the trade business.

- 2) Different companies are facing many challenges due to the affected supply chain.
 - 3) Trade business is crucial in resolving possible malnutrition around the world.
 - 4) China is the most affected country due to climate change.
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Q 12. Which of the following cannot be inferred from the given passage?

- 1) Climate change plays a crucial factor in affecting the supply chain.
 - 2) Affected supply chain may cause malnutrition around the globe.
 - 3) Trade business is crucial for the betterment of the economy worldwide.
 - 4) Crop failure and natural disasters can create food scarcity.
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Direction (13-16): Study the following information and answer the questions that follow:

Thomas Harris' latest novel is being hailed as the long awaited sequel to *The Silence of the Lambs*, but I have never thought that novel actually needed one. It stood on its own, finished and complete. After I put that book down I did not think to ask what Hannibal was going to do next. In my opinion he had done enough. I've always preferred a novel that concludes with a few loose ends because, in life, not all problems get tied up nice and neat. There was something so frightening, so giddily uncomfortable about knowing that Hannibal "The Cannibal" was loose on an unsuspecting world. Author Harris did readers a favor by letting us all keep a little of that fear in our hearts and minds for the past 11 years.

But we became so intrigued by Hannibal, didn't we? And we wanted to see more of him. When we first met him in Harris's second novel *Red Dragon*, he was a small but important player, giving reluctant but brilliant insights into the mind of a serial killer to FBI agent Will Graham. In *The Silence of the Lambs* it was FBI cadet Clarice Starling looking for a multiple murderer and Lecter became a major and integral part of the story. And when we saw Hannibal brought to life by Anthony Hopkins in the 1991 film, we became hooked. Rarely before had we been drawn to such an evil character — one who charmed and hypnotized us with his combination of verbal gymnastics, Old World manners and awesome intellectual abilities.

But now there is *Hannibal*, Harris's latest novel, and this time Dr. Hannibal Lecter is the player. And like *The Silence of the Lambs*, *Hannibal* is finished and complete and stands on its own. Quite well in fact.

In *Hannibal*, Harris plumbs the shadowy depths of Lecter's mind and throws us into the stinking oubliette of his psyche, taking us through past — and possibly significant — remembrances. When we re-ascend, it is with a startling array of knowledge about the man. We find him fascinating, sympathetic and — despite his dietary habits and penchant for killing (and consuming) only the "rude" — a likable character. I like the well rounded character that Harris has created, even if he's somewhat outlandish, flamboyant and deeply disturbed. *Hannibal* loves the finer things in life: classical music, ancient literature, fine art, a tidy evisceration...

The novel's title works, not only because it is about Hannibal; it is Hannibal. And though the narration is in the third person, it speaks with his voice. It's a voice of culture and intelligence; of terror and menace. In hushed conspiratorial tones, it politely invites us to witness acts of inhuman horror and suffering. Almost — almost — making them palatable. And if not palatable, then so fascinating we find it hard to turn away. Harris does not write of these atrocities from the moral standpoint of someone who thinks the things Hannibal does are wrong; we all know what he does is wrong. Even Hannibal knows very well what he does is wrong. He also believes he has the intellectual and moral superiority to justify his actions, and this is Harris's triumph in the narration. We are shown things in the way Hannibal would see them through his intellectually superior and amoral eyes, and it is up to us to decide the right or wrongness of things. We also see things with an almost clinically unprejudiced and sometimes uncomfortably uncensored eye; unwavering, unblinking. Harris's prose is elegant and economic.

Q 13. Which of the following, as per the author, makes the title of the novel *Hannibal* effective?

- 1) The title aptly captures the most important aspect of the book.
- 2) The author's writing style embodies characteristics of Hannibal's personality.
- 3) The author's narrative is through the eyes of the protagonist himself and leaves moralistic judgement to the reader.

4)

The novel is as if it were though a narration by Hannibal himself which enables the reader to understand that Hannibal only attacks the rude.

