



## Verbal Ability - Online practice Test 23

**Directions for questions 1 to 3:** Each question has a set of four sequentially ordered statements. Each statement can be classified as one of the following.

- **Facts**, which deal with pieces of information that one has heard, seen or read, and which are open to discovery or verification (the answer option indicates such a statement with an 'F').
- **Inferences**, which are conclusions drawn about the unknown, on the basis of the known (the answer option indicates such a statement with an 'I').
- **Judgements**, which are opinions that imply approval or disapproval of persons, objects, situations and occurrences in the past, the present or the future (the answer option indicates such a statement with a 'J').

Select the answer option that best describes the set of four statements.

1.

1. On the whole, we Americans are good drivers and compared to drivers in other countries, we are terrific.
2. Although far too many people are killed each year on roads and highways, our traffic-death rate of 3.15 per 100 million vehicle miles is the lowest in the world.
3. For years I have been promoting a very unpopular cause: mandatory seat-belt use.
4. Eventually we will come to our senses, but it's taking us far too long.

- (1) JFFJ
- (2) IJFJ
- (3) JIJF
- (4) IFIJ
- (5) JFIJ

2.

1. Today, there is booming demand for bright youngsters with certain skill-sets.
2. Their academic background hardly seems to matter: engineers are recruited in law firms, physicists work in equity analysis, historians are employed in call centres and sociologists serve in hotels.
3. Clearly, they are recruited for skills that have little to do with the subject they studied.
4. At the same time, there are specialised jobs that demand deep and strong disciplinary background.

- (1) FIJI
- (2) IIFJ
- (3) JFIJ
- (4) FIIF
- (5) IJFF

3.

1. A few months ago, the government of Goa granted, in principle, approval to the setting up of five casinos, effectively taking the number of casinos in the state into double digit.
2. It is widely expected that these casinos will get the government's formal stamp of approval in the coming weeks and with it, India will be able to position Goa as its equivalent to Las Vegas.
3. While this undoubtedly comes as good news to those frequenting Nepal or Sri Lanka to gamble, it also marks an opportune moment to review the legal regime governing gambling in India as well as to revisit the policy considerations on which it is based.
4. It's time India considered making gambling legal, given its immense spin-off potential for the economy.

- (1) JFJJ
- (2) FIFI
- (3) IJJJ
- (4) FJFJ
- (5) FJJJ

4.

- (A) The lack of infrastructure seems to be emerging as a sore point for Indian BPO companies.
- (B) The competitiveness of Indian companies is eroding with the rising cost in overheads for building support infrastructure.
- (C) The largest company in the BPO space, Genpact, has decided to take a stab at reducing the cost of its support infrastructure.
- (D) Genpact has decided that it will reduce man power in some of the external support infrastructure by one third in the first leg and then quickly follow it up with another 50% reduction.

- (1) A and B
- (2) B and C
- (3) A and D
- (4) Only D
- (5) B and D

**Directions for question 5:** The question below has a number of sentences which, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labelled with a letter. Choose the most logical order of sentences from among the given choice

5.

- (A) Taken together with those on the neighbouring plateau, they represent the largest body of ice on the planet outside the polar regions.
- (B) But Hasain's working group on Himalayan glaciology, has found that glaciers are receding faster in the Himalayas than anywhere else on earth.
- (C) Furthermore their melt water makes up two-thirds of the flow of great South Asian rivers such as Ganges, on which hundreds of millions of people depend.
- (D) Glaciers cover around 17 percent of the Himalayas and contain thousands of cubic kilometres of water.

- (1) DACB
- (2) ABCD
- (3) DCBA
- (4) BACD
- (5) CDAB

6.

It was always believed that dance was a source of pleasure for the mind and the body but the *eklang* of dance therapy as an alternative healing method has given it scientific validation.

- (1) invention
- (2) emergence
- (3) revelation
- (4) promotion
- (5) application

7.

For the *estacle* wanderlust, Alexandria, one of the most celebrated cities on the Mediterranean coast is heavily signposted with literary milestones.

8.

- (1) throwback

- (1) inveterate
- (2) inaccessible
- (3) itinerant
- (4) invidious
- (5) inevitable

9.

- (1) monotheist
- (2) religious
- (3) pious
- (4) atheist
- (5) secular

11.

- (1) annihilated
- (2) deserted
- (3) refurbished
- (4) exterminated
- (5) abandoned

13.

Which of the following best captures the author's stance?

- (1) There should be a complete ban on weapons if America is to become safe.
- (2) The occasional gun tragedies should not be blown out of proportion.
- (3) The easy accessibility to guns has made America a haven for criminals.
- (4) There should be some control and incorporation of safety measures.
- (5) Politicians who are hand in glove with the rifle manufactures should be penalized.

15.

The full measure of 'the curse of guns' is reflected by

- (1) Nickel Mines, Pennsylvania where five girls were shot at a school.
- (2) America's regular harvest of gun deaths in mass murders.
- (3) the deaths caused by gun fire being more than deaths on battlefield in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- (4) 400 children becoming victims of guns in 2005.
- (5) the large number of suicides by firearms.

