Chapter 1 — Paragraph Jumbles (Four Sentence, Five Sentence and Six sentence Type)
Chapter 2 — Deductive Reasoning
Chapter 3 — Logical Consistency
Chapter 4 – Inferential Reasoning
Chapter 5 – Odd Word Out
Chapter 6 – Degree of Truth and Falsity
Chapter 7 – Fact, Inference, Judgement
Chapter 8 – Paracompletion and Summary type Questions
Chapter 9 – Commonly Confused Words
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Answer Key
Explanations

Introduction

A person was once shown a video clip of a white sheep walking. He was then asked, "What is the colour of the sheep?" He replied, "The side of the sheep that I can see appears to be white." This is a clear example of a reasoning mind, and how objective one can be.

What is logic?

Logic comes from the Greek word `Logos' which means a word connoting expression of thought in language. It is thus defined as the study of the methods and principles used to distinguish good (correct) from bad (incorrect) reasoning.

What is verbal logic?

Applying the principles of logic in the sphere of the English language, i.e. the language, the vocabulary, grammar, diction, usage, etc.

Learning Objectives

In most management entrance exams, questions on Verbal Logic come from the following:

1. Paragraph jumbles
2. Deductive Reasoning
3. Logical Consistency
4. Inferential Reasoning
5. Odd Word Out
6. Degree of Truth and Falsity
7. Fact, Inference, Judgement
8. Paracompletion and Summary type Questions

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7. Fact, Inference, Judgement

8. Paracompletion and Summary type Questions

9. Commonly Confused Words

10. Word Usage Questions

We will deal with each question type in this book.

All the Best!

The CL Educate Team

How to use the book

1. Go through the topic before attending the class for the same.

2. After a class you must revise the topic at home.

3. Thereafter attempt the Practice Exercises given at the end of the topic.

4. Once you complete the whole book, don't forget to revise it before you appear for the entrance examination of your dream Business School.

Paragraph Jumbles

Four sentence, Five sentence and six sentence Type

Introduction

In Paragraph Jumble questions, four to six sentences are given in a jumbled condition. You have to sort them out so that, sentence by sentence, they form a logical order.

The best way to solve paragraph jumbles is to try and identify Mandatory Pairs. A Mandatory Pair is a sequence that you know cannot exist in any other order.

Learning Objectives

By the end of this chapter you will be able to understand

· To learn to identify mandatory pairs

· To study a few solved examples to understand concepts involved

· To practice questions involving four, five and six sentence paragraph jumbles

Paragraph Jumbles :

Parajumbles are an important part of most competitive exams. In various management entrance exams we have seen 3 basic types of parajumbles:

• 4 sentence type

• 5 sentence type

• 6 sentence type : Usually when there are 6 sentences given, the 1st sentence and the 6th sentence are given in the correct position and the 4 sentences between these are jumbled up.

Parajumbles are not necessarily a test of your language skills. The good thing about parajumbles is that even if you are otherwise weak in English, that is if you find RC, vocabulary or grammar a challenge, you can still score extremely well in parajumbles. This is because you need to be as mechanical as possible in your approach.

The ideal approach for solving parajumbles is a mechanical one. Most people lose focus by reading the statements given over and over again. Sometimes, it is next to impossible to make out which sentence follows which one and all the options look equally correct. The greatest mistake is to try and read the parajumble in the sequence given in each option. Solving all options completely will only confuse you and waste a lot of time.

The best way to solve a parajumble is to try and identify **mandatory pairs**. A mandatory pair is a sequence that you know cannot exist in any other order. There are many types of mandatory pairs. But there is only one basic tool to identify mandatory pairs _ read mechanically and look only for keywords that will help you form a sequence or connection.

Types of Mandatory Pairs:

1. <u>Names, proper nouns and pronouns:</u>

Sometimes we can identify mandatory pairs or a longer sequence by the help of the names, proper nouns and pronouns used.

For instance:

A. Both were very angry.

B. Singh accused **Jogi** of corruption.

C. Raman Singh ordered an enquiry against his predecessor **Ajit Jogi**.

It is clear from the above example that statement C, which has the full names of both persons, should precede the other two statements. Statement B uses only the second names of the concerned people. And statement A substitutes the names with the pronoun "both". Thus, A should follow B, and B should follow C. Therefore, the correct order is CBA.

2. Cause-effect:

There are instances where a clear cause-effect relationship can be identified. Such a relationship may exist in the form of a mandatory pair or may run through the entire parajumble.

For example:

A. While **Sachin** is a great batsman, **Kambli's** name is often associated with scams.

B. Sachin Tendulkar and **Vinod Kambli** are good friends.

C. As a result, their relationship has become strained.

Here it is easy to see that the use of "as a result" in statement C, stablishes a cause and effect relationship. The correct sequence therefore, is BAC.

3. Chronology:

At times you can see a logical chain of events in the parajumble. It could also be in the form of a set of instructions to be followed in a certain order. If you look for keywords associated with the sequence, you can easily figure out the right order.

For instance:

A. In order to take full advantage of the ongoing city sale you must possess a good credit card.

B. It would **also** be nice to have friends to accompany you.

C. Secondly, you should have a vehicle of your own.

As you can see in the above example, statement C follows statement A. A gives the first and C gives the second condition. The use of "also" in B tells you that it should follow C. Therefore, ACB is the correct order.

4. Time reference:

Some questions have a statement that refers to a point in time. The reference maybe in the past, present or future. Accordingly, you can decide its place in the sequence.

For example:

A. In the **future** perhaps, we may live on Mars.

B. During the **Stone Age**, man lived in caves.

C. Presently, man lives in concrete jungles.

The use of "Stone Age" in statement B, "presently" in C and "future" in A make it easy for us to identify the sequence. The past will always come first, followed by the present and then the future. The correct sequence then is, BCA.

5. Obvious openers:

You may sometimes come across statements that are obvious openers, i.e. it is obvious that the parajumble will begin with those statements. These statements can be definitions, universal truths or philosophical statements.

For instance:

A. The stratosphere is one of the layers of the atmosphere.

B. It is the upper portion of the atmosphere, a nearly isothermal layer (layer of constant temperature) that is located above the troposphere.

C. It extends from its lower boundary of about 6 to 17 km (4 to 11 miles) altitude to its upper boundary (the stratopause) at about 50 km (30 miles).

It is clear to see that "it" in B and C refers to the "stratosphere" in statement. A. Statement A is thus an obvious opener and the correct order is ABC.

6. Obvious conclusions:

Sometimes, you can easily figure out the conclusion in the parajumble. The conclusion helps to eliminate choices or to identify a mandatory pair.

For example:

A. On the mantelpiece were two clocks, some dogs, brass candlesticks and a tinted photograph of Annie.

B. You looked at the weed-grown vegetable garden through a stuffed fox's legs, over a partridge's head, along the red-paint-stained breast of a stiff wild duck.

C. The best room smelt of moth-balls and fur and damp and dead plants and stale, sour air. Two glass cases on wooden coffin-boxes lined the window wall.

D. It was obvious that the room was rarely used.

You can see that C introduces the room, A and B further describe it and D concludes the paragraph.

7. Keywords:

Words like _ so, therefore, however, hence, thus, moreover, but, because, nevertheless, yet, etc. _ also help identify mandatory pairs.

For instance:

A. Yet, the cable guys control two-thirds of the market.

B. Telephone firms are now **cutting down their prices** to compete and grab their share of the internet market.

C. Cable net connections are **expensive**.

D. This is **because** there is a growing **demand for high speed** internet access.

It is clear from the above example that CA is a mandatory pair. C puts across a point that cable net connections are expensive. The use of "yet" in A, shows that despite being expensive, they hold a major share in the market. The use of "because" in D gives a reason for this phenomenon. Thus, C, A and D are connected to each other in that order. Statement B gives the effect of the phenomenon on the telephone firms. Hence, CADB is the correct sequence.

8. General to specific:

Sometimes one gets confused about whether to move from general to specific or from specific to general.

For instance:

A. He made an interesting comment about our store's price policy.

B. He said that we could offer discounts and incentives to encourage people to buy in fewer quantities but to buy more frequently.

C. Discounts could vary from 10 to 15 per cent on every purchase.

D. The lesser the quantity, the more frequently customers will have to visit the store. The more frequent the visits, the more incentives they can earn.

In this case the confusion could be between BCD and BDC. Here, we will move from general to specific. C is a specific example for D and not vice versa. Therefore, the correct sequence is ABDC.

In order to master parajumbles it is important to understand their structure. Let's slowly build up on the concept of `parajumbles'. Go through the following **solved examples** and follow the instructions given.

1. Questions can become easy to solve if you pay more attention to only the first few words of every statement.

For instance:

A. Although, like the Talapadas, the Pardeshis also claim to be Rajputs and Kshatriyas, most of them have not yet adopted traditional Rajput names for their lineages.

B. Only recently a few lineages have begun to patronize the Vahivancha Barots, who have recorded their remembered shallow genealogies and grafted them on to mythical genealogies.

C. Each Pardeshi lineage is known after its village of origin.

D. The latter provide them with Rajput clan names, but they rarely use them in normal life.

In the above case, by reading only the highlighted words, you can clearly see a relationship between CB. C talks about Pardeshi lineages and B continues as it starts with `only recently a few lineages....' Thus only by reading the first few words of every statement you can establish at least one mandatory pair and usually eliminate at least 2 choices.

2. Let's now learn to associate keywords, ideas and form sequences. Look at the following examples:

A. Many **Western observers**, and under their influence many **Indian scholars** and **social critics** also, **have written** that India was almost completely a stagnant country, without true history, till she came into life-giving contact with Western civilisation in the eighteenth century.

B. The so-called **joint familyis one such notable institution.**

C. There is a well-established **viewpoint** which alleges that **Hindu social institutions** have had a **blighting effect** on India's social and economic **development**.

D. They contend that the economy and society in this country, and indeed the Indian mind, had remained frozen for about two thousand years till the British conquest of India introduced a vital element of dynamism into the `native' society.

In the above example it can be seen clearly that CB are mandatory pairs. C talks of the blighting effect Hindu social institutions have had on the Indian economy and society; and B continues by saying that the joint family is one such institution. The `they' in D, refers to the observers, scholars and critics in A. Therefore AD is also a mandatory pair. Thus the correct sequence is CBAD.

3. Now let's learn to build up from small sequences to bigger ones.

I. A. **Such is the difficulty** a carp faces in becoming a dragon.

B. **Some are swept away** by the by the strong currents, **some fall prey** to eagles, hawks, kites, and owls, and others are netted, scooped up or even **shot with arrows** by fishermen who line both banks of the falls.

In the above case, B describes the different difficulties and A obviously sums up the explanation as it starts with `such is the difficulty'. BA is then the mandatory sequence.

II. A. Minamoto and Taira were like **two faithful watchdogs** at the gates of the imperial palace.

B. They marvelled at the elegant parties of the court nobles and their ladies, just as monkeys in the trees are enraptured by the sight of the moon and the stars glittering in the sky.

C. **They were eager to guard** the emperor as humble mountain folk are to admire the full moon on the fifteenth night of the eighth month as it rises from behind the mountains.

Here, the `they' in C clearly refers to the `two faithful watchdogs' in A. Therefore AC is a mandatory pair. The correct sequence then is ACB.

III. A. The most **important ones** are the **family** and the **school**.

B. Much of the **anger** that is publicly expressed **against the hierarchy of caste**—in the newspapers, on television, in conferences—is purposeless if not insincere.

C. **Those** who are **seriousabout** carrying the **advance of equality** further, particularly in the domain that I have discussed, must **direct** their **attention to** the **institutions** that are the **real obstacles** in the path of that advance.

D. **Equality**, at least at the higher levels of society, can no longer be significantly advanced by **attacking caste**.

D introduces the fact that equality can no longer be established by attacking caste. B continues the point about anger against hierarchy if caste. The mandatory pair is DB and not BD because D is more general than B. C then goes on to identify the real obstacles and A names the most important ones. CA is therefore another mandatory sequence. The correct sequence then is DBCA.

IV. (i) The mighty warrior **General Li Kuang**, whose mother had been devoured by a tiger, **shot an arrow at the stone** he believed was the tiger.

A. Later **he** came to be **known** as **General Stone Tiger**.

B. But once **he realized it was only a stone**, he was **unable to pierce it again**.

C. The **arrow penetrated the stone** all the way up to its feathers.

D. **This story applies to you**. Though enemies lurk in the wait for you, your resolute faith has forestalled great dangers before they could begin.

(ii) **Realizing this, you** must strengthen your faith more than ever.

I clearly introduces a story and A sums up that story. C and B figure in between. D talks about the relevance of the story and finds continuation in II. The correct sequence then is I-CBAD-II.

V. A. **She had cherished hope-filed visions of America** as a land of freedom and democracy.

B. **Also, being a foreigner**, she could not make herself understood well in English, and they treated her coldly. At the same time, her husband had become physically abusive, and a rift had grown between them.

C. **Sadly**, however, **this woman's dream had been shattered**. Life with her in-laws was by no means easy financially.

D. **She was not alone**; many people in those days turned their eyes admiringly to **America**, imagining it as some sort of **dream land**.

E. **Her sense of regret grew** with each passing day. As her feelings of isolation and despair deepened, she would often stand crying on the beach, watching the crimson sun set into the sea beyond the horizon.

F. **The tears that streamed down her cheeks** flooded her already wounded heart with an aching, empty coldness, thus intensifying her sorrow.

A is an obvious opener. It talks about her hopes and dreams about America. D continues the point and talks further about other women who had dreamt of America. C then

B. But once **he realized it was only a stone**, he was **unable to pierce it again**.

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A is an obvious opener. It talks about her hopes and dreams about America. D continues the point and talks further about other women who had dreamt of America. C then mentions that her dreams were sadly shattered. B adds more points about how her dreams were shattered. E talks about her sense of regret and F starts by talking of her consequent tears and sorrow. The correct sequence therefore is ADCBEF.

Now that you know the real tricks needed to crack parajumbles, attempt the following exercises on your own.

Para Jumbles: Four sentence type

Practice Exercise - 1 (Level 1)

Directions for questions 1 to 15: In each of the questions, there are four statements A, B, C and D that have to be arranged in a logical order to make a sensible paragraph.