Q 14. Which of the following is admitted by the author in the passage?

- 1) Hannibal's actions are morally wrong.
 - 2) Anthony Hopkins' portrayal of Hannibal increased the popularity of the series and compelled the author to write another book.
 - 3) A character with intellectual superiority and old world manners can be fascinating even if evil.
 - 4) Peeping into the mind of Hannibal makes the novel 'Hannibal' a much more interesting read than 'Silence of the lambs'.
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Q 15. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?

- 1) The fact that readers find a dangerous character like Hannibal fascinating reveals that morality is no longer popular with people.
 - 2) Harris had revealed enough fascinating details about Hannibal's past in the earlier novels prior to warrant a third book on the same character.
 - 3) Hannibal's love for the finer things in life makes him a fascinating character.
 - 4) Hannibal evokes sympathy from the readers due to his turbulent past, which has made him engage in horrific deeds.
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Q 16. 'Silence of the Lambs' did not require a sequel for none of the following reasons, except:

- 1) The character of Hannibal Lecter had been explored completely in the book.
 - 2) The book had a few loose ends and a sequel could effectively tie these up.
 - 3) The author preferred the ambiguity at the end of the story about Hannibal's actions and whereabouts.
 - 4) The story in the book was complete and finished.
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Q 17. Directions for question (17): The passage given below is followed by four summaries. Choose the option that best captures the author's position.

The question that always arises in my mind when reading a new list of the hundred or the fifty best books by some recognized literary authority is: Does the ordinary business or professional man, who has had no special literary training, take any keen interest in the great masterpieces of the Greeks and Romans? Does it not require some special aptitude or some special preparation for one to appreciate Plato's Dialogues or Sophocles' Oedipus, Homer's Iliad or Horace's Odes, even in the best translations? In most cases, I think the reading of the Greek and Latin classics in translations is barren of any good results. Unless one has a passionate sympathy with Greek or Roman life, it is impossible, without a study of the languages and an intimate knowledge of the life and ideals of the people, to get any grasp of their best literary work. The things which the scholar admires seem to the great public flat and commonplace; the divine simplicity, the lack of everything modern, seems to narrow the intellectual horizon.

1)

An ordinary person, who hasn't read famous Greek and Roman books from academic point of view, will not be able to admire the beauty of those masterpieces.

2)

To understand great masterpieces of the Greek and Roman authors, one needs to have scholastic mindset and a grasp of these languages as well as knowledge of the life and values of those people.

3)

To truly appreciate the masterpieces produced by Greek and Roman authors, one needs a keen understanding of the life of those people, their ideals and their languages.

4)

To understand and admire the works of Plato, Sophocles, Homer and Horace, we need to have some preparation in form of special literary training.

Q 18. Directions for question (18): The passage given below is followed by four summaries. Choose the option that best captures the author's position.

A man who has made some valuable discovery may be filled with jealousy of a rival discoverer. If one man has found a cure for cancer and another has found a cure for consumption, one of them may be delighted if the other man's discovery turns out a mistake, instead of regretting the suffering of patients which would otherwise have been avoided. In such cases, instead of desiring knowledge for its own sake, or for the sake of its usefulness, a man is desiring it as a means to reputation. Every creative impulse is shadowed by a possessive impulse; even the aspirant to saintliness may be jealous of the more successful saint. Most affection is accompanied by some tinge of jealousy, which is a possessive impulse intruding into the creative region.

1) The possessive impulses, when they are strong, infect activities which ought to be purely creative.

2)

Those who have missed everything worth having in life are instinctively bent on preventing others from enjoying what they have not had.

3) Creative impulses should play a larger part in one's life as compared to the possessive impulses.

4) A discoverer pays more heed to his competitors rather than his own discovery.