- (2) inroads
- (3) comeback
- (4) rebirth
- (5) reinvention

10.

- (1) renovated
- (2) upgraded
- (3) nationalised
- (4) rehabilitated
- (5) revived

12.

The silence of politicians, cutting across party lines, over the Virginia Tech massacre shows

- (1) their shock and grief over the needless loss of young lives.
- (2) that the storm of crime is gathering and will soon burst.
- (3) the power and influence the National Rifle Association has over them.
- (4) that they have their eyes on the vote bank for the next election.
- (5) their determination to impose stringent rules to curb gun culture.

14.

'It is only a brave Democrat who will talk about gun control', because

- (1) they have traditionally been in favour of gun ownership.
- (2) their pro-control stance cost them heavily in two recent elections.
- (3) their success in the next election is directly related to their stand on the issue.
- (4) the larger states are in the hands of the gun lackey.
- (5) they would have to pay a heavy price for antagonizing the rifle manufacturers.

1 Statement 1 is clearly a judgement since it is somebody's opinion that American's are good drivers. Statement 2 is a fact – the statistics given is verifiable. Statement 3 is a fact – one can verify if the author has been promoting seat belts. (from his writing or speeches). Statement 4 is the author's opinion or judgement.

Choice (1)

2 Statement 1 is a fact – it can be verified whether there is a demand for 'bright youngsters with certain skill set'. Statement 2 is an inference – the author infers that academic background hardly matters from the fact that engineers are recruited in law firms and so on. Statement 3 is also an inference – the author infers they are recruited for their skills from the mismatch between their academic background and the work they are doing. Statement 4 is a fact – that there are specialised jobs that requires a knowledge of the subject is verifiable.

Choice (4)

3 Statement 1 is a fact – we can verify if the government gave permission for the setting up of casinos. Statement 2 is judgement – it is the author's opinion that the casinos will make Goa into a Las Vegas (it could turn out be a poor cousin). Statement 3 is a judgement – it is the author's opinion that it is the right time to review. Statement 4 is a judgement – it is the author's opinion that gambling should be legalised (I may be against it even if it has the potential to boost the economy).

Choice (5)

4 A and D have no errors. Sentence B is erroneous because of the use of the preposition 'in' after cost. The correct preposition is 'of'. Sentence C is wrong because of the use of 'its' with an apostrophe. 'Its' is used without the apostrophe in the possessive case.

Choice (3)

Hence 'inveterate' which means 'an incurable habit' is the most appropriate replacement. 'Itinerant' also means a frequent traveller but usually for the purpose of work. It has a more positive connotation. 'Invidious' means 'causing offence'.

Choice (1)

'throwback' is 'throwback to', 'inroads' is 'make inroads into/on'. If a thing 'makes a comeback' it becomes popular and fashionable again. The usage is correct and it fits into the context of the paragraph; therefore choice 3 is the answer.

Choice (3)

- 9 The phrase 'Even though' means 'in spite of the fact that', it clearly indicates that what will follow this phrase would be a contradiction or an opposition. Since, 'a growing number of people are beginning to turn to religion' is the phrase which follows, what comes before this should be its exact opposite, therefore the answer is 'atheist', meaning not believing in god or religion.

Choice (4)

- 1 To renovate means to repair; i.e. 'to mend something that is broken or damaged';  
1 choices 1 and 4 mean completely destroyed, beyond repair. Therefore, these cannot be the answer. "Once closed and refurbished are being renovated" would be illogical.

Choice (5)

- 1 The paragraph indicates that there has been a religious revival in China; people are beginning to turn to religion'. A 'synagogue' is a place of worship, therefore in the given context of growing belief, it is logical that the "synagogue" be 'renovated'. We do not 'upgrade' or "rehabilitate" a place, 'nationalised' would go against the context, which suggests that the government policy is still anti-religion.

Choice (1)

**1 Number of words and Explanatory notes for RC:**

3

Number of words : 1034 words

Choice 1 is an extreme which the author has not advocated. Nor does he think occasional incidents are made much of. He does not say America has become a haven for criminals. Option 4 with a sense of balance and responsibility is supported by the last but one para. Option 5 is not stated in the passage.

Choice (4)

**1 Number of words and Explanatory notes for RC:**

2

Number of words : 1034 words

Refer to para 4 – the author quotes William Bratton to say that 'politicians on both sides.. have been 'captured by the vocal National Rifle Association (NRA)' and continues, 'The silence over Virginia Tech shows he has a point'.

Choice (3)

**1 Number of words and Explanatory notes for RC:**

4

Number of words : 1034 words

Refer to para 5 which talks of the Democrats. Choice 2 is supported by the para.

Choice (2)

**15 Number of words and Explanatory notes for RC:**

Number of words : 1034 words

The words in quote occur in the first sentence of para 3. Choice 1 is ruled out by the sentence. The next sentence rules out choices 2 and 5. Choice 3 becomes the answer since choice 4 is also only part of the answer.

Choice (3)