1. A. This subsidiary will operate as a holding company.

B. Piaggio and Co. will set up a 100 per cent owned subsidiary in India.

C. It will route all Piaggio investments in India.

D. The company got its approval in March to do the same.

a. DBCA b. BDAC c. BCDA d. BDCA e. DCBA

2. A. This information was provided by PTI.

B. The tie-up allows Orange subscribers to track their accounts.

C. The same service is also to be launched in Delhi.

D. ICICI launched mobile commerce service in a tie-up with Orange.

a. ADBC b. DBCA c. BDCA d. DCBA e. ACBD

3. A. Vested interests are responsible for lack of high quality goods.

B. India's bureaucracy is bad in terms of efficiency.

C. On a scale of 0 to 10 of efficiency, India scored a 4.

D. Fifty years of licence policy has given rise to vested interests.

a. ABCD b. BCDA c. DACB d. DBCA e. ACDB

4. A. Mr K Sudarshan's personality sets him apart from the rest.

B. Nothing is too small for his attention.

C. He has a fanatical devotion to detail.

D. This is what makes him a different guy.

a. ACBD b. ABCD c. BCDA d. DABC e. BACD

5. A. The valuation of the stock deal was Rs. 342 crore.

B. Monsanto today announced that it had acquired three companies.

C. The acquisition comprised a stock deal.

D. The proposal was also approved by its parent company in the USA.

a. DABC b. ABDC c. BACD d. BCAD e. ADBC

6. A. It will do 20 cruises until May.

B. After that there will be a break for two months.

C. Indian Ocean Cruise Liner plans to start in November 2000.

D. For this purpose it has been spruced up.

a. BADC b. DABC c. ABCD d. ACBD e. CDAB

7. A. Lathger.com is poised to roll out its internet service.

B. It will be the first ISP to offer-free service.

C. Free connectivity will be offered from next month.

D. Customers are waiting to avail of this service.

a. BACD b. ABCD c. CADB d. BADC e. ADBC

8. A. A page view is a better measure of performance of a site.

B. It is important to differentiate a hit from a page view.

C. This is with respect to a hit.

D. A page can have multiple hits.

a. DBCA b. ABDC c. DABC d. BDAC e. BADC

9. A. Otherwise the Congress would not have opposed PSU disinvestment today.

B. It is clear that there is no consensus on economic reform.

C. Nor would allies of ruling NDA oppose privatisation.

D. All this would stop India from becoming the next superpower.

a. ABCD b. ABDC c. BACD d. BCAD e. ACDB

10. A. Onida has been valued at around Rs. 600 crore.

B. PriceWaterHouse Coopers is a leading consultancy firm.

C. This valuation has been done by PriceWaterHouse Coopers.

D. They have relied on the excess value approach.

a. DABC b. BADC c. ABCD d. ACBD e. ADBC

11. A. One has to see if this is just a bubble and if it will burst.

B. Biotech stocks have recently set the bourses on fire.

C. Companies like Indrayani Biotech have quoted a 200 per cent rise.

D. The latest craze for biotech shares led to a spurt in their prices.

a. BDCA b. ACDB c. DCAB d. DABC e. BCAD

12. A. HCL Infosystems is going to develop a restaurant portal.

B. It will conduct online transactions with its member restaurants.

C. Mr Sharad Talwar was thrilled at this latest venture.

D. This was all disclosed at a TOI press release.

a. BCAD b. ABCD c. BACD d. DABC e. DACB

13. A. Human rights have been systematically violated.

B. President Assad's government has used brute force to crush a genuine popular upheaval against his regime.

C. But the crucial question is how and what steps can international society lawfully take to bring an end to the crisis.

D. The death toll is nearly 6,000.

a. DACB b. CADB c. BDAC d. DCBA e. ABCD

14. A. Windows 8 is set to arrive some time in 2012, with new functions, and a new user interface.

B. Also, because of its mobile focus, Windows 8 will run on energy-saving ARM processors.

C. As with the Windows Phone 7 operating system, there will be large coloured tiles that also
convey live information.

D. The latest craze for biotech shares led to a spurt in their prices.

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B. Also, because of its mobile focus, Windows 8 will run on energy-saving ARM processors.

C. As with the Windows Phone 7 operating system, there will be large coloured tiles that also
convey live information.

D. This will be the year those anticipating a new Microsoft operating system have been waiting for.

a. ABCD b. BDAC c. DABC d. CBAD e. DACB

15. A. The barges are moored close to the quayside beside a pitiful trickle of water; there is no
work for the fisheries.

B. Under normal circumstances it covers 3,500 sq km, but last month only 200 sq km were
underwater.

C. A dried-out plain stretches as far as the eye can see, leaving a pagoda perched on top of a
hillock that is usually a little island.

D. For visitors expecting to see China's largest freshwater lake, Poyang is a desolate spectacle.

a. BCAD b. ABCD c. DBCA d. CBAD e. ADCB

Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
15					

Practice Exercise - 2 (Level 1)

Directions for questions 1 to 15: In each of the questions, there are four statements A, B, C and D that have to be arranged in a logical order to make a sensible paragraph.

1. A. But not his prescription.

B. Nobody knows this better than JP himself.

C. JP's diagnosis of what is wrong with India remains as true in the new millennium as it was 40 years ago.

D. Judged on the touchstone of what he set out to do, his career cannot be regarded as a success.

a. DBCA b. CADB c. DABC d. ABCD e. DCAB

2. A. He was always draped in a modest but decent suit.

B. Lean and intense, Menon was endowed with a remarkable presence.

C. His eyes piercing and his forehead broad, merging into the disheveled, silvery lock of hair.

D. His hawked nose, sensuous lips, heavy voice, tapering fingers, always busy explaining ideas, and moods supplemented his extraordinary mind.

a. BACD b. ADCB c. ACDB d. BCDA e. BDCA

3. A. His political career came to an abrupt end with China's military operation.

B. He attracted as well as repelled.

C. He was responsible for the debacle.

D. A man of paradoxes, Menon remained an enigma.

a. DCAB b. ACDB c. DBAC d. ABCD e. DABC

4. A. She will be remembered for being a trendsetter.

B. Hailing from a modest middle class background, her success led to a chain reaction.

C. Young girls constrained by custom to stay at home have dared to run.

D. It is a revolution that has but one catalyst — Usha.

a. BDAC b. DBCA c. DABC d. ACDB e. ABCD

5. A. It's a nightmare in the sky.

B. For, Iridium, a project built to provide telephone service to any nook and corner on the globe, was like a sci-fi adventure.

C. A technological meltdown.

D. A $5 billion mega dream came to nought.

a. BCAD b. BACD c. ADCB d. ACDB e. ABCD

6. A. Close encounters of the third kind.

B. What happens when West meets East?

C. Complete with haathi, baagh, thaali, tikka, tandoor and turkey.

D. All this spread out in a chatpata bhelpuri, along with IT, BT (Bombay tycoon), cycoons and sundry Saar-jees, waiting for a tryst with the Atlantic-ke-us-paar Big Daddy.

a. CBAD b. CDBA c. CADB d. BCDA e. BACD

7. A. Even as Indian leftists think Bill Clinton is coming to take over India, Indian companies are preparing to take over American ones on a gargantuan scale.

B. Now Infosys and Wipro propose takeovers of Rs. 44,000 crore each.

C. To put this in perspective, recall that when Ramesh Chauhan sold his Parle brands to Coca-Cola amidst much swadeshi wringing of hands, he got a reported Rs. 180 crore.

D. Infosys and Wipro, our two most glamourous infotech companies, both want automatic permission from FIPB to take over foreign companies worth — hold your breath — $10 billion each.

a. BCDA b. ADCB c. ACDB d. BDAC e. ACBD

8. A. Historically, the traded price of a good company has been 16 to 20 times the annual EPS.

B. But Infosys in the US has traded at a mind-boggling 1,000 EPS.

C. In part this represents the current craze for technology stocks, which is unlikely to last forever.

D. But it also reflects the ability of Infosys to double its profits every year, which, if it continues, means that in five years, profits will go up 3,200 per cent!

a. ACDB b. CDBA c. ACBD d. ABCD e. BCDA

9. A. Which is why Indian software companies suddenly look ready to conquer the whole world.

B. All major Indian software companies are already MNCs.

C. All of them have branches abroad, all do most of their high-end work abroad using foreign employees, and then do the low-end work very cheaply in India.

D. Everybody expects some slowdown, but few software companies anywhere in the world can match this growth.

a. ABCD b. DACB c. DABC d. ADBC e. DCAB

10. A. Work done by Infosys in the US is called on site.

B. For traditional companies offshore work means work done abroad.

C. It is just the opposite in the software business.

D. And work done in Bangalore is called offshore.

a. BCAD b. ADCB c. ADBC d. BADC e. BDAC

11. A. More than traditional MNCs like Dow Chemicals, or military — industrial-complex — giants like Raytheon and Northrop-Grumman.

B. Infosys is valued in the US stock market at $40 billion.

C. In the new knowledge economy, brains matter more than physical assets.

D. And it seems India can match the world's best in brainpower.

a. CBAD b. CBDA c. BDCA d. BACD e. BCAD

12. A. BPL, which recently emerged as an ISP, will be available in 14 centres.

B. Most of which are located in its circles for which it holds licences.

C. Namely, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra (including Goa), although it will also offer the service in Delhi.

D. It is exploring both avenues, of setting up its own gateway or leasing bandwidth from private operators.

a. ADCB b. ACBD c. BCDA d. DABC e. ABCD

13. A. The phone has been made from specially treated bamboo to ensure durability.

B. Kieron Scott, plans to release his product throughout Europe later this year.

C In a world's first, a 23-year-old British student has designed a mobile phone made from bamboo.

D. Scott, frustrated with the lack of variety in the mobile phone market, designed the bamboo handset in his leisure time.

a. DACB b. CBDA c. BDAC d. CDBA e. ABCD

14. A. Future missions that are planned for Mars will have to dig deeper to search for evidence of life.

B. Mars is too dry a planet to host any form of life, British scientists have concluded.

C. Dr. Tom Pike, who led the research, said that Mars has been experiencing a super drought that may well have lasted hundreds of millions of years.

D. A three-year-long research found that the surface of Mars had been dry for such a long time that any life would have to be lurking deep underground.

a. ABCD b. CDAB c. BDCA d. CDBA e. ABCD

15. A. To address the issue, the Government of India has taken serious steps in the Eleventh Five Year Plan.

B. The essential driver has been the shortage of skilled workers due to a weak higher education system.

C. It is difficult to sustain the growth momentum of the country and maintain competitiveness unless problems with higher education are fixed.

D. In the last few years that education has been the prime focus in India.

a. BCDA b. ABCD c. BDCA d. DBCA e. ABCD

Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
15					

Practice Exercise - 3 (Level 1)

Directions for questions 1 to 15: In each of the questions, there are four statements A, B, C and D that have to be arranged in a logical order to make a sensible paragraph.

1. A. This has also been my experience with creativity within organizations.

B. Creativity is a wonderful thing which finds favour with everyone and most organizations claim to be creative — at least in their corporate advertising.

C. Sir Colin Marshall, the chief executive of British Airways, the world's largest international carrier, tells how he eventually discovered that unless there was a `nominated champion' who was given responsibility for making something happen, nothing ever did happen.

D. Yet nothing much gets done beyond this lip service, because what is everyone's business becomes no one's business.

a. CABD b. BCAD c. BACD d. DBCA e. CDAB

2. A. The computer took 45 hours of non-stop computation.

B. The computer was not allowed to learn from experience.

C. This is not really surprising, because with eleven items of clothing the number of possible combinations is given by multiplying $11 \times 10 \times 9 \times 8$ and so on, which gives over 39 million combinations.

D. Someone once used the IBM computer to work out the number of ways of getting dressed with eleven items of clothing.

a. BDAC b. DCAB c. DBCA d. DACB e. DBAC

3. A. Nonetheless, Tocqueville was only one of the first of a long line of thinkers to worry whether such rough equality could survive in the face of a growing factory system that threatened to create divisions between industrial workers and a new business elite.

B. "The government of democracy brings the nation of political rights to the level of the humblest citizens. He wrote, " Just as the dissemination of wealth brings the notion of property within the reach of all the members of the community."

C. Tocqueville was far too shrewd an observer to be uncritical about the United States, but his verdict was fundamentally positive.

D. No visitor to the United States left a more enduring record of his travels and observations than the French writer and political theorist Alexis de Tocqueville, whose *Democracy in America*, first published in 1835, remains one of the most trenchant and insightful analyses of American social and political practices.

a. DACB b. BACD c. DCBA d. DBAC e. BDAC

4. A. The Adenans appear to have been absorbed or displaced by various groups collectively known as hope wellians.

B. They began constructing earthen burial sites and fortifications around 600 BC.

C. The first Indian group to build mounds in what is now the United States is often called the Adenans.

D. Some mounds from that era are in the shape of birds or serpents, and probably served religious purposes not yet fully understood.

a. ACDB b. ABCD c. ADBC d. CBDA e. DABC

5. A. The United States only managed to launch its first satellite, Explorer I, in 1958.

B. The public mood worsened when the Soviets placed the first man in orbit in 1961.

C. Americans were chastened, for the Russians had beaten them into orbit with a rocket that could have easily carried a nuclear bomb.

D. Space became another area for competition after the Soviet Union launched Sputnik — an artificial satellite in 1957.

a. ABDC b. ABCD c. DCAB d. DACB e. ACBD

6. A. Many died of disease, ships were often battered by storms and some were lost at sea.

B. The first English immigrants to what is now the United States crossed the Atlantic long after thriving Spanish colonies had been established in Mexico, the West Indies and South America.

C. During their 6-12 weeks voyages, they lived on meager rations.

D. Like all early travellers to the New World, they came in small, overcrowded ships.

a. CDAB b. BACD c. DACB d. BDCA e. DBCA

7. A. What was going on?

B. Other makers copied with different tastes, names, and prices, and all of them did well.

C. To their surprise sales soared.

D. When Mars launched the first twin candy bar, there were no great expectations for this slightly different format.

a. ADCB b. ABDC c. DBCA d. DABC e. DCBA

8. A. The art comes in writing the questions.

B. Polling is both science and art.

C. All these aspects rely upon well established, validated techniques.

D. Constructing a random sample, designing the questionnaire, fielding the survey instrument, and analysing the results constitute the science of public opinion research.

a. BACD b. ACDB c. BDCA d. BCAD e. BDAC

9. A. To get a head start, early the next morning the farmer started covering ground quickly because he wanted to get as much land as he could.

