

PT – 14

**Instructions (Q.1 to Q.7):** You are given four options. One of them improves the underlined part of the sentence by correcting grammar, punctuation, word choice, or sentence structure. Choose the option that best improves the sentence.

(TCS)

1. The Illusionist, a novel by Irish author Jennifer Johnston, had been first published in 1995 by Sinclair Stevenson and is considered to be one of her best works.

A. a novel by Irish author Jennifer Johnston, had been first published in 1995 by Sinclair Stevenson and is considered to be one

B. is a novel by Irish author Jennifer Johnston, which was first published in 1995 by Sinclair Stevenson and is considered as one

C. a novel by Irish author Jennifer Johnston, was first published in 1995 by Sinclair Stevenson and is considered one

D. a novel by Jennifer Johnston, an Irish author, was first published in 1995 by Sinclair Stevenson and was considered as one

Answer – C

**Hint:** Use **simple past ("was")** for a completed past event. "Had been" is unnecessary.

2. Chocolate had been once the drink of Mayan and Aztec kings and now a cocoa shortage may make chocolate an exclusive luxury again.

A. had been once the drink of Mayan and Aztec kings and now a cocoa shortage may make chocolate

B. was once the drink of Mayan and Aztec kings but now a cocoa shortage may make chocolate

C. had once been the drink of Mayan and Aztec kings and now a cocoa shortage will make chocolate

D. was once the drink of Mayan and Aztec kings and now a cocoa shortage may make chocolate

Answer – D

**Hint:** "**Was once**" is the standard past tense. "Had been once" is awkward and incorrect here.

3. The company made eco-friendly products, including bags, coolers, and kites from materials like discarded energy bar wrappers and yogurt cups.

A. made eco-friendly products, including bags, coolers, and kites from materials like discarded energy bar wrappers and yogurt cups

- B. makes eco-friendly products, including bags, coolers, and kites from materials such as discarded energy bar wrappers and yogurt cups
- C. makes eco-friendly products, such as bags, coolers, and kites from materials like discarded energy bar wrappers and yogurt cups
- D. is making eco-friendly products, like bags, coolers, and kites from materials such as discarded energy bar wrappers and yogurt cups

Answer – B

**Hint:** Use **present tense ("makes")** for current practices, and **"such as"** (not "like") to list clear, specific examples.

4. Contrary to popular belief, video games aren't just for killing an idle Thursday evening, in fact, a variety of recent studies have begun to demonstrate their teaching potential.

- A. video games aren't just for killing an idle Thursday evening, in fact, a variety of recent studies have begun to demonstrate
- B. video games aren't just to kill an idle Thursday evening, but a variety of recent studies, in fact, have begun to demonstrate
- C. video games aren't just for killing an idle Thursday evening; in fact, a variety of recent studies has begun to demonstrate
- D. video games aren't just for killing an idle Thursday evening; in fact, a variety of recent studies have begun to demonstrate

Answer – D

HINT: contrast is not justified, plural subject requires plural verb

5. Preliminary analysis of information collected by a NASA science probe that passed by Comet Hartley 2 last week shows unmistakable correlations between jets of dust around the comet's body and carbon dioxide also known as dry ice.

- A. shows unmistakable correlations between jets of dust around the comet's body and carbon dioxide
- B. show unmistakable correlations between jets of dust around the comet's body
- C. shows unmistakable correlations among jets of dust around the comet's body and carbon dioxide
- D. show unmistakable correlations between jets of dust around the body of the comet along with carbon dioxide

Answer – A

HINT: analysis- shows is the right combination, between x and y is correct structure

6. Among the 1,500 sources of gamma rays Fermi has mapped so far, nothing resembles the bubble-shaped structures, that stretches across more than half of the visible sky from the constellation Virgo and the constellation Grus.

A. that stretches across more than half of the visible sky from the constellation Virgo and the constellation Grus.

B. that stretch across greater than half of the visible sky from the constellation Virgo to the constellation Grus.

C. which stretches across an area more than half of the visible sky from the constellation Virgo to the constellation Grus.

