



Verbal Ability - Online practice Test 24

Directions for questions 1 and 2: Each of the following questions has a paragraph with one italicized word that does not make sense. Choose the most appropriate replacement for that word from the options given below the paragraph.

1.

There is a wonderful tradition in Vietnamese literature of using irreverent playful writing to *obless* those in power because here there is a kind of cultural reverence for the written word.

- (1) subvert
- (2) eulogise
- (3) destroy
- (4) annoy
- (5) berate

2.

In an appropriately classical *ashlang* his nephew tells us that "there are scattered passages in those letters which prove that Macaulay's feelings, during his protracted absence from his native country were almost as keen as those which racked the breast of Cicero when he was forced to exchange the triumphs of the Forum for his banishment at Thessalonica".

- (1) tradition
- (2) allusion
- (3) reference
- (4) style
- (5) metaphor

Directions for questions 3 to 5: A number of sentences are given below 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 choices to construct a coherent paragraph.

3.

A. This tile-roofed building with pillars on the verandah is the oldest Sub-Registrar's office in India.
 B. The document in Kadukka ink is brittle with age but the year of registration is clearly visible.
 C. At first glance, Ancharakkandy sub-registrar office in Kannur district of Kerala is unremarkable like any government office in the hinterlands.
 D. Built by Murdoch Brown, an officer of the English East India Company in the 1850s, the office houses the oldest land registration record - it dates back to 1858.
 E. But look inside, and you see wrought-iron shelves with land registration records that are one and a half centuries old.

- (1) BEADC
- (2) BADEC
- (3) ADCBE
- (4) CEBAD
- (5) CEADB

4.

A. Last year Thierry Desmarest, chairman of Total, the world's fourth largest oil company, declared that production would peak by around 2020.
 B. It is becoming increasingly clear that global oil production will soon go into terminal decline, with potentially devastating economic consequences.
 C. In his new book 'The Last Oil Shock', David Strahan begs to differ; he suggests it may bring catastrophe.
 D. Although the idea of peak oil has traditionally been ridiculed by the industry, now even some of the world's most senior oilmen concede the case.
 E. Many people think that running out of oil, or "peak oil", would be good for the climate

- (1) DAECB
- (2) EBCDA
- (3) DEBCA
- (4) ECBDA
- (5) BCEDA

5.

A. Winston Churchill, who as Conservative leader was the two men's natural political foe, famously compared another political system, that of the USSR, to bulldogs fighting under the carpet.
 B. "He is his own worst enemy", somebody in politics once remarked, "Not while I'm alive he ain't," came the reply.
 C. As the post-orange Revolution "War of the Viktors" in Ukraine takes a new twist, we look at some of the world's other great political feuds.
 D. This Soviet tradition of keeping face while waging political war appears to be still alive in Ukraine's conflict between Viktor Yushchenko and Victor Yanukovich, locked in a disastrous cohabitation as President And Prime Minister respectively.
 E. The dry wit here was British Labour politician Ernest Bevin and the 'worst enemy', Herbert Morris, was his fellow labour minister in the 1945-1951 government.

- (1) BECAD
- (2) CBADE
- (3) CBEAD
- (4) BDEAC
- (5) CADBE

6.

A. To judge an idea by its utility or otherwise is always a great intellectual task because it would require separating one from the other.
 B. Judging an idea by its utility or otherwise is always a great intellectual task because it would require one to separate one from the other.
 C. Judging an idea by its utility or otherwise is always a great intellectual task because it would require to separating one from the other.
 D. To judge an idea by its utility or otherwise is always a great intellectual task for one because it would require to separate one from the other.
 E. To judge an idea by its utility or otherwise is always greatest intellectual task because it would require separating one from the other.

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

7.

A. Why is considering deeming innately wicked people realistic but simple-minded to deem our political and economic system innately honest?
 B. Why is it considered realistic deeming people innately wicked, but simple-minded to deem our political and economic system innately honest?
 C. Why is considering deeming innately wicked people realistic, but simple-minded to deem our political and economic system innately honest?
 D. Why is it considered realistic to deem people innately wicked, but simple-minded to deem our political and economic system innately honest?
 E. Why is it considered realistic to deem people innately wicked, but simple minded deeming our political and economic system innately honest?

8.