B. Late in the afternoon he realized the condition he had to fulfil to get the land was to get back to the starting point by sundown.

C. Even though he was tired, he kept going all afternoon because he did not want to miss this once in a lifetime opportunity to gain more wealth.

D. There is a story about a wealthy farmer who was once offered all the land he could walk on in a day, provided he come back by sundown to the point where he started.

a. DCAB b. CABD c. DACB d. DABC e. CBAD

10. A. One day, a 17-year-old shepherd boy came to visit his brothers and asked, "Why don't you stand up and fight the giant?"

B. We all know the story of David and Goliath, in which there was a giant who was bullying and harassing the children in the village.

C. But David said, "No, he is not too big to hit, he is too big to miss."

D. The brothers were terrified and they replied, "Don't you see he is too big to hit?"

a. BADC b. ACDB c. BACD d. BDCA e. BDAC

11. A. I suggested that Ford should buy up a company called NCP (National Car Parks), which owned most of the car parks in city centres throughout the United Kingdom.

B. We were discussing competing in the European market.

C. If NCP became a Ford company, a notice could be placed at the entrance to all city centre car parks indicating that only Ford cars could use them.

D. At one time I was giving a seminar for the British marketing department of Ford, the biggest Ford operation outside of Detroit.

a. BACD b. DBAC c. BDCA d. BCAD e. DABC

12. A. Business often feels that since they have a lot of market muscle and such a dominant position, maintenance will be enough.

B. IBM has also suffered from lower priced clones when the mystique of computers was off and there was no longer a need for reassurance from the solidity of Big Blue.

C. IBM fell behind on the concept of `connectivity' and has suffered as a result.

D. In recent years, however, even mighty IBM found that market domination was not enough if you fall behind on concepts.

a. ADCB b. CABD c. CDBA d. DCAB e. ADBC

13. A. The main difference is that efficiency is a ration and effectiveness is not.

B. But they reach efficiency in a different way than American businesses.

C. The Japanese are very efficient and such concepts as `just in time' are a witness to their efficiency.

D. They reach efficiency through the route of effectiveness.

a. ABCD b. ADCB c. CBDA d. CADB e. CDAB

14. A. Of course, they have not made the blunders that some others have made, but neither did they grow.

B. The chief executive had done an excellent job in welding a group of motley and successful companies into one profitable company.

C. It is not surprising that the company had been sitting on a cash hoard of about $24 billion years after years without any attempt to use it for growth or development.

D. The chief executive of the General Electric Company in England once told me that he was very happy when there were no problems in any of his many divisions.

a. BADC b. DABC c. CBDA d. DCAB e. DBAC

15. A. This is what Maksim Skorobogatiy and colleagues at the Polytechnic School of Montreal in Canada have just done.

B. All of these are thermoplastic materials, which can be stretched under mild heating.

C. Flat, flexible batteries have been connected to T-shirts sporting arrays of flashing LEDs, but they have not been built into the very stuff of a garment.

D. In order to build their battery, they sandwich a solid polyethylene oxide electrolyte between a lithium iron phosphate cathode and lithium titanate anode.

a. DACB b. CADB c. BDAC d. DCBA e. ABCD

Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
15					

Practice Exercise - 4 (Level 2)

Directions for questions 1 to 15: In each of the questions, there are four statements A, B, C and D that have to be arranged in a logical order to make a sensible paragraph.

1. A. Classical Greek thinking was a breath of fresh air after the emphasis on dogma that took place in the Dark Ages, so this new thinking was eagerly embraced both by the church and by the secular humanists, thinkers who wanted a thinking way to solve man's problems.

B. The obsession with problem-solving is especially western thinking culture.

C. It is hardly surprising that this new mode of thinking took over western society through universities, seminaries, courts, and abbeys, and has continued to dominate our thinking to this day.

D. This thinking culture was established during the Renaissance with the rediscovery of classical Greek thought (mainly through Arabic translations).

a. BADC b. ACDB c. ADBC d. ACBD e. BDAC

2. A. Of course, sitting out in the country I possessed less information than anyone else at headquarters about what was going on, but they called me anyway.

B. But as soon as I arrived at my country house, the telephone began ringing.

C. And it kept right on ringing with questions from people back at the office about the most mundane matters.

D. In the summer of 1981, the first year I became president of SAS, I decided to take a two-week vacation.

a. DBAC b. DCAB c. BDCA d. DABC e. DBCA

3. A. The king was not impressed.

B. Finally, an elderly person with a glow on his face walked in and said he was a teacher. The king came down from his throne and bowed to honour the teacher.

C. There is a story about a king in ancient times who wanted to honour a person that made the greatest contribution to society.

D. All kinds of people came, including doctors and entrepreneurs, and they all presented their cases for receiving the honour.

a. BACD b. ABCD c. CADB d. CDAB e. DBAC

4. A. The question is: Did the bamboo tree grow in six weeks or did it take five years to grow even though there was no visible sign it was taking root in the ground?

B. There is no visible sign of growth.

C. In China there is a bamboo tree, which is planted, watered and fertilized for the first four years, and nothing happens.

D. But sometime during the fifth year, the bamboo tree grows about 90 feet in six weeks.

a. ABDC b. CADB c. CBDA d. CBAD e. ACBD

5. A. They are the moments when we must prove to our customers that SAS is their best alternative.

B. Thus, SAS is `created' 50 million times a year, 15 seconds at a time.

C. Last year, each of our 10 million customers came in contact with approximately five SAS employees, and this contact lasted an average of 15 seconds each time.

D. These 50 million `moments of truth' are the moments that ultimately determine whether SAS will succeed or fail as a company.

a. DABC b. DCAB c. CDAB d. CBDA e. CABD

6. A. Profits have accompanied increased reach.

B. Through 1984, founder Turner had lost $77 million pursuing his dream of CNN as a full-scale network; but in 1985, black ink appeared for the first time, with the network earning $13 million on $123 million in revenue.

C. By 1992 the number had grown to almost 60 million in the US alone.

D. When the cable news network went on the air on June 1, 1980, it had secured access to about 7 million cable subscribers, far short of the 7.5 million `minimum' founder Ted Turner needed to cover 50 per cent of operating costs.

a. ACDB b. ABDC c. DCAB d. DBCA e. DCBA

7. A. Wal-Mart has increased its Procter & Gamble diaper business by 50 per cent and cut inventory by 70 per cent because of this collaboration.

B. Several years ago, senior executives from Procter & Gamble and Wal-Mart met for two days.

C. As a result of this meeting, a team of Proctor & Gamble employees moved to Bentonville, Arkansas, Wal-Mart's headquarters, to work with Wal-Mart executives on productivity and quality issues.

D. They wanted to explore how they could jointly apply quality management principles to the disposable diaper business.

a. CADB b. DBAC c. BDCA d. ABCD e. BCAD

8. A. When I got to IBM's sales school in Endicott, New York, I was hoping that people would treat me like any other Joe Blow just starting out.

B. Dad was such a tremendous force in that town that as I walked down the street with my books under my arm, people would point and say, "Mr Watson's Son."

C. How I could think that was possible I do not know.

D. During the first week I caused a stir by going into a bar after school to get a drink.

a. ABDC b. ACBD c. ADBC d. BADC e. BDAC

9. A. I have a photograph of Dad striding across the courtyard of Buckingham Palace decked out for this event.

B. He is wearing civil court dress, with knee breeches, black stockings and patent leather shoes, and on his chest is a row of medals that had been given to him by various countries where IBM did business.

C. T. J. Watson, the former sewing machine salesman, had arrived.

D. While I was on the boat to Europe my father proudly attended the first morning reception given by George VI, the new king of England.

a. ACDB b. ADCB c. DABC d. ABCD e. BADC

10. A. Atlantis was a fabulously beautiful and prosperous land, the seal of an empire nine thousand years before Solon.

B. Because of the impiety of its people, the island was destroyed by an earthquake and inundation.

C. Its inhabitants overran part of Europe and Africa, Athens alone being able to defy them.

D. Plato in the Timaeus first mentioned a legendary island in the Atlantic Ocean beyond the Pillars of Hercules.

a. ACBD b. ABCD c. DACB d. DBCA e. DCBA

11. A. Food manufacturers spend more on advertising than any other manufacturing group and the nation's grocery stores rank first among all retailers.

B. Food products lead in expenditures for network and spot television advertisements, discount coupons, trading stamps, contests, and other forms of premium advertising.

C. Foods are overwhelmingly the most advertised group of all consumer products in the United States.

D. In other media — newspapers, magazines, newspaper supplements, billboards and radio, food advertising expenditures rank near the top.

a. CDBA b. CBDA c. CADB d. DACB e. ADCB

12. A. It would be possible to reduce the annual number of traffic fatalities to virtually zero by passing federal legislation mandating a nationwide fifteen-mile per hour speed in it on all roads.

B. There are counter examples to the principle of the sanctity of life, which are even more embarrassing to pro-life advocates.

C. Those who oppose abortion upon demand make the foundation of their arguments the sanctity of human life, but this seemingly bedrock assumption is actually as weak as shifting sand.

D. And it is not necessary to invoke the red herring that many anti-abortion speakers would allow that human life must sometimes be sacrificed for a greater good, as in the fighting of a just war.

a. BACD b. DBAC c. ACDB d. CDBA e. DABC

13. A. The wave hit the shifting, sandy beaches of the corridors of power and corporate boardroom and vanished within months.

B. Less than three years ago, the monopolist Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (VSNL), which controls all international telephone calls, was riding a huge crest.

C. It is only recently that the surge has started again.

D. And its bureaucrat-turned technocrat and media-savvy chairman, was on top of it.

a. BDAC b. BADC c. ADCB d. BCAD e. ACDB

14. A. Hence, more and more administrators are becoming aware of the critical need to keep parents apprised of the newer methods used in schools.

B. Therefore, the great influence of parents cannot be ignored or discounted by the teacher.

C. However important we may regard school life to be, there is no gain saying the fact that children spend more time at home than in the classroom.

D. They can become strong allies of the school personnel or they can consciously or unconsciously hinder and thwart curricular objects.

a. BADC b. CDBA c. CBDA d. CDAB e. BCAD

15. A. In 220 BC a war started between Rome and Carthage.

B. Hannibal did not let that keep him from believing that he could win and then acting on that belief.

C. Hannibal's troops were greatly outnumbered and had fewer weapons and supplies than the great Roman Army.

D. Hannibal was from the city of Carthage, whose arch enemies were the Romans.

a. ACBD b. DACB c. DABC d. ADBC e. DCBA

Scoring table

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Scoring table

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15					

Para Jumbles: Five sentence type

Practice Exercise - 1 (Level 1)

Directions for questions 1 to 15: In each of the questions, there are five statements A, B, C, D and E that have to be arranged in a logical order to make a sensible paragraph.

1. A. Two-way communication channels need to be consciously developed and maintained.

B. Performing employees at the operational level must not only be rewarded and shown a visible career path, but must be consciously developed to exercise higher responsibility.

C. These people often perform better than MBA inductees, the promising among them are able to apply conceptual inputs through the lens of experiential reality.

D. One progressive Indian retailer has actually run a two-week external course on retail marketing for promising supervisory personnel, and people who have responded positively have been quickly promoted to higher positions.

E. Open houses, get-togethers outside the workplace (team picnics and so on), employee suggestion boards all play a role in this regard.

a. bdcae b. aedbc c. dcaeb d. aedcb e. BDAEC

2. A. The general impression that skilled negotiators seem to convey is they are people who keep their cards close to their chests and do not reveal their feelings.

B. Hence, they used a surrogate method — they counted the number of times that the negotiators talked about their feelings or motives.

C. This contrasts sharply with the amount of information given about external events such as facts, clarifications, and general expression of opinion.

D. The results showed that contrary to the general impression, skilled negotiators are more likely to give information about internal events than are average negotiators.

E. Feelings are in themselves not observable and Huthwaite's researchers could not measure them directly.

a. aebdc b. aedcb c. ebcda d. abedc e. ABECD

3. A. The problem lies in their ostentatious spending habits, even more condemnable when this vulgar display of wealth coexists amidst such poverty and deprivation.

B. Consumerism is the new *Brahman*.

C. There is nothing wrong with the New Rich; they are a dynamic layer of an emerging economy.

D. `Keeping up with the Joneses' is the magic *mantra* of upward mobility.

E. Functions are becoming more ostentatious by the day, with *nouveau* rich ingenuity focused on novel ways to upstage rivals.

a. edabc b. badce c. dcbae d. cabde e. CDAEB

4. A. Let us take a look at the manner in which the traditional bank adds value to the customer.

B. The ability to retain deposits, in itself, is not enough to ensure long-term survival and growth.

C. The ability to deploy invested funds into productive economic activity at a higher rate of return, hence contributing to the prosperity of both the economy and the institution, is the other loop in the banking cycle.

D. Further, as only a small portion of the actual deposit base is retained with the bank in a liquid form, the very survival of the bank lies in building enough trust with its clientele so as to prevent the occurrence of a sizeable chunk of simultaneous customer withdrawal (a run on the bank).

E. The bank's basic job is risk absorption — it takes money, which has a lot of attached risk, and provides the customer an assured rate of return.

a. cadbe b. eabcd c. aedbc d. abedc e. BDAEC

5. A. South Korea's leaders had tried to buck the system — to get half pregnant, as several observers put it.

B. They had diversified into far too many unrelated activities — what exactly is the connection between building offices and making underwear, for example? And their enthusiasm for endless cross subsidiaries meant that even the healthiest companies could be dragged down by their sick subsidiaries.

C. The country had opened up its markets to foreign capital yet refused to regulate them according to foreign standards or let foreign banks take over domestic ones.

D. The *chaebol* had used their political connections to bully banks into lending them far too much cheap money.

E. In 1996 South Korean banks showed bad-loan ratios accounting for just one per cent of the country's lending, forcing outsiders to guess how much higher the true figure was.

a. acedb b. eabdc c. cdaeb d. adbce e. AECDB

6. A. The markets are not just wiring economies together and altering the structures of companies but changing entire political systems.

B. But, as the experience of South Korea shows, figures probably underestimate the impact of the capital markets on the world.

C. The speed of movement is faster, the ratio of capital to traded goods bigger and the consequences of a mistake more devastating.

D. Everything about global capital markets seems to be breaking records these days.

E. The amount of capital in circulation is greater than ever before.

a. decba b. aedbc c. adebc d. eacdb e. DBECA

7. A. Over the years, I have had the opportunity to observe and understand the thought processes behind the ads that have been flooding both the print and the TV media.

B. Although there is a huge shift in the quality of ads that we come across on a daily basis — thanks essentially to improvements in technology — I somehow can't help but feel that the quality of communication of the message has become diluted.

C. Proportionally, the number of ads that lack in quality, have gone up exponentially as well!

D. There is an increasing attempt by most companies to be seen as cool and funky.

E. Another reason could be the burgeoning number of companies, which means an exponential increase in the number of ads that are being made.

a. dcabe b. abdeC c. dceab d. badce e. ABECD

8. A. Many so called philanthropic bodies also feel that there is not much to gain from helping cancer patients, for according to them; they are going to die anyway.

B. It is often believed, quite erroneously, that cancer is incurable, so why think of saving those that have this disease?

C. What they forget is that cancer is arbitrary and can strike anyone.

D. People generally like to be associated with success stories and cancer, they believe, does not belong to that genre.

E. This kind of misinformation about cancer adds to the magnitude of the medical famine.

a. aebdc b. abcde c. badce d. daebc e. BCADE

9. A. The probate proceedings are often derailed for a variety of reasons.

B. Generally, for a will to acquire legal force, one of the heirs has to file what is known as the probate petition before the court.

C. A legal heir may, for instance, question the authenticity of the will or the state of mind in which it was written.

D. This is specially needed where the deceased person has made a bequest of immovable properties (real estate, etc.).

E. There are also times when, in the middle of the proceedings, someone may suddenly come up with an altogether different will purportedly superseding the earlier one.

a. bedac b. bcdae c. abcde d. bdace e. BCADE

10. A. There are many poor children in this country who die of this disease because their families cannot afford the cure.

B. Childhood leukaemia for them is a lifelong ailment for it will kill them young.

C. They will never have the opportunity to grow up into adulthood.

D. Their families are too poor to afford the required drugs even though these drugs are readily available.

E. Who knows what these children would have grown up to be if they had a chance to fight back?

a. acdbe b. abcde c. aedbc d. adbcE e. ADEBC

11. A. They not only provide the liquidity but also help generate retail investor interest in the market.

B. If a trader is unable to square off any of his position in the same settlement, then there arises the need to carry forward to the next settlement.

C. Across the world, traders and speculators form an integral part of the capital markets.

D. Depending on their judgement, traders take long or short positions on certain counters which are either squared off in the same settlement or carried forward to the next settlement.

E. This is when the trader covers up his long positions by paying badla charges on his long positions and borrow shares temporarily to cover his short positions.

a. cadbe b. becda c. dabec d. bedac e. CABDE

12. A. The modern Indian state was born in 1947, economic reforms started in 1991, and the country went nuclear three years ago — but when was modern Indian art born?

B. Did it begin with Amrita Shergill in the 1930s or with Raja Ravi Verma a few decades later?

C. Art like literature is a continuum, an expression of our aspirations and desires in constant flux, so there are no — indeed cannot be — any easy definitions or cut-off dates.

D. That is the first difficulty for the historian of modern art.

E. Or was it really M. F. Hussain's first powerful strokes on canvas, F. N. Souza's crucifixions or S. H. Raza's meditative black bindus that turned the idea?

a. CDABE b. aebcd c. BDACE d. bedac e. ABECD

13. A. An irritator is an unwanted behaviour, which far from taking the negotiation forward, tends to irritate the other party.

B. However, many negotiators indulge in the other side of the coin — they praise themselves or their organisations and say gratuitously favourable things about themselves.

C. Most negotiators tend to avoid the use of direct insults or unfavourable value judgements when speaking to another party in a face-to-face situation.

D. They know there is little to be gained from indulging in direct mud-slinging exercises.

E. This is what we call an irritator — a behaviour, which irritates through self-praise or condescension.

a. cebad b. cdabe c. aecdb d. acdbe e. ABCDE

14. A. The general idea is to stimulate consumer demand, and thus boost the economy.

B. The currency management authority could support the effort with a dose of `monetary stimulation' by reducing its key interest rate, thus making money easily available.

C. The Asian debate on how to revive an economy has witnessed a sudden resurgence of `Keynesian' suggestions.

D. The risk here — and nothing in life is free of cost — is the extra money slushing aroud the economy happens to outpace growth in production, prices could suddenly start spiralling upwards; this would be a case of too much money chasing too few products.

E. In policy terms, the Keynesian prescription requires money to be put in people's wallets.

a. ACEBD b. ecabd c. edcab d. CAEBD e. CAEDB

15. A. Acidity occurs when there is an increase in the amount of hydrocholic acid, which is used to assist in the digestion of food in the stomach.

B. Due to some of the symptoms like chest pain and mild-burning in the chest and upper abdomen, however, most people mistake it for angina.

C. Hyper acidity happens when the amount of acid increases due to bad eating habits, while the bacteria, Helicobacter pyroli, cause bacterial acidity.

D. Whether your mantra is `eat to live' or the other way around, `live to eat', digestive diseases are bound to plague you at some point of your life.

E. And, one of the most common of all digestive problems is acidity.

a. abcde b. deabc c. dabce d. aebcd e. DEACB

Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
15					

Practice Exercise - 2 (Level 2)

Directions for questions 1 to 15: In each of the questions, there are five statements A, B, C, D and E that have to be arranged in a logical order to make a sensible paragraph.

1. A. The last election to yield a parliamentary majority to any party was in 1984.

B. Instability came much later.

C. Does India need to change its electoral cycle so as to give itself a new political rhythm, which will cut short the lives of lame duck administrations?

D. The five subsequent elections have led to coalition or minority governments.

E. India experienced remarkable political stability in its initial years with only three prime ministers in the first three decades.

a. cebad b. edabc c. abcde d. eacbd e. CDBEA

2. A. The concept of market efficiency is a fundamental premise in `mainstream' financial economics.

B. Portfolio managers who claim to do this are either misrepresenting their case or are very lucky.

C. If, for example, a stock market is efficient, prices of individual shares will not display anything more than short-lived deviations from their fundamental values which are based on all available information about the business prospects of the concerned company.

D. A crucial implication of this premise is that no investor can hope to systematically outperform the market if he is trading on publicly available information.

E. Simply put, an efficient market is one in which prices reflect all available information.

a. edbca b. eabcd c. aecdb d. acdeb e. ABECD

3. A. The general approach is to postulate an outcome for the behaviour of stock prices under market efficiency and then demonstrate that prices do not actually behave that way.

B. A body of evidence challenging the supremacy of the efficient markets hypothesis has emerged.

C. Many well-known names are associated with this paradigm.

D. Foremost among them is Lawrence Summers, former US treasury secretary.

E. The literature is now collectively called `behavioural finance' and is gaining ground because it is able to explain price movements much more effectively than approaches based on efficient markets.

a. abcde b. beadc c. aebcd d. BACDE e. BEACD

4. A. Medical representatives having certain qualities have an accelerated career growth and just a decade ago, almost all marketing chiefs did rise from the cadre of MRs.

B. But, a drastic change has come in the attitude of the management as well as the MRs in the last 15 years.

C. Somehow, the pressure of achieving mere sales targets has overwhelmed the entire hierarchy of sales management during the last 15 years and they spend considerable time in creating `mere salesmen' and not medical representatives.

D. It is time this prevailing situation is corrected and excitement is created amongst our field staff to perform their duties competently.

E. Such is the potential for MRs!

a. aebcd b. aecbd c. abcde d. acdeb e. AEDCB

5. A. The sum of all tangible and intangible traits — beliefs, values, prejudices, interests, features and ancestry — make a unique personality.

B. People's personalities are determined largely through values and beliefs they have, and the personality characteristics they develop.

C. A brand personality visually and collectively represents all internal and external characteristics of the product.

D. The world's most powerful brands are invested with a distinct personality because people make judgements about products and companies in personality terms.

E. The closer the brand personality is to the consumer personality, the greater will be the willingness to buy the brand and deeper the brand loyalty.

a. dbace b. badce c. cdeab d. aebcd e. DBECA

6. A. When two companies, one termed the base company, the other designated the target, are brought together in a newly formed corporation, familiar designations and trade products are preserved, in order to protect existing customer-client continuity.

B. The medicine market is not homogenous, but usually sub-divided into distinct segments by therapeutic areas such as cancer, cardiovascular or vaccines.

C. Reason for mergers and thereby challenges in marketing are the gap between high stock market valuations pharmaceutical companies enjoy and their ability to deliver even higher earnings.

D. The cash stream of one or both of the companies can be directed through the books of the new entity, as can work in progress, receivables and/or payables and debt.

E. Another driving factor is the need for marketing muscle to gain more reach and greater sales.

a. beacd b. bcead c. baecd d. cbead e. BCDAE

7 A. Most organisations today seek a transformation in their businesses, yet most of them think of and talk about managing change.

B. Change is characterised by `reactivity'. Most of us live in the domain of change both as individuals and as organisations.

C. The characteristics of transformation are positive and actually creative. They stem from a new found sense of purposefulness, once a higher purpose is discovered.

D. The implications of this conflict will not be fully appreciated until we learn to distinguish between change and transformation.

E. Clearly, we all aspire to live in the domain of transformation even if we presently are in the domain of change.

a. adbce b. abcde c. acbde d. acdbe e. AEBDC

8. A. It is not surprising that ever since human beings evolved sufficient intelligence to understand the uncertainty of the future, they have gone to great lengths to guess it.

B. The desire to know our individual destinies has been linked through the centuries, with our desire to foretell what will happen to humanity as a whole, to comprehend in all its complexity the grand sweep of history.

C. If I were to guess what people are generally most insecure about, I would say it is the content of the future.

D. The most sophisticated manner of foretelling the future was developed after stargazers first charted the course of certain heavenly objects against the general starry background.

E. Before we can have futurism, we must first recognise the existence of a future in a state that is significantly different from the present and the past.

a. bacde b. eacbd c. cadbe d.abedc e. CAEBD

9. A. Electronic transactions are happening in closed group networks and Internet. Electronic commerce is one of the most important aspects of Internet to emerge.

B. Cash transactions offer both privacy and anonymity as it does not contain information that can be used to identify the parties nor the transaction history.

C. To support e-commerce, we need effective payment systems and secure communication channels and data integrity.

D. The whole structure of traditional money is built on faith and so will electronic money have to be.

E. Moreover, money is worth what it is because we have come to accept it.

a. bedac b. abecd c. deabc d. dceba e. CEBAD

10. A. Through a technique known as triangulation he moves out from his precious baselines and determines to a high degree of accuracy, the exact location of thousands of additional position.

B. He measures it bit by bit using stars, planets, artificial satellites to determine with a high degree of accuracy, thousands of fixed points all over the earth.

C. Geodesist starts with our earth.

D. The result is a triangulation network.

E. He also determines the mean sea level and from this base by a process called levelling proceeds to measure the altitude of thousands of points including the triangulation points already computed.

a. CBDEA b. CABED c. CAEBD d. CBEAD e. CBADE

11. A. In his second book *Manage to the Individual*, Grun explained how the expectancy theory convinced managers and employees that managing the individual works better than treating everyone the same.

B. Earlier on, Grun had applied his expectancy theory in a step by step process used mainly as a one-on-one approach between the manager and the employees.

C. Everyone was flabbergasted by his success.

D. Nevertheless, Grun organized a team and implemented, tested and gathered data to measure results in the corporate environment.

E. It was not designed for the entire organization.

a. BEDCA b. ABCDE c. ABECD d. ACBED e. EDCAB

12. A. In the US about 12 million people are homeless, one-third of the people cannot afford primary healthcare, 20 per cent of the children live below the poverty line, and about 23 per cent of the people are illiterate with no security of either job or life.

B. In capitalism, wealth is concentrated in the hands of a few.

C. In the West, men are only capable of seeing the external aspects of things.

D. The resultant deprivations are variable even in the developed countries.

E. The domination of the capitalist class today is justified in the name of economic growth and production efficiency.

a. ACDEB b. BDACE c. EBCAD d. CBEDA e. BEADC

13. A. The principal contradiction of human life is that between the individual and the society.

B. In order to achieve the ideal state, one must understand the causes of the downfall of the colonized world.

C. Highly developed production and material well-being cannot by themselves make men happy if their `spiritual civilization' is low.

D. Down the centuries, the rulers and dominant caste neglected the interests of the simple people and that was one of the greatest social evils and without support of the lower class, there should be no question of serious reference.

E. The law for humanity is to pursue its upward evolution towards the expression of the `divine' in mankind.

a. EABCD b. ECBDA c. AEBDC d. DCEBA e. ACBDE

14. A. For 30 years, the US had approached nuclear power as the answer to its future energy needs.

B. Nuclear power is possibly the most controversial issue in America today.

C. But lately, questions about safety, security, cost, efficiency, wastes and alternatives have become increasingly insistent.

D. It poses many questions and choices; evokes debates and protests and counter protests.

E. They are not easily answered.

a. ACBDE b. BACDE c. ADBCE d. BDACE e. BCADE

15. A. The lease financing companies may offer seasonal, stepped up and deferred pattern of lease rentals.

B. As against this, lease financing companies claim that they can tailor-make lease rentals to match the cash flow capability of the leases.

C. Further, lease rentals may be adjusted to enable the leases to derive the nominal tax advantage from lease payments.

D. This is because a term loan is typically repayable in 16 equal semi-annual instalments and the interest is payable on the outstanding amount.

E. The pattern of debt servicing burden for a certain amount of term loan is more or less uniform for all type of borrowers.

a. EDBAC b. ABCED c. ACDBE d. ABDEC e. ECBDA

Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
15					

Practice Exercise - 3 (Level 2)

Directions for questions 1 to 15: In each of the questions, there are five statements A, B, C, D and E that have to be arranged in a logical order to make a sensible paragraph.

1. A. There is nothing sacrosanct about a five-year term.

B. India's governments become ineffective in about two years because the country is so huge and diverse that some crisis or the other always immobilises them.

C. This being the pattern, now repeated in the case of the Vajpayee government, it is worth asking if it may not be a good idea to reduce the term of governments to four years.

D. Many countries have four-year terms and are none the worse for it.

E. This will shorten the life of lame duck governments: and since elections always achieve a sense of renewal and fresh purpose, it will bring greater purpose and urgency to governance.

a. abdec b. bcead c. aedbc d. deacb e. ABCED

2. A. In semiotics, consumers are not independent spirits, articulating their original opinions and making their own individual buying decisions.

B. They are constructed by the communications of that culture.

C. Semiotics looks at things through the other end of the marketing telescope, the cultural end.

D. By and large, consumers are products of the popular culture in which they live.

E. It bases the interpretation of what it sees firmly on the theory of consumers and culture.

a. dcabe b. acbde c. cadbe d. BEACD e. CEADB

3. A. In supporting behaviours, one of the behaviours we talk about is defend/attack spirals.

B. Defending/attacking is usually not one-off; they gather in emotional intensity and spiral quickly.

C. More often than not, the root cause of this spiral is one party saying something, which they consider innocuous, but which is perceived by the other party as attacking.

D. Because negotiations sometimes involve conflict, negotiators may become heated and use emotional or value loaded behaviours.

E. When such behaviour is used to attack the other party, or to make an emotional defence, it is termed defending/attacking.

a. decab b. adebc c. bcead d. badec e. ADCBE

4. A. Today MRs are obsessed with achieving targets per se.

B. When an MR speaks of his achievements, he unfailingly, almost always refers to his sales target achievements.

C. Very rarely will one come across a representative, when asked to speak of his achievements proudly stating the number of doctors he has converted or perhaps even better, made them exclusive users of the products he is promoting.

D. But in cities like Mumbai, where representatives work in a pool, this obsession is further diluted, as it is difficult to assess the number of prescriptions an individual representative is responsible for.

E. These members of the field force tend to get easily demotivated as they do not, on a day-to-day basis, get a feel of actual business transactions.

a. bcade b. abced c. ceadb d. edbca e. CADEB

5. A. Globalisation is shaping a new era of interaction among nations, economies and people.

B. But it is also fragmenting production processes, labour markets, political entities and societies.

C. It is increasing the contacts between people across national boundaries — in the economy, in technology, in culture and in governance.

D. It is this new divide between the fortunate few, the beneficiaries of global integration, and the hapless many, the victims of the new technologies, which now poses the most formidable challenge for the world's globalizers.

E. So, while globalisation has positive, innovative, dynamic aspects, it also has negative disruptive, marginalizing aspects.

a. acbed b. abdce c. aecbd d. adbec e. ACDEB

6. A. The former royal and Weight Watchers spokeswoman visited the country three years ago to film a documentary exposing conditions in a state-run institution for disabled children.

B. They have asked the British government for help in amassing evidence to prosecute the Duchess for breaching the children's privacy.

C. Turkish authorities are seeking the extradition of Sarah, Duchess of York for the secret filming of children in Turkish orphanages

D. The British government is unlikely to cooperate, however, given that the charges against her are not regarded as a crime under British law.

E. Turkish ministers have accused the Duchess of trying to smear the country's reputation.

a. EBCDA b. CAEBD c. CEBAD d. EBACD e. CEBDA

7. A. Blind luck, athleticism, talented teammates were among the reasons our respondents offered.

B. "If a guy like that was winning games," says another man, pointing at Colligne, who's not exactly svelte, "then I'd credit God. "That would be a miracle." .

C. So if God was not responsible for Tebow-mania, who, or what, is?

D. The man expressing this opinion, it should be noted, was Colligne's son.

E. "He's just a good quarterback," said one Pats fan, the kind of understated, uncomplicated response most Americans are inclined to reject.

a. BDECA b. CEBDA c. CAEBD d. BEDCA e. EACDB

8. A. There's an old joke about the French:

B. It's a jab at France's deep-seated preference for the abstract over the concrete.

C. It can make the French a bit frustrating to deal with if you're, say, trying to get a cup of coffee in a café or watching a French art-house film.

D. He looks at it, shakes his head and says, "Well, that probably works fine in practice, but how does it work in theory?"

E. A guy gives a plan to a Frenchman.

a. AEDBC b. EDABC c. ABEDC d. ABCED e. EDCBA

9 . A. Someone had to be facilitating the movement's Facebook groups, making its YouTube clips, tweeting and blogging its propaganda.

B. When Russia's protest movement came alive last month, bringing tens of thousands of people onto the streets of Moscow, it only took an Internet connection to realize that its most vital cogs and gears were online.

C. On a snowy night in December, dozens of them got together at a bar called Masterskaya, just down the street from the Kremlin, and turned the place into a buzzing revolutionary workshop

D. And so there were.

E. At the time, the next big protest against Vladimir Putin's government was only two days away, and Putin had just given the protestors an adrenaline shot by comparing them to bandar-logs, the wayward monkeys from Rudyard Kipling's The Jungle Book.

a. ABCDE b. CBAED c. BDACE d. ADCBE e. BADCE

10. A. Today, a number of companies have taken a page out of the Google playbook and have begun asking interviewees brainteasers, logic puzzles and mind-bending riddles.

B. How many ping-pong balls would fit in the Mediterranean Sea? Can you swim faster in water or syrup?

C. Tech companies have long asked prospective employees to answer off-the-wall questions in an effort to identify the most nimble-minded applicants.

D. The question you probably have right now is, Why?

E. But since the Great Recession, many non-tech companies are now asking would-be employees to estimate the number of bottles of shampoo produced in the world every year, or other such questions.

a. ACBDE b. BADCE c. CBAED d. ABCDE e. CEDAB

11. A. The U.S. economy showed increased signs of life Thursday as new data indicated that companies are hiring more workers and fewer people are filing for unemployment benefits.

B. Private-sector employers added 325,000 new jobs in December, according to ADP's National Employment Report.

C. "December's advance was the largest monthly gain since December 2010, reflecting strong job creation across most industries," said Carlos Rodriguez, president and chief executive officer of ADP

D. The positive signals are more evidence that the economy is continuing its slow but steady comeback from the worst recession in decades.

E. "Small and medium-sized businesses were hiring at a similar pace. Job creation among large employers was also encouraging."

a. ADBCE b. BACDE c. ABCED d. BDCEA e. CEDAB

12. A. The characters in writer-director Asgha Farhadi's new film, A Separation, are a modern, urban every-couple, except that their D-I-V-O-R-C-E is spelled in Farsi.

B. Jobs, car, private school, nice apartment - have lost their love to stubbornness, resentment and the grinding duties of a demented elderly parent and a pubescent daughter under the same roof.

C. What's surprising is how much these people are like us, despite living in Tehran, home to
the Ayatullah's virtue squads and dictator Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's crisis-provoking nuclear ambitions.

D. An attractive married couple with all the badges of mid-life success .

E. None of that will keep them together.

a. ABEDC b. ADBCE c. BACDE d. DBECA e. DBEAC

13. A. Dancing with a partner is prettier and friendlier than just standing opposite someone thinking your own thoughts, doing your own thing.

B. It is a social grace, nicer than saying hello and it is fun to exchange bons mots while dancing with an old friend or someone you have just met.

C. If the Hustle, the dance with partners is a sign of things to come, I embrace it.

D. It is too bad that the name is not more romantic, but then I guess the young people would not like it.

E. There is a sense of taking part and a sense of accomplishment as one fits the steps to the music.

a. ABCDE b. CDABE c. CBDAE d. CABED e. AEBCD

14. A. European voters have delivered a powerful if not unsurprising rebuff to the austerity policies that have caused misery around the continent.

B. This is not bad news because the tough austerity diet has failed to significantly reduce debts or revive investor confidence in ailing European Union members.

C. The result will be demands for a revision of the fiscal pact that requires most European countries to dramatically reduce spending or raise taxes.

D. In France on Sunday, voters rejected President Nicolas Sarkozy's bid for a second term, replacing him with Socialist Francois Hollande.

E. In Greece, meanwhile, both centrist parties were punished in favor of extremists on the right and left, including neo-Nazis.

a. ADBCE b. ABCED c. ABCDE d. ADECB e. AEDBC

15. A. Pro-democracy reformers and conservationists are urging the government to put more safeguards in place, but the rush is already on, primarily from other Asian countries.

B. Myanmar has avoided rampant development because of decades of isolation brought on by harsh military rule.

C. But as foreign investors begin pouring in, activists say endemic corruption, virtually non-existent environmental laws and a long-repressed civil society make it ripe for exploitation.

D. Environmentalists are viewing signs of openness in Myanmar with a measure of fear because of the risk that one of Asia's last bastions of biodiversity could be lost.

E. Sanctions still prevent the U.S. and European countries from starting companies in Myanmar.

a. DECBA b. ECDBA c. BAECD d. DBCEA e. DBCAE

Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
15					

Practice Exercise - 4 (Level 2)

Directions for questions 1 to 15: In each of the questions, there are five statements A, B, C, D and E that have to be arranged in a logical order to make a sensible paragraph.

1. A. The credit rating agencies use legions of highly trained analysts with access to top management.

B. Their meticulous reports giving ratings for corporate bonds are designed to give an accurate picture of the bonds riskiness and ultimately the probability of default.

C. Lately, the credit-rating agencies have struggled to keep up.

D. It seems a bond rating tells you even less about the price that investors are willing to pay.

E. In 1997 two-thirds of debt rated triple B by Standard and Poor was priced within 20 basis points of the average bond with the same rating.

a. ABCDE b. DEABC c. ABDCE d. AEBCD e. CDBAE

2. A. Edison attributed his enormous energy and endurance to his ability to sleep whenever he wanted to.

B. It is a good habit to relax at least for half an hour or 20 minutes periodically.

C. In the rigorous training given to soldiers, a part is devoted to acquiring the habit of resting and relaxing for short periods.

D. It tones one up.

E. And Henry Ford once said, "I never stand up when I can sit down. I never sit down when I can lie down."

a. AECDB b. BDAEC c. CBDAE d. AEBCD e. BDCEA

3. A. Khorana confirmed earlier findings that the way the four different types of nucleotides are arranged on the spiral "staircase" of the DNA molecule determines the chemical composition and function of a new cell.

B. He also proved that the nucleotide code is always transmitted to the cell in groups of three, called codons and said that some of the codons prompt the cell to start or stop the manufacture of proteins.

C. Khorana added details about which serial combinations of nucleotides form which specific amino acids.

D. In 1960 Hargobind Khorana moved to the Institute for Enzyme Research at the University of Wisconsin.

E. This is where he and his colleagues worked out the mechanisms by which they showed how the nucleotides in nucleic acids control the cell's synthesis of proteins

a. ABCED b. DEABC c. DAECB d. DEACB e. ADBCE

4. A. Members of the grand old party say the signs are there, and all the straws in the wind suggest that the time has come for the passing of the baton to another generation of the Nehru-Gandhi family.

B. But people who either possess knowledge or understanding say that the fantasy may soon come to fruition.

C. One could well dismiss this as the recurrent Congress fantasy of being saved by the members of the dynasty after a year of merciless pummelling and decline

D. The only caveat: just three people know the details. Even the more powerful Congress leaders plead ignorance. "Be patient and you shall soon find out, as shall we," they joke at the party's national headquarters at 24, Akbar Road.

E. Is coronation day actually upon us?

a. EACBD b. CABDE c. ABCDE d. EBCDA e. ECABD

5. A. Over in the corner by the window,a lone civilian sat slumped in an overstuffed chair,oblivious of the hustle and bustle about him.

B. In the lobby, a crowd in khaki uniforms set up a steady bass hum in the variety of tongues of an international army.

C. From the bar there came a continuous tinkle of glass intermittently punctuated by the clang and sliding drawer of the cash register.

D. Only five days ago the Kifissia Hotel had been almost deserted.

E. Now it bulged with British Empire troops.

a. DECAB b. DEBCA c. BCADE d. CBADE e. BACDE

6. A. The words spoken were,"The White house wants you to resign."

B. I told her,"I want you to understand that you have not heard the last from me on this."

C. She said,"Glenn Beck said you were the subject of his show tonight and that did it."

D. And then I pulled to the side of the road and typed a letter of resignation on my BlackBerry.

E. I was driving through Atlanta when the deputy under secretary for USDA rural development called.

a. ABCDE b. ECABD c. EACBD d. BACDE e. EBACD

7. A. We were related ofcourse: we shared a stepfather, who was a dismal person, but that was our problem, not yours.

B. I first met Louis in New York after the army; he wasn't the only person I knew there at the time, but he was the only one I wanted to talk to.

C. Louis was so clever on how to analyze people and was always fair.

D. I was naturally moved by the death of my cousin, probably the best writer of novels at the end of the 20th century in America.

E. I was interested in what he thought of Brooke Astor, a person I considered to be a bore.

a. BAECD b. DBECA c. CBEAD d. DBCEA e. BCEAD

8. A. The never- seen- before photos are from Gered Mankowitz's Between the Buttons 1966 Rolling Stones album cover shoot along with Michael Joseph's beautiful Renaissance- style shots of 1968's Beggars Banquet.

B. Down a narrow Parisian style cobbled street in Hampstead, North East London, a small but potent crowd are spilling out of a gallery.

C. For such a tiny gallery, the collection of rock 'n roll photographic treasures, held within its walls - and indeed displayed upon them - has drawn an undeniable '60's cool.

D. Framed by lush greens, reds and yellows - the result of the hottest April in 100 years - the fragrance fills the air and marries champagne conversations floating down the rustic location.

E. Both albums that would see The Stones grow from their R&B roots into what would become the golden period of the band truly finding their sound.

a. ABCED b. BAEDC c. BDCAE d. BCDAE e. AECDB

9. A. The generals know they are really not answerable to anyone in Pakistan, while Obama is under tremendous political pressure at home.

B. The problem, however, is that Team Obama has few levers to turn while Pakistani generals wait it out until 2014, America's scheduled year by which it expects to have withdrawn most of its forces from Afghanistan.

C. The latter colourfully described Pakistan's belief that the "wild animal in the backyard" will only go after its neighbour as a fantasy.

D. But the strong US message has since been repeated by both President Barack Obama and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

E. They are gambling that in the time they have before 2014, they can bargain hard with the US on leaving Afghanistan to them.

a. DCBEA b. DBECA c. ABCDE d. AEBDC e. BACDE

10. A. For Mukherjee, no victory comes as a gift. It is hardfought, often till the very end, and through a mastery of statecraft rather than skullduggery.

B. After the initial feeling that the truce statement Mukherjee was made to read out last week was a mouthful of humble pie, many in the party and beyond are realising now that while Chidambaram's image has been gravely damaged, Pranabda hasn't lost anything worth his worry.

C. In the autumn of his career, Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee, the Congress' bhadralok politician who is widely seen as the party's most active link with the pre-Rajiv Gandhi era, is still willing to fight a battle better suited to younger men.

D. As his recent feud with Home Minister P Chidambaram shows, despite his public climbdown, he has emerged far better in the face-off within the UPA Cabinet.

E. "Outmanoeuvring is what he does best when he finds petty politics being done to tarnish his image," says a Congress Working Committee member.

a. AECDB b. ECDBA c. CEBDA d. ABCDE e. CDBEA

11. A. The misfortune of Shoaib Akhtar is that for a man who loves lofty praise he will always be remembered as a Pakistani train.

B. Which makes Shoaib Akhtar the only sportsman in the world who is faster than his own metaphor.

C. He has a grey stubble, his large baffled eyes look tired. As with most controversial people who know they are controversial, he has the bearing of a martyr.

D. For some reason, no one has been able to think of a better compliment than 'Rawalpindi Express' to describe the fastest bowler ever clocked.

E. He is at the Hyatt in Delhi to promote his autobiography, oddly titled 'Controversially Yours' ..Akhtar emerges from the bedroom looking like a komodo dragon.

a. DBAEC b. ADBEC c. ABDEC d. DECAB e. ADBCE

12. A. This part of Thailand is Kerala with a lower suicide rate, and comes at a 50 per cent discount

B. Krabi town is part of the Thai mainland and it is a good base from which to explore the many busy beaches and spectacular islands.

C. All this at costs that even the Indian hockey team will find reasonable.

D. Krabi, a province that lies on the southwestern coast of Thailand, by the shores of the Andaman Sea, combines the pastoral beauty of Kerala, the cultural informality of Goa and the spectacle of limestone hills rising from the sea that has no comparison.

E. And go on day trips that include visiting almost identical islands, snorkelling and deep-sea diving in outlandish spots. It is best not to agonise much over which islands to visit (though everybody there will say, "go to Phi Phi", and you may seriously consider that with no harm done).

a. ADCBE b. DABCE c. BADCE d. DBCEA e. ABDCE

13. A. Performance, in other words, is far more important than promises and maybe Microsoft gets that.

B. Come to think of it, the greatest tech marketer of them all, Apple, doesn't seem to place much importance on operating system logos.

C. Even though I find the Windows 8 logo bland, I find that approach appropriate.

D. The old Microsoft consistently went overboard selling Windows, with splashy logos and overly exuberant slogans such as "The Wow Starts Now."

E. But I don't want to be wowed by my operating system-I want it to get out of my face, and not break, and generally be a platform for useful applications that make my life better.

a. ABCDE b. CDEAB c. DECBA d. BACDE e. AEBCD

14. A. Ironically, Facebook does not need capital and is going public mainly to comply with regulations.

B. Though, without a tangible plan to invest the bulk of the issue proceeds, the company's future profitability might suffer.

C. Facebook's upcoming public offer will make millionaires out of its employees and existing investors and its already wealthy CEO Mark Zuckerberg even wealthier.

D. Analysts have however warned that small investors out to make quick money might be disappointed.

E. Facebook's growth in the West has been slowing and for all its billions, it makes a small sum - just over one dollar last year - on a per-user basis.

a. CDBAE b. ABCDE c. CDEAB d. ECADB e. AEBCD

15. A. Mr. Adnan chose to go unfed for more than nine weeks and came close to death.

B. He endured for 66 days before ending his hunger strike on Tuesday in exchange for an Israeli agreement to release him as early as April 17.

C. Khader Adnan, a Palestinian held in an Israeli prison, pursued a different path.

D. Despite his alleged affiliation with the militant group Islamic Jihad, he waged a peaceful hunger strike to shake loose the consciences of people in Israel and around the world.

E. Over the past 64 years, Palestinians have tried armed struggle yet all they have seen is more loss of lives and resources.

a. ECABD b. CDEAB c. CABDE d. BACDE e. ECDAB

Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
15					

Para Jumbles: Six sentence type

Practice Exercise - 1 (Level 1)

Directions for questions 1 to 15: In each of the questions, there are four statements A, B, C and D that have to be arranged in a logical order to make a paragraph between statements 1 and 6.

1. 1. Networking can broadly be described as arrangements (the electronic wells) that let people share information, exchange messages and otherwise get together while remaining far apart.

A. Networking has enabled companies, governments, agencies and other organisations to slash costs while raising efficiency.

B. It has redefined the workplace and helped in bringing remote company outposts closer to one another and to head offices.

C. The benefits of networks can be enormous; of course, the benefits that are bestowed on some can be different from the others.

D. Bringing together the buyer and seller via an electronic exchange is creating a new market place.

6. One of the high-powered networks is for the automated teller machines, that has helped the US banks reduce the number of tellers by 18,000 over the past decade.

a. ABCD b. ABDC c. DABC d. CABD e. DBAC

2. 1. There are 15 varieties of Tropicana juice in the market.

A. Pulp contains Vitamin C, which is a vital source of energy.

B. Vitamin C makes you feel healthy.

C. This also includes Tropicana's pulp free `Orange Tangerine'.

D. Pulp-free juice is not good for health.

6. A healthy person can think faster and better.

a. CDAB b. BACD c. CADB d. CBAD e. BDAC

3. 1. As IT professional, the job entails long hours of sitting in front of the computer.

A. This would lead to a lifetime of pain.

B. This is the worst thing for your back.

C. Because you would remain tense and strained in position.

D. To avoid this go to the Godrej showroom today.

6. Godrej has designed ergonomic chairs to ease pressures.

a. BCAD b. ABCD c. CABD d. ABDC e. ACBD

4. 1. Intel is the world's largest maker of computer chips.

A. Intel's chairman is very pleased with the decision.

B. The company recently won a legal battle.

C. The decision freed Intel from any charges of anti-trust laws.

D. Intel is now free to do as it likes.

6. He has thrown a party to celebrate his success.

a. BDAC b. ABDC c. BCDA d. CBDA e. ACDB

5. 1. Bill Clinton was the US President.

A. But that is not true of Mr Clinton.

B. This had led him to be a vegetarian.

C. His philosophy is `Be simple'.

D. Men as powerful as him usually have lavish tastes.

6. Looking at him a lot of people are turning vegetarian.

a. BCDA b. DCAB c. BACD d. DACB e. BDCA

6. 1. Java's portability is a huge advantage in a networked world.

A. Java is a small and simple language.

B. Java is a cleaner version of C++.

C. It does not take long for a programmer to become productive in it.

D. Although similar to C++ in syntax, Java eliminates many of the complexities of C++, such as header line, pointer arithmetic, structures, unions and operator overloading.

6. Memory allocation and reallocation is automatic.

a. ABCD b. ACBD c. DBAC d. CDAB e. CABD

7. 1. Jinnah initially tried to win British support for a seat in the House of Commons but failed.

A. He finally accepted fervent appeals from Muslim friends to return home and help them to revitalise the demoralised leaderless Muslim League.

B. He was reelected to the expanded National Assembly, which met for the first time in Delhi in January 1924.

C. The Khilafat Movement launched by Gandhi in 1920 had by then collapsed and so had the final phase of Satyagraha in Gujarat.

D. Most Congress leaders remained in prison cells, while Jinnah reorganised his Muslim League as its president, and won the respect of Ram Say Macdonald.

6. Jinnah advised Macdonald as soon as he became prime minister to draft a constitution for what Jinnah still hoped would emerge as a single nation-state of independent India, with safeguards and separate electorates for its Muslims and other minorities.

a. ACBD b. BCDA c. DBAC d. ABCD e. ADCB

8. 1. One of the common approaches for predicting market movements is to look at the past market behaviour.

A. The basic assumption made here is that the returns in the past have a conditional `normal' distribution.

B. This model assumes that distribution of past returns can be modelled to provide a reasonable forecast of future returns over different time horizons.

C. Another approach used is the `historical simulation' methodology where no explicit assumption of the distribution of the asset returns is made.

D. In addition to using the past returns, this method also determines the relationships between different categories of financial instruments and uses covariance matrices to capture this information.

6. Portfolios are evaluated under a number of different historical time windows ranging from six months to two years.

a. BDAC b. CDBA c. CBAD d. ABCD e. BADC

9. 1. Vertical solutions are customized to the needs of a particular customer.

A. Cross industry solutions can be customized to the industry, and then to the customer that they are installed with.

B. It can be said that this set of procedures and the data structures that are maintained by them became the back bone of the business.

C. Once either of these is in place, they literally define the way the business will be operated.

D. Data relationship must be maintained.

6. Processes for updating the data need to be rigorously adhered to.

a. ABCD b. DBAC c. ACDB d. BDAC e. DCAB

10. 1. The closely held Subrata Ray promoted Sahara Group may finally debut on the stock markets.

A. This would be a run-up to an initial public offer in the next six months, which will see Sahara Sanchar listed at the BSE.

B. The group is in the process of taking over an existing listed company to merge it with group company Sahara Sanchar listed.

C. This will be the first instance of any Sahara Group company hitting the stock market.

D. The new company is expected to come out with a public issue before year end.

6. The dry-run for the Sahara's new channel called Sahara TV will let it see how the new channel works.

a. BACD b. ABCD c. CABD d. DBAC e. ADCB

11. 1. The click-and-mortar businesses stand to gain the most.

A. There may be a return to sanity, as some traditional-business people will viciously put it.

B. Theirs are the businesses which actually have the greenbacks coming in.

C. Money will flow to them.

D. But the actual gold that will emerge out of this trial by fire will be a proper recognition of business models that help traditional businesses save costs.

6. And life becomes simple.

a. ABCD b. BCAD c. DBAC d. BDAC e. ACBD

12. 1. Patel performed a similar feat with services.

A. His successful defence of the officers and his stand that `my secretary can write a note opposed to my views' evoked a cooperation from all services.

B. Following independence, freedom fighters, now turned into MPs and MLAs demanded stringent action against the Raj's officers who had repressed them.

C. But the officers were needed to run the new India, and Patel fought for the incorporation in the new constitution of an article that made it difficult for politicians to punish officers.

D. Intriguingly, Patel managed while enlisting the bureaucracy, to retain his hold, over its natural adversary, the reigning political party.

6. In broad terms, the distribution of influence in the Nehru-Patel domain of the India of 1947-50 saw Patel controlling the services and the Congress Party, and Nehru enjoying the confidence of the masses and intelligentsia.

a. ABCD b. DCAB c. BACD d. DBAC e. BCAD

13. 1. The Internet demands a new way to develop and distribute software.

A. Although many might think of Java as simply another computer language, it is much more.

B. Software has to communicate easily with other software and it must be easily and safely distributable across the network.

C. Java fits well in the network-computing environment where software must be deployed.

D. It's actually an application development and running platform with characteristics and features that make it an excellent net-centric application environment.

6. It can be used to glue together the many components of the e-business selection.

a. ABCD b. CBAD c. DBAC d. BDAC e. CDBA

14. 1. When on July 2, 1940, Subhas was arrested it was for the 11th time.

A. He was sent home on December 5 after he had been on a fast unto-death for 10 days.

B. The government has worked out `a-cat-and-mouse policy' of taking him back to prison as soon as he had recovered his health.

C. On the night of January 16-17, 1941, Subhas however made a planned escape.

D. He was driven from his Elgin Road home in Calcutta by his nephew Sisir to Gomon in Bihar from where he went to Peshawar.

6. He finally reached Germany.

a. ABDC b. ABCD c. BDAC d. DBAC e. BACD

15. 1. The maker of phrases survives the maker of things in history.

A. There is nothing so swiftly forgotten, says Gore Vidal, as the public's memory of a good action.

B. No one else will.

C. That is why great men insist on putting up monuments to themselves with their deeds carefully recorded since those they served will not honour them in life or in death.

D. Heroes must see to their own fame.

6. Now isn't that a well-made argument?

a. ABCD b. ADCB c. DACB d. ACDB e. DCBA

Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
15					

Practice Exercise - 2 (Level 1)

Directions for questions 1 to 15: In each of the questions, there are four statements A, B, C and D that have to be arranged in a logical order to make a paragraph between statements 1 and 6.

1. 1. Mrs Gandhi's enemies outside were worse than her opponents in Congress.

A. They repeated the exercise in silliness, if not always in corruption, when the Janata Party formed the government in 1977.

B. It is a government remembered today by Morarji Desai's `drinking habits'.

C. Little wonder that the voter literally begged Mrs Gandhi to return in the winter of 1980-81.

D. They were so corrupt and stupid during their first opportunity in power, in the state governments of the north that they scarred our language permanently with terms like `Aaya Ram' and `Gaya Ram'.

6. This time, she had nowhere to go but to her family.

a. ADCB b. DABC c. CBAD d. CABD e. DCAB

2. 1. Since Independence the policy of the Government of India towards private foreign investment and collaboration has moved from cautious encouragement through a brief spell of near `open door' in the fifties, a long phase of rigorous selectivity from 1968 to 1991 onto the current post-1991 policy of open encouragement of direct investment specially in priority areas even with 51 per cent participation in equity.

A. Independent India started with a legacy of well-established foreign capital and all the fear and prejudice associated with it.

B. Based on the exposure of a series of misdeeds perpetrated on some third countries by some of the multinationals like International Telephone and Telegraph Corp. (ITT), United Fruit, Union Miniere and Lockheed, criticism welled up against the MNCs in the Indian Parliament and outside.

C. During the seventies and eighties, official view has been inevitably influenced by the controversy the world over on the role of multinational corporations in relation to third world countries.

D. While the overwhelming thrust has all along been towards the goal of a self-sufficient economy and of freeing national economic and industrial policy from the dictates and manipulations of foreign capital, the compulsions of an economy of scarcity and chronic foreign exchange deficiency also had an effect in shaping official policy towards foreign investment and foreign collaboration.

6. On the other hand, there was also a realisation that all foreign enterprises operating in India should not be tarred with the same brush and that there were some amongst them who were performing a useful role in the economy by their import-substitution or export-oriented operation, or by making valuable contribution to the technological skill and capability of our country.

a. BDCA b. ADCB c. ADBC d. ABCD e. BACD

3. 1. Decentralization is an essential requirement for development.

A. Local committees should participate and bring local energy and enthusiasm to local developmental activities.

B. The process of ushering in of social change requires the spreading of efforts.

C. By devolving adequate responsibility, the lower echleons of government creates opportunities for people at the grass root level.

D. Development decentralization calls not only for political but also economic, financial and administrative decentralization.

6. By facilitating people's involvement in the development process, decentralization ensures economy, equity, effectiveness in the developmental process.

a. ABDC b. BADC c. BACD d. ABCD e. ACBD

4. 1. When the Civil Disobedience Movement was launched, Subhas was in prison.

A. It was at the Karachi Congress and the second session of the Navjawan Bharat Sabha in the previous year that he spoke of the need for a new, Indian variant of socialism.

B. Eventually in February 1933, he was released after being put on a ship setting sail for Europe.

C. He was elected mayor of Calcutta while in jail, in 1932.

D. A greater part of his years of enforced exile was spent as an unofficial ambassador of India's freedom.

6. This was the period which saw the transformation of a leader into a statesman.

a. CABD b. ABCD c. DABC d. DBAC e. CDBA

5. 1. Exchange control does not altogether prohibit Indian banks keeping open positions during the course of a day.

A. Indeed, unless they are willing to take open positions, they will cease to be market-makers.

B. For market-makers offering two-way quotes in the international markets, open positions are far more common.

C. Thus, depending on the policy of a bank, dealers may be allowed to take intra-day positions in order to make profits.

D. For instance, a dealer expecting the dollar to weaken during the day might deliberately create, through customer transactions and transactions in the inter-bank market, an oversold position in the hope of squaring it later during the day at a profit, should his expectation about the dollar weakening materialise.

6. Large overbought or oversold positions are often deliberately built up in the hope of profiting from price movements.

a. DCAB b. CBDA c. ABCD d. ACDB e. CDBA

6. 1. Posterity will remember Jayaprakash Narayan — if at all — as the apostle of one more revolution that never was.

A. Like Gandhi he declined to seek or hold public office.

B. The wits even claimed there were three centres of authority during Morarji Desai's troubled prime ministership — the Lok Sabha, the Rajya Sabha and Jaslok Sabha, the last named after the Mumbai hospital where JP spent much of his time.

C. The faithful regard him as the best prime minister India never had.

D. Others saw him as an extra-constitutional centre of power like Sanjay Gandhi.

6. He was heir to an ancient and formidable legacy.

a. ABCD b. BDAC c. CBDA d. DBAC e. CADB

7. 1. A stock exchange has the power to suspend or permanently revoke listing privileges based on breach or non-compliance with any of the conditions of admission, or any other reason to be recorded in writing.

A. But neither was the industry prepared or enthusiastic about self-regulation, nor was the Central Government fully equipped for effective implementation of whatever controls were available.

B. On the whole, the Indian experience has been an amalgam of the UK practice of self-regulation by the securities industry and the US model of legislative regulations.

C. Thus, desired results were seldom achieved.

D. A company may appeal against such action to the Central Government.

6. There was only an appearance of government control.

a. DBAC b. ACBD c. DACB d. BDCA e. ADBC

8. 1. The Free Market often seems better at recognizing and promoting leaders than large organizations.

A. Most of the job growth in the US this decade has come from small companies, according to Cognetics, a research organization.

B. Bill Gates and Howard Schlitz stand out as heroes at a time when bluechips seem to be losing ground to entrepreneurial companies.

C. Executives of some large corporations, trying to recapture some of that dynamism, know that their staffs must become more entrepreneurial so that future leader can be spotted early and supported.

D. A theory called emergent leadership, which introduces some of the dynamics of the free-market system to corporate management, may help.

6. It tries to eliminate the office politics and an uneven power distribution that can distort corporate operation.

a. CDAB b. ABCD c. DBAC d. BACD e. BDAC

9. 1. Employees need to follow a meaningful set of guidelines designed to minimize risks while encouraging creativity.

A. They must establish a meaningful corporate culture that encourages a sense of entrepreneurship.

B. Senior managers have a large role to play in this balancing act.

C. They have to find ways of encouraging mass experimentation while limiting possible threats to the company's existence.

D. They need to make sure the workers they hire have the skills necessary to drive the company forward.

6. If all goes well, natural leaders will `emerge' to move the organization forward.

a. BDCA b. ABCD c. CDBA d. BCAD e. BACD

10. 1. Idealism ruled Jayaprakash Narayan's life.

A. He was an extreme nationalist by the time he was 14, taking cold water baths, wearing only a khadi dhoti and crude village-made sandals.

B. Throwing away his school books, he refused to attend a British-style college in protest against the Rowlatt Act and the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre.

C. But the seven years that he spent in the US must have had a profound effect: The theories of Soviet conspiracy in India that he articulated, might have come straight out of a Central Intelligence Agency primer.

D. He disagreed with the fundamentals of Nehru's Fabian constitutionalism, being convinced that the whole of India could never be governed from a single centre.

6. His attempts to topple Nepal's absolutist oligarchy demonstrate that he had outgrown the Ohio University professor who had found him `aggressive in thought but not in action'.

a. ABCD b. BDAC c. DBAC d. CBAD e. DCAB

11. 1. It must never be forgotten that ours is one of the few societies in the history of the world in which performance is a primary determinant of status.

A. For every step that a society takes away from a stratified system and toward a system in which performance is the chief determinant of status, the individual will be increasingly concerned about his capacity.

B. In a stratified society, performance is not an important factor in establishing the individual status, so he can afford to be less deeply concerned about his capacity.

C. What the individual can `deliver' in the way of performance is a major factor in how far he can rise in the world.

D. In a society the individual's future depends to an unprecedented degree on his own gifts.

6. There are all kinds of individual capacity.

a. BDAC b. CBAD c. ABDC d. BDCA e. BADC

12. 1. The development of railways broke down the isolation of the village, made the world market available to the Indian producer, facilitated both foreign and domestic trade and created the necessary condition for the growth of large-scale factory industry.

A. Jute industry started after the Crimean War had interrupted the supply of hemp and flax from Russia, at first in competition with the Dundee mill-owners who protected vigorously against allowing the growth of manufacturing industry in a colony suitable only for commercial exploitation.

B. It was no coincidence that this was followed in the later decades of the century by the establishment and quick growth of jute, cotton textile and coal-mining industries, and also of new forms of business organisations in the shape of joint-stock companies and managing agencies.

C. But the natural advantage offered by India were immense, and from the opening of the first jute mill at Rishra near Calcutta in 1855, the industry rapidly grew until it became the most important export industry of the undivided India.

D. While jute industry was started by British businessmen with the aid of British capital, the growth of cotton textile industry was very largely the result of Indian entrepreneurship with Indian capital.

6. The first modern mill was set up in Bombay in 1851.

a. DCBA b. BADC c. CDBA d. BACD e. DBAC

13. 1. It was the strains and stresses in the Indian economy created by the World War II which focused public attention on the need for revitalising the Companies Act, 1913.

A. It was, therefore, felt that the existing Act contained some very serious lacunae and was unable to control the activities of dishonest businessmen and financiers.

B. The advent of Independence and the adoption of the constitution in 1950 with the Directive Principles of State Policy further highlighted the need for the revision of the Companies Act.

C. There had been very serious complaints of malpractices and manipulations in company formation and management during the war.

D. The idea grew that the Companies Act should no longer be regarded in its orthodox sense as just a mechanism for the regulation of joint-stock enterprise and to take care only of the shareholders and the creditors and that it has a much greater role to play as a principal instrument of government's social and economic policy.

6. The acceptance of Socialist Pattern of Society as our national goal in 1954 further strengthened this approach.

a. ABCD b. BDCA c. CABD d. BDAC e. BDCA

14. 1. I am sure all of us are aware of Dr S. Radhakrishnan.

A. Few could tell that fine difference as well and with as much conviction as this educationist; who wrote and spoke tirelessly about tradition, change and potential in Indian society.

B. While others fought the British politically, his crusade centred on making foreigners aware of Indian's heritage.

C. The second President of India was a strange paradox.

D. On the one hand, he fought against the blind prejudices that plagued Indian society, on the other, he spoke of how rich its culture was.

6. The simple, learned professor of philosophy is today counted among the best ambassadors India has ever had.

a. CDAB b. ABCD c. DBAC d. BCAD e. ACDB

15. 1. In 1991, a group of Sun engineers, including James Gosling, had a desire to create a small computer language that could be used for consumer devices such as TV switchboxes.

A. Because many different CPVs might be used in these consumer devices, it was important the language not be tied to any particular architecture.

B. The consumer devices typically have little power and little memory, requiring a small, tight language.

C. The ensuing project received the code name `Green'. Project Green's requirements caused the group to resurrect the model of a language known as UCSD Pascal.

D. UCSD Pascal was a portable language, because it generated intermediate codes that could be used on any M/C that had the right interpreter.

6. With this kind of model, the intermediate code is small and portable which was just what the consumer devices needed.

a. BACD b. ABCD c. DBAC d. CBAD e. ACBD

Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
15					

Practice Exercise - 3 (Level 1)

Directions for questions 1 to 15: In each of the questions, there are four statements A, B, C and D that have to be arranged in a logical order to make a paragraph between statements 1 and 6.

1. 1. Attunement occurs tacitly, as part of the rhythm of relationships.

A. He finds that through attunement mothers let their infants know they have a sense of what the infant is feeling.

B. Or a baby shakes his rattle, and she gives him a quick shimmy in response: in such an interaction the affirming message in the mother more or less matching the baby's level of excitement.

C. A baby squeals with delight, for example, and the mother affirms her delight by giving the baby a gentle shake.

D. Stern has studied it with microscopic precision through videotaping hours of mothers with their infants.

6. Such small attunements give an infant the reassuring feeling of being emotionally connected, a message that Stern finds mothers send about once a minute when they interact with their babies.

a. DBAC b. DCAB c. BDAC d. ABCD e. DACB

2. 1. The one major cause for the current weakened state of Indian banks is the level and volume of non-performing assets.

A. Yet, the fact remains that the banks allowed themselves to be pressurised into lowering their guard in the one area of business that is and should be their bread and butter of existence — risk assessment.

B. Descriptions such as `deceased portfolio' and figures running into thousands of crores have all led to treating the problem as a major one-time aberration requiring emergency treatment.

C. The causal explanations — political interference, willful defaults, targeted lending and even fraudulent behaviour by banks — have some grain of truth in them.

D. The problem has not been looked at in its proper perspective.

6. The response from the banks is to concentrate on somehow reducing the amount and number of accounts in this category.

a. DCAB b. DBCA c. BDCA d. ADCB e. BACD

3. 1. The economic survey has pointed out that the rigidities of legislation and small scale industry reservation have contributed to huge imbalances in the economy.

A. A beginning was made with de-reservation of a number of items such as garments, toys, shoes, etc.

B. The survey says that the process of dismantling the reservation policy should be accelerated to enable Indian industry to invest freely in sectors that have so far been restricted to small scale units.

C. The rigidity arising out of the reservation policy has become more anomalous after the removal of quantitative restriction on almost all imports.

D. Continuing with reservation has prevented Indian industry from investing in labour using activities that are export oriented.

6. It is essential that the process be accelerated so that Indian industry can invest freely in these activities and compete with the rest of the world.

a. BCDA b. CBAD c. DBCA d. DCBA e. CDAB

4. 1. The class of front-office applications is very document-centric.

A. While there have been many tools created to address this type of need, they typically have focused on parts of the total problem.

B. This can be viewed generically as unstructured information-centric.

C. The root of HTML as a hyperlinking system and the HTTP protocol came from studies on how to share documents across universities on the Internet.

D. The largest use of the Internet continues to be e-mail.

6. Now there is one that has emerged as a clear leader in this gleam — Doming.

a. ABCD b. DBCA c. CDAB d. BCDA e. ABDC

5. 1. A major breakthrough on the question of mechanisation in Indian banks came with a significant decision given by the National Industrial Tribunal in 1981.

A. Computers, however, were allowed only for clearing operations, interbranch reconciliation, remittances, foreign exchange dealings, investment management, personnel inventory, payrolls, provident fund, merchant banking and management information systems on credit, budgetary data and annual control returns.

B. The settlement specified that only accounting machines with attached memory modules and not computers, may be used in banks for the purpose of current accounts, deposit accounts, general ledger accounts, and cash credit and loan accounts only in urban and metropolitan areas.

C. Subsequently, in 1983, the Indian Banks Association (IBA) reached an agreement with the staff unions under which electronic ledger posting/accounting machines were allowed to be installed to support specified functional areas in branches, zonal offices, etc.

D. The Tribunal gave unequivocal award in favour of the use of computers and other sophisticated machines with the proviso that it should not cause displacement of more than 10 per cent of staff.

6. The Reserve Bank of India took a major lead in coordinating the work related to mechanisation in various banks and even helped them in deciding the vendors, software required, etc.

a. DCBA b. DBCA c. ADBC d. BADC e. BCDA

6. 1. Yahoo and Ebay are two of the most popular consumer sites.

A. Another way is to track number of hits per day.

B. This information was provided by A. C. Nielsen.

C. A. C. Nielsen is the world's leading market research firm.

D. Market research is very important to realize the potential of websites.

6. But hits are not a very true indicator of success.

a. BACD b. DBAC c. BCDA d. ACDB e. BDAC

7. 1. Most textile manufacturers have long had marketing mentality.

A. Often they have relied on their apparel, industrial, and retail customers for marketing insights.

B. Most have already developed brand name and advertise to some extent; some even employ name designers.

C. The textile companies with large positions in the household-furnishing market (towels, sheets, and so on) are selling a consumer product through a retailer just as Procter & Gamble does.

D. As yet, however, the sort of thorough consumer research, careful segmentation, and aggressive advertising and promotion that are taken for granted among packaged-goods producers are uncommon in the textile industry.

6. Not that the opportunity is lacking. American-made household furnishings — towels, for example — are a luxury item in world markets.

a. CDAB b. DBAC c. ABCD d. ACBD e. DCBA

8. 1. The decision to buy is usually initiated by a continued need of supply or is the outcome of long- range planning.

A. The latter usually is a formal recommendation from the planning unit to an ad hoc committee consisting of the purchasing agent, the engineer, and the plant manager.

B. If the purchasing is a repetitive decision for standard items, there is very little information gathering.

C. The formal initiation in the first is typically from the production personnel by way of a requisition slip.

D. The information-gathering function is typically relegated to the purchasing agent.

6. Usually, the purchasing agent contacts the preferred supplier and orders the item on the requisition slip.

a. CADB b. DCAB c. ABCD d. CBAD e. ACDB

9. 1. Competition in an industry continually works to drive down the rate of return on invested capital towards the competitive rate of return, or the return that would be earned by the economist's `perfectly competitive' industry.

A. The strength of the competitive forces in an industry determines the degree to which this inflow of investment drives the return down to the free market level, hence the ability of firms to sustain above-average returns.

B. The presence of rates of return higher than the adjusted free market return serves to stimulate the inflow of capital into an industry either through new entry or through additional investment by existing competitors.

C. Investors will not tolerate returns below this rate for very long before switching their investment to other vehicles, and firms habitually earning less than this return will eventually go out of business.

D. This competitive flow, or `free market', return is approximated by the yield on long-term government securities adjusted upwards by the risk of capital loss.

6. The state of competition in an industry depends on five basic competitive forces: (i) threat of new entrants, (ii) bargaining power of buyers, (iii) threat of substitute products, (iv) bargaining power of suppliers, and (v) rivalry among existing firms.

a. DBCA b. ADBC c. BACD d. BDAC e. DCBA

10. 1. Because services are performances, they cannot be inventoried.

A. This is a significant fact of life in a service business because demand peaks cannot be accommodated simply by taking goods off the shelf.

B. Conversely, if an airliner takes off with 40 empty seats, the revenue that those 40 seats could have produced, had they been filled, is lost forever.

C. One of the crucial challenges in many service industries is to find ways to better synchronise supply and demand as an alternative to recurring conditions of severe overdemand and underdemand.

D. If an airline has 40 more flight-reservation request than capacity permits, some business will likely be lost.

6. This is easier said than done: demand peaks can occur during certain times of the day (airlines, restaurants), during certain days of the week (movies, hair styling), and during certain months of the year (income tax services, beach resorts).

a. ADBC b. ACDB c. CDAB d. ABDC e. CBAD

11. 1. Trade and exchange are probably older than the invention of money, but in the absence of this wonderful contrivance the volume of trade and gains from specialisation would have been rather minuscule.

A. What is true of trade and capital flows within a country, is true perhaps more strongly, of international trade and capital flows.

B. By this we mean a world monetary and financial organisation that facilitates transfer of funds between parties, conversion of national currencies into one another, acquisition and liquidation of financial assets, and international credit creation.

C. From the point of view of a firm with worldwide transactions in goods, services and finance, an efficient multilateral financial system is a prerequisite for efficient operation.

D. Both require an efficient world monetary order to flourish and yield their full benefits.

6. The international monetary system is an important constituent of the global financial system.

a. ABCD b. CBAD c. ADBC d. ADCB e. CDAB

12. 1. The US financial market is the largest and the most versatile financial system in the world.

A. In some ways the US financial system is perhaps the most free system.

B. It has the broadest range of funding options to offer and some of the most sophisticated and innovative financial institutions.

C. At the same time, it is not a market which is readily accessible by borrowers from the developing countries like India, except perhaps those with the highest ratings and sovereign guarantees.

D. The importance of this market is further enhanced by the dominant role played by the US dollar as the vehicle currency in international transactions though over the years this has declined somewhat.

6. Institutions enjoy complete operational freedom in terms of products and instruments offered, pricing, etc.

a. BDCA b. ABDC c. ABCD d. BADC e. BCAD

13. 1. There is this story of Rip van Winkle, who went to sleep and woke up 20 years later.

A. Not surprisingly, he found his village changed and was for a while completely disoriented.

B. For years, it was lulled into a sense of complacency by an atmosphere where change was not a challenge.

C. The Indian corporate sector is caught in this Rip van Winkle syndrome.

D. Fortunately for him, an old lady who had survived through his slumber helped him learn and cope.

6. Perhaps reforms with its dynamism took it by surprise — Indian corporates are still waking up to the new realities of doing business.

a. DABC b. CBAD c. ADCB d. ADBC e. CDBA

14. 1. If one leg of the Maastricht Treaty was economic, the second was political — the Soviet Union's collapse and, in mid-1991, the erstwhile East Germany's merger with its western counterpart restoring the traditional Germany.

A. President Mitterand and Chancellor Kohl of Germany were the two principal proponents of the Maastricht Treaty, which aims at not only monetary union but also at integration of foreign, defence and social policies of the member countries.

B. The prospects of a dominant, ultra-nationalistic Germany were not too welcome in many European capitals, given the history of the two World Wars in this century.

C. The French, in particular, were worried — and so was Chancellor Kohl of Germany, who also felt that the solution to the problems was closer integration of Germany within the EC.

D. If German union spurred a move towards a single European currency, ironically enough, it was also the root cause of the problems that have developed since Maastricht.

6. In retrospect, it seems that the political leadership in European countries were too far ahead of the people in these countries in setting the ambitious goals of Maastricht.

a. CBDA b. ABCD c. BCAD d. CADB e. ACDB

15. 1. It was not unusual of Tilak to voice social and political views that were seemingly at odds.

A. But for all the contradiction — he was the reason why the Congress split between the moderates and the extremists.

B. Tilak's ideology of a militant movement in support of the political objectives of Swaraj appealed to the masses.

C. Disillusioned by the state's indifference to their conditions, Tilak's thesis of national education, Swadeshi and boycott fired their imagination.

D. It infused in them a spirit of defiance, arousing the demand for Swaraj as a birth right.

6. A concept that was further validated through the Home Rule agitation.

a. ABCD b. BACD c. DBAC d. CBAD e. DCAB

Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
15					

Practice Exercise - 4 (Level 2)

Directions for questions 1 to 15: In each of the questions, there are six statements A, B, C, D, E and F. Arrange these in a logical order to make a sensible paragraph.

1. A. Indian companies can now automatically invest $100 million overseas for acquisition in stead of $50 million earlier.

B. The latest budget continues the trend.

C. The result has been slow but steady easing of controls on foreign exchange transaction.

D. Through the last 12 years, India has eased restrictions on overseas trade and investment.

E. All through that time, foreign exchange revenue has climbed steadily.

F. Other local companies wanting to set up joint ventures abroad will be allowed to put in half their net worth.

a. AFCDEB b. AFBDEC c. CBEAFD d. DECBAF e. CEADFB

2. A. A good budget is one which makes a sincere attempt to change the policy environment.

B. Government finances are terminally impaired with uncontrollable fiscal deficits.

C. There are big gaps in perception and capability of managers.

D. Industry too is not ready to deliver growth, should even the government pursue the right policies.

E. The current reforms pace is too slow.

F. The fiscal deficit has deteriorated.

a. ABCDEF b. BADCEF c. FEDCBA d. EABCDF e. ADCBEF

3. A. Reporting is all about back-breaking work, long and very irregular hours and high pressure.

B. Most reporters join the profession with a dream of changing the world.

C. The truth is that reporters are usually passionate about their work and get their kicks from almost non-stop excitement and, of course, seeing their names in print.

D. A few years later, many seem to be resigned to the fact that reporting is unlikely to do that.

E. Add to that fact that journalists the world over complain of being poorly paid in comparison to other professions.

F. And you wonder, why?

a. ACBDEF b. ABDEFC c. BDAEFC d. BADCEF e. BCEFDA

4. A. Going by the strides we have made in the past 10 years of economic reforms, we must have certainly walked several miles to riches.

B. Unfortunately, India is not Delhi and Mumbai.

C. It is apparent in the way we dream, in the food we eat and the cars we drive down the roads of Delhi and Mumbai.

D. How prosperous are we as a nation?

E. So my question still begs an answer.

F. For years, I have been seeking an answer to this question without much luck.

a. ACBDFE b. DFACBE c. ADFCBE d. DFCABE e. DCEFBA

5. A. In my view, a priority sector should be an area of market failure.

B. Priority sectors include agriculture, small scale industries, housing, exports, etc.

C. Economists say that a market has failed when the market does not provide efficient outcomes for society.

D. The government of India directs substantial bank credit to what it deems are `priority sectors' for the Indian economy.

E. It is not clear how sectors get identified for the priority tag, as there is no clearly articulated logic.

F. Markets fail for a variety of reasons.

a. DBEACF b. CFADEB c. ACFDEB d. BEDACF e. CADEFB

6. A. Individual freedom is not the only value endangered by a powerful government.

B. Justice is also highly prized, and equality is an important component of justice.

C. Reasonable and humane people will differ on the degree of inequality.

D. But government greatly affects the level of equality.

E. Just as freedom and justice are menaced by an overly powerful government.

F. So is efficiency.

a. AFEBCD b. ABDEFC c. AEBFCD d. ABCDEF e. EFADCB

7. A. Sabotaging networked systems and national information grids may become the weapon of choice.

B. When next time terrorists launch an attack, they might do so through information portals.

C. This is the age of information warfare.

D. The very openness of the United States has become the greatest source of its vulnerability.

E. So put a tight lid on information.

F. That is the prevalent mood.

a. CEABFD b. DBEFCA c. ABCDEF d. CBEFDA e. ADCEFB

8. A. Thrills, ranging from video games to burgers cover the rest.

B. This is because the returns from browsing cover only a percentage of your costs.

C. The bigger your cafe, the more is the need for additional means of income.

D. Some cafes can get away with being plain vanilla.

E. These frills will make your clients spend more time with you and also add to your profits.

F. But others cannnot.

a. CDFBAE b. CBAEFD c. DBCAEF d. CBADEF e. DFCBAE

9. A. Most small brands write for themselves a self-fulfilling prophecy that lacks charge and aggression.

B. Small brands and their proprietors play into the hand of destiny a bit too often.

C. What does a small brand do when faced with big competition?

D. It will allow the bigger in the market to gradually eat into its shares.

E. And in the very end, it will wilt.

F. Most of the time, the brand at hand will put up a brave fight at the very beginning.

a. CFEDAB b. BACFED c. ACBFDE d. BCAFED e. CDEFAB

10. A. Today, almost all companies worth their name do have a site in the virtual space.

B. Compelled with the falling prices of computers and booming cyber cafes, this growth will multiply in the next few years.

C. It is another matter that many of them have done so just to have a presence in the e-world.

D. It is now officially confirmed that the Internet usage in India is growing by leaps and bounds these days.

E. Farmers to housewives and school kids to CEOs are into this in a big way.

F. It is not just the youth who are getting into this.

a. DBACFE b. DFEBAC c. ACDFEB d. DABEFC e. ADCEFB

11. A. This man usually knocks on your door in the evenings.

B. Of his educational background, he reveals nothing.

C. He carries a briefcase that bulges around the middle and seems to come off at the clips.

D. Or he approaches you during the lunch break at the office.

E. The image of the traditional insurance agent is all too familiar.

F. In it, the `LIC agent' carries an incredible quantity of papers.

a. EBADCF b. ECFADB c. EADCFB d. EABCFD e. CDEFAB

12. A. The first test match commentary I ever heard on the radio was when Subhash Gupta was picking West Indian scalps like strawberries in summer.

B. Providence helped me to get out of that rut.

C. I shied away from all physical activity out of an inferiority complex.

D. That was in the Kanpur Test in the early 1960s.

E. My colleagues appeared nice and athletic; hence, a shade more respectable and gentlemanly.

F. When I was very young, I was so boring and hated all sports.

a. AEDFBC b. CBDEAF c. FCBDAE d. FECBAD e. CDEFBA

13. A. Over the years, cricket was literally a way of life.

B. Winning at cricket is important but not always.

C. Now, with a fair amount of cricket experience to reflect upon, I can talk about the game with plenty of self-belief.

D. It was also a sport of personal skill and pride.

E. But I should never be confused with an `expert' on cricket!

F. The strength of character and courage of conviction depict the genius of the players, individually and collectively even when the chips are down.

a. ACEBDF b. BFADCE c. CEADBF d. CADFBE e. ADEFBC

14. A. Only when you jump off the edge are you exposed to these uncertainties and take a personal risk.

B. You will be extremely uncertain about your safety. The rope could be too long or too frail and could put your life at risk.

C. But suppose they did imagine yourself taking your first jump.

D. Just kidding.

E. Till you jump, these risks remain hypothetical.

F. A little birdie from the tourism ministry tells us that they are going to throw open the Qutab Minar to bungee-jumpers.

a. FCBDEA b. AFDCBE c. FBDCEA d. FDCBEA e. AECFBD

C. Now, with a fair amount of cricket experience to reflect upon, I can talk about the game with plenty of self-belief.

D. It was also a sport of personal skill and pride.

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F. A little birdie from the tourism ministry tells us that they are going to throw open the Qutab Minar to bungee-jumpers.

a. FCBDEA b. AFDCBE c. FBDCEA d. FDCBEA e. AECFBD

15. A. The investment community has tackled risk by breaking it into market risk and specific risk.

B. The outcome of no investment decision in the stock market can be predicted with certainty.

C. It has then equated risk and volatility.

D. Every decision has a risk attached with it.

E. You must have noticed a barrage of volatility ratios — betas, sharpes and implied volatilities in the pink dress.

F. So it has tried to quantify risk by measuring the volatility of average rate of return on a stock.

a. BDACFE b. DABCFE c. ADBCFE d. EBACDF e. BCDAFE

Scoring table

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15					

Para Jumbles: Odd Sentence Type

Practice Exercise - 1

Directions for questions 1 to 15: : In each of the questions given below, four sentences are given labeled a, b, c and d. Of these, three statements need to be arranged in a logical order to form a coherent paragraph/passage. From the given options, choose the option that does not fit the sequence.

1. a. On December 22, 1997, AEP announced a definitive merger with Central and South West Corp. of Dallas, Texas.

b. Many clients report their electricity costs increase by 10% to 15% following their State's deregulation of electricity markets.

c. Michael G. Morris became president and chief executive officer of AEP on January 1, 2004.

d. The merger was completed on June 15, 2000 and created a company with (at that time) electricity sales of 200 million megawatts hours, and nearly 9 million customers across the globe.

2. a. The conflict represents the different positions in the debate between animal-rights and animal-welfare advocates.

b. Animal-