D. which stretch across more than half of the visible sky from the constellation Virgo to the constellation Grus.

Answer – D

HINT- noun. Which is correct. noun, that is wrong

structures--- stretch is correct

7. According to a new *Science* journal paper, the exquisite balance and near gravity-defying grace of cats extends to the way they drink.

A. the exquisite balance and near gravity-defying grace of cats extends to the way they drink

B. the exquisite balance and near gravity-defying grace of cats extend to the way it drinks

C. the exquisite balance as well as the near gravity-defying grace of cats extend to the way they drink

D. the exquisite balance and near gravity-defying grace of cats extend to the way they drink

Answer – D

HINT: balance and grace extend. Pronoun ‘they’ is justified for cats

**Instructions: Critical Reasoning (Q.8 – Q.12):** Read each passage carefully. Then, choose the best answer to the question that follows.

(Capgemini)

8. The Smithtown Theatre, which stages old plays, has announced an expansion that will double its capacity along with its operating costs. The theatre is only slightly profitable at present. In addition, all of the current customers live in Smithtown, and the population of the town is not expected to increase in the next several years. Thus, the expansion of the Smithtown Theatre will prove unprofitable.

Which of the following, if true, would most seriously weaken the argument?

- (A) A large movie chain plans to open a new multiplex location in Smithtown later this year.
- (B) Concession sales in the Smithtown Theatre comprise a substantial proportion of the theatre's revenues.
- (C) Many recent arrivals to Smithtown are students that are less likely to attend the Smithtown Theatre than are older residents.
- (D) The expansion would allow the Smithtown Theatre to stage larger, more popular shows that will attract customers from neighbouring towns.

**Answer: D**

**Hint:** New customers from outside the town could make the expansion profitable — this **weakens** the claim of unprofitability.

9. Start-up companies financed by venture capitalist have a much lower failure rate than companies financed by other means. Source of financing, therefore, must be a more important causative factor in the success of a start-up company than are such factors as the personal characteristics of the entrepreneur, the quality of strategic planning, or the management structure of the company.

Which of the following, if true, most seriously weakens the argument above?

- (A) Venture capitalists tend to be more responsive than other sources of financing to changes in a start-up company's financial needs.
- (B) The strategic planning of a start-up company is a less important factor in the long-term success of the company than are the personal characteristics of the entrepreneur.
- (C) More than half of all new companies fall within five years.
- (D) Venture capitalists base their decisions to fund start-up companies on such factors as the characteristics of the entrepreneur and quality of strategic planning of the company.

**Answer: D**

**Hint:** If **venture capitalists choose based on quality factors**, then the **success is due to those factors**, **not** the funding source itself.

10. An advertising agency must leave its office building. To save overhead costs, it is considering setting up a "virtual office" instead of moving to an adjacent office building. Employees will do their work on computers, as they do now, but will do so at home, sharing their work with colleagues by communicating text and designs to colleagues' computers through telephone lines, receiving typed comments, and then revising the work until it is satisfactory.

Which of the following, if true, indicates a disadvantage of the virtual office plan?

- A. The agency can move its computers and associated equipment into employees' homes without purchasing any new equipment or requiring employees to purchase such equipment.
- B. To reach the current office building and return home, employees spend an average of one and a half hours per day commuting, usually in heavy traffic.
- C. The employees of the advertising agency are accustomed to autonomy in monitoring their own progress and productivity.
- D. Expressions and gestures in face-to-face exchanges are an important aid to employees in gauging the viability of new ideas they have proposed.

**Answer: D**

**Hint:** Lack of **face-to-face interaction** limits creativity and idea evaluation — a key **disadvantage**.

11. More and more computer programs that provide solutions to mathematical problems in engineering are being produced, and it is thus increasingly unnecessary for practicing engineers to have a thorough understanding of fundamental mathematical principles. Consequently, in training engineers who will work in industry, less emphasis should be placed on mathematical principles so that space in the engineering curriculum will be available for other important subjects.

Which of the following, if true, most seriously weakens the argument given for the recommendation above?

- (A) The effective use of computer programs that provide solutions to mathematical problems in engineering requires an understanding of fundamental mathematical principles.
- (B) Many of the computer programs that provide solutions to mathematical problems in engineering are already in routine use.
- (C) Development of composites and other such new materials has meant that the curriculum for engineers who will work in industry must allow time for teaching the properties of these materials.