Q 19. The four sentences (labelled 1, 2, 3, 4) below, when properly sequenced would yield a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper sequencing of the order of the sentences and key in the sequence of the four numbers as your answer:

1. The GAP alert is a specialized alert system for geriatric and anti-coagulated patients with suspected head trauma.

2. Nearly 10% of the total trauma population were activated as GAP alerts in the current study.

3. This analysis demonstrates that the number of GAP alerts increased over the 3-year study period which subsequently led to a decrease in the number of second tier (Trauma Team Activation) TTAs.

4. As our population ages, the number of geriatric and anti-coagulated trauma patients are expected to rise.

Q 20. The passage given below is followed by four alternate summaries. Choose the option that best captures the essence of the passage.

Migrant women workers are the main income generators of their families and they contribute to the Sri Lankan economy as a vital part of the labour force. It is important to explore their representations in Sri Lankan English fiction in terms of how they are perceived and negotiate with their identities. This research aims to scrutinize the representations of migrant women workers within the dominant ideological framework where women are primarily perceived as the cultural disseminators of their nation. One of the research questions of this study is to determine the extent to which migrant women workers are considered transgressive according to the conventional beliefs and values in the mainstream society where women are symbolically equated to the nation.

1)

An analysis of how the present research on migrant women workers in general recognizes the narratives of women migrant workers and their subsequent scrutiny in terms of the examination of self-reflections

2)

A perspective on how within the conventional discourse in mainstream media, women who do not cater to their nation's dominant ideological expectations are relegated as transgressive women

3) Representation of Migrant Women Workers and their Negotiations with the Nation: A Study of Selected Sri Lankan English Fiction

4) An overview of how the government has tried to improve the migrant women workers' rights and their absorption back to their roots

Q 21. Directions (21). The four sentences (labelled 1, 2, 3, 4) below, when properly sequenced would yield a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper sequencing of the order of the sentences and key in the sequence of the four numbers as your answer:

1. *Fitzcarraldo* (1982) is about rubber baron Brian Sweeney Fitzgerald, an Irishman known as Fitzcarraldo in Peru, who wants to build an opera house in the Amazon in the early 20th century.
 2. To fund the project, he must get to a fertile rubber terrain.
 3. He needs to transport a steamship from one river on one side of the mountain into another river on the other side.
 4. He must move the ship over the mountain to fulfill his dream.
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Q 22. Directions (22). The four sentences (labelled 1, 2, 3, 4) below, when properly sequenced would yield a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper sequencing of the order of the sentences and key in the sequence of the four numbers as your answer:

1. It was so severe that he worried about his ability to drive home, and it took hours for him to recover from the five-minute simulation.
 2. But these changes introduce dizzying graphics—which inevitably causes more people to experience cybersickness.
 3. Garrido had contracted cybersickness, a form of motion sickness that can affect users of VR technology.
 4. In order to make VR more accessible and affordable, companies are making devices smaller and running them on less powerful processors.
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Q 23. Direction (23): Five sentences related to a topic are given below. Four of them can be put together to form a meaningful and coherent short paragraph. Identify the odd one out.

1. Deputy District Attorney Paul Thomson told the court on Monday that eight women allegedly attacked by Weinstein would testify.
2. He denies ever having non-consensual sex with anyone.
3. Mark Werskman, for the defence, told the court the accusers were lying.
4. A much-diminished Weinstein, with reportedly declining health, is back in Los Angeles and incarcerated in a prison cell, on trial for rape and sexual assault.
5. This court case follows Weinstein being convicted in New York for other sex crimes, though that case is under appeal.

Q 24. Direction (24): Five jumbled up sentences related to a topic is given below. Four of them can be put together to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the odd one out and key in the number of the sentence as your answer.

1. But Hopper pushed back, saying solitude was not the same as loneliness.
 2. During the lockdowns, the artist most often used to illustrate articles about people isolated was the American realist painter Edward Hopper.
 3. "She's just looking out of the window," he said of one painting.
 4. He relished solitude, preferring a hermit-like existence – albeit with his wife, Josephine Nivison Hopper.
 5. His images of people gazing out of a window or sitting alone in a diner have frequently been interpreted as depictions of loneliness.
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