A. As in the case of Dracula, the creative characters linked with such new ideas
 B. were generally communicated as mysterious in origin and possessed of
 C. an excessive imagination and usually contrasted to Victorian ethics of masculinity
 D. which were characteristically sided with clarity and emotional control.

- (1) fictional depicted ideals aligned
- (2) imaginary portrayed convictions associated

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

9.

**A. Bram Stoker was considered a writer of apparently plain talent and
B. imagination which may have been responsible for rendering him into
C. one who is capable of writing not only a perpetually controlling
D. story but also a tenuous cultural document like the Dracula.**

- (1) moderate, shaping, enchanting, revealing
- (2) modest, transforming, captivating, significant
- (3) poor, modifying, attractive, meaningful
- (4) ordinary, moulding, delightful, telling
- (5) humble, evolving, bewitching, sketchy

- (3) literary conveyed virtues allied
- (4) fictitious put across concepts complemented
- (5) mythical delineated notions linked

10.

**A. A demand in American life has been of how to balance individual needs with those
B. of society, how to capacitate the rights of the individual and those
C. of the public. When is it advisable to surrender individual wants to some
D. larger public interest? When should individuals be tended against the state?**

- (1) riddle, accommodate, correlate, defended
- (2) deadlock, tally, expand, shielded
- (3) dilemma, reconcile, subordinate, protected
- (4) conundrum, balance, connect, guarded
- (5) enigma, equalize, harness, secured

Directions for question 11: The following question has a paragraph from which the last sentence has been deleted. From the given options, choose the one that completes the paragraph in the most appropriate way.

11.

It's a moment that every young entrepreneur dreams about - his first big export contract with a dollar payout. Once this one is through, he can set his sights on bigger opportunities with the resulting pay cheque. But it takes three to four months before you can lay your hands on the money. And it is this interim period that can throw up a nasty surprise thanks to currency fluctuations - or the price of the rupee vis-a-vis the dollar - at the time of payment. In a regime of flexible exchange rates, currency fluctuations are as certain as death and taxes. This means that the entrepreneur could end up receiving more or less money depending on what happens. _____

- (1) A below-the-expectation receipt could have serious implications, especially on a fledgling business.
- (2) It is therefore imperative for young business men to understand how swings in the currency market could impact them.
- (3) In recent months the rupee has been steadily appreciating or rising against the dollar.
- (4) An entrepreneur who signed an export contract in October and got paid today would get 7% less than what he was expecting and that is enough to literally wipe the shirt off his back.
- (5) Awareness has certainly increased and a good number of the medium sized enterprises go in for hedging against currency fluctuations.

13.

What is it about the five Lie groups that makes them exceptional?

- (1) They are unimaginably simple.
- (2) They can be rotated innumerable number of times.
- (3) They defy explanation.
- (4) They possess magical capabilities.
- (5) They are exceptionally beautiful.

15.

Which of the following is NOT an example of 'abstract' as used in physics?

- (1) Determining the structure of the periodic patterns
- (2) Determining the motion of objects
- (3) Studying phenomenon like light waves
- (4) Study of quantum mechanics and relativity
- (5) None of these

12.

What is the Lie group according to the passage?

- (1) It is a rare collaboration of mathematical data.
- (2) It is a super computation requiring 200 billion numbers.
- (3) It is a project designed to describe abstract structure.
- (4) It is a symmetrical mathematical structure.
- (5) It is a seminal work which gives an insight into the origin of life.

14.

The implications of the biological analogy is that

- (1) understanding a concept in physics involves an understanding of biology.
- (2) involvement in a project from its inception leads to greater understanding.
- (3) the relationship between biology and physics is far fetched.
- (4) Biology and mathematics have the same basic concepts.
- (5) Biological and physical sciences are interrelated.



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Solutions for Verbal Ability - Online practice Test 24

- 1 The words 'irreverant' and 'playful' give us the clue that the word in the blank should be something that means attack. Hence 'subvert' is most apt. Choice (1)
- 2 Only 'allusion' or 'reference' can be suitable contextual replacements. But while 'reference' indicates a direct mention, 'allusion' is a statement that refers to something in an indirect way and is hence more appropriate. Here the implied comparison is between the feelings of Macaulay during his absence from his native country and those of Cicero when he was banished from Thessalonica. Choice (2)
- 3 Statement C opens the paragraph because it gives details about "the building" which is the topic of the paragraph. C and E go together. C introduces the idea that the office is apparently unremarkable and ordinary, further the phrase 'At first glance' always precludes either further inspection or a change of the first impression. 'But look inside' in statement E provides this continuity. D and B go together because they are on the same theme, i.e. the documents housed inside the office. Choice (5)
- 4 Statement E would open the paragraph because it is the only statement which explains the phenomenon of 'peak oil' while the rest merely refer to it. Statements E and C go together. This is so because in statement C David Strahan "begs to differ", the only statement where there is an opinion which is opposed to the one mentioned in C is statement E. D and A go together because D introduces the idea of even the most senior oilmen conceding the enormity of the problem of 'peak oil', and A gives the example of one such 'senior' oilman. The only choice where this combination is present is choice 4. Choice (4)
- 5 Statement C should open the paragraph because it introduces the theme of the paragraph, i.e., 'political feuds' B and E go together because the 'dry wit here' mentioned in statement E is a reference to the repartee in B. A and D go together because of their concern with the USSR. A would follow E because "the two men" in A is a reference to the politicians mentioned in E. So choice 3 is the answer. Choice (3)
- 6 Both 'to judge' and 'judging' would be right but only option A is correct. Option (B) is ruled out as the verb 'require' has an object "one" and is therefore redundant. So is option D for the same reason which has 'for one'. Option C is grammatically incorrect as 'to' is followed by verb in the present. 'To separate' is correct. Choice (1)
- 7 The statement questions why 'people' on one hand and 'political system' on the other hand, are judged the way they are. 'Deem' in the sentence is the action and hence 'deeming' in the phrase 'deeming people' would make it a modifier which distorts the sentence. Hence the infinitive 'to deem' is grammatically correct. Choice (4)
- 8 'Characters' are not 'creative' – they can be fictional 'imaginary' 'fictitious' or 'mythical' – may be 'literary'. In line B, 'communicated' is the odd word – characters are 'portrayed', 'depicted' 'put across' or 'delineated'. They are not 'conveyed'. In line C 'ethics' is the wrong word – there can be no 'ethics of masculinity'. The appropriate alternatives are 'ideals', 'convictions' 'concepts' or 'notions' but not 'virtues'. In line D, 'sided' is the odd word – all the choices fit here. Choice (3)
- 9 'Talents' cannot be called 'plain' – plain is clearly the wrong word here. Talent can be 'moderate', 'modest' 'ordinary' or 'poor' – seldom is it called 'humble'. In line B, 'rendering' is awkward – 'shaping' 'transforming', 'moulding' or 'modifying' are appropriate while 'evolving' (develop or change as if by evolution) is inappropriate. In line C 'controlling' is odd – a story is not 'controlling'. Any of the four options can fit here. In line D, 'a cultural document' can't be 'tenuous' nor can it be 'sketchy'. Choice (5)
- 10 There can't be a 'demand' in American life – it can be a 'riddle', 'dilemma' 'conundrum' or 'enigma' but not 'deadlock'. In line B, 'capacitate' is clearly wrong – you can't 'capacitate' the rights of the individuals. The words 'accommodate', 'reconcile' 'balance' or 'equalize' can fit but 'tally' cannot. In line C, you can't 'surrender' individual wants – you can only 'subordinate' 'correlate', 'expand' 'harness' or 'connect'. In line D, the preposition 'against' makes 'tended' (to take care of) the odd word. It can be replaced by 'defended', 'protected' 'guarded' or 'secured' but not 'shielded' – shielded is followed by 'from'. Choice (2)
- 11 The paragraph talks of currency fluctuations and how it could impact of young entrepreneurs. The sentence before the blank says he could end up receiving more or less money and choice 2 winds up with the serious implications of 'less'. Choice (1)
- 12 Number of words and Explanatory notes for RC:
Number of words : 510 words
Refer to lines 3-6 of para 2. Choice (4)
- 1 Number of words and Explanatory notes for RC:
3 Number of words : 510 words
Refer to para 5. which says '... you cannot really picture it ...'. Choice (3)
- 1 Number of words and Explanatory notes for RC:
4 Number of words : 510 words
It is stated in para 8 of the passage that in order to learn more about an animal you have to grow the organism and then study it. In other words involvement in a project from its inception leads to greater understanding Choice (2)
- 15 Number of words and Explanatory notes for RC:
Number of words : 510 words
Refer to the penultimate para. Choice (1)