(D) Most of the computer programs that provide solutions to mathematical problems in engineering can be run on the types of computers available to most engineering firms.

**Answer:** A

**Hint:** If using the programs **requires understanding math**, you **can't reduce math** in the curriculum.

12. With employer-paid training, workers have the potential to become more productive not only in their present employment but also in any number of jobs with different employers. To increase the productivity of their workforce, many firms are planning to maintain or even increase their investments in worker training. But some training experts object that if a trained worker is hired away by another firm, the employer that paid for the training has merely subsidized a competitor. They note that such hiring has been on the rise in recent years.

Which of the following would, if true, contribute most to defeating the training experts' objection to the firms' strategy?

A. Firms that promise opportunities for advancement to their employees get, on average, somewhat larger numbers of job applications from untrained workers than do firms that make no such promise.

B. In many industries, employees who take continuing-education courses are more competitive in the job market.

C. More and more educational and training institutions are offering reduced tuition fees to firms that subsidize worker training.

D. For most firms that invest in training their employees, the value added by that investment in employees who stay exceeds the value lost through other employees' leaving to work for other companies

**Answer:** (b) unrealistic

**Hint:** The passage says people expect poetry to be **false**, implying they think it's **unrealistic**.

**Instructions (Q.13 to Q.17):** Read the given passage carefully and thoroughly. Choose the most appropriate option to answer the questions based on passage.

**(WIPRO)**

Few people ask from books what books can give us. Most commonly we come to books with blurred and divided minds, asking of fiction that it shall be true, of poetry that it shall be false, of biography that it shall be flattering, of history that it shall enforce our own prejudices. If we could banish all such preconceptions when we read, that would be an admirable beginning.

13. According to this passage, most readers think that poetry is essentially:

- (a) imagination
- (b) unrealistic
- (c) realistic
- (d) didactic

**Answer:** (b) unrealistic

**Hint:** The passage says people expect poetry to be **false**, implying they think it's **unrealistic**.

14. The main intention of the author is to:

- (a) point out the faults of the readers
- (b) define what various kinds of books are
- (c) suggest the correct approach to books
- (d) enumerate the readers preconceptions

**Answer:** (c)

**Hint:** The author criticizes preconceptions and suggests **reading with an open mind**.

15. The author's reference to biography being viewed as something 'flattering' suggests that he think that it should be:

- (a) offensive
- (b) critical
- (c) truthful
- (d) subjective

**Answer:** (c)

**Hint:** If readers want it **flattering**, the author implies it **should be honest** instead.

16. According to this passage, most reader's:

- (a) expect too much from books
- (b) ignore the objective of the writer
- (c) do not know what to expect from a book
- (d) are positively inclined towards the author

**Answer:** (c)

**Hint:** Readers come with **conflicting expectations**, showing **confusion** about what books offer.

17. According to the passage, most books of history are:

- (a) an objective of the past events

- (b) the author's views on the past events
- (c) reproduction of the records available from the past
- (d) an objective interpretation of the past records.

**Answer:** (b)

**Hint:** The passage says readers want history to confirm **their prejudices**, suggesting **subjective interpretations**.

**Instructions (Q.18 to Q.20):** Choose the option that is **most opposite in meaning** to the given word. (TCS)

#### 18. PUGNACIOUS

- a) Belligerent
- b) Amenable
- c) Quarrelsome
- d) Aggressive

**Answer:** b) Amenable

**Hint:** This describes someone eager or quick to argue, quarrel, or fight. The antonym suggests willingness to cooperate.

#### 19. PERNICIOUS

- a) Deleterious
- b) Salutory
- c) Destructive
- d) Malign

**Answer:** b) Salutory

**Hint:** This describes something having a harmful effect, especially in a gradual or subtle way. The antonym would be beneficial.

#### 20. MALIGN

- a) Slander
- b) Praise



c) Defame

d) Vilify

Answer: b) Praise

Hint: This means to speak about someone or something in a spitefully critical manner. The antonym is to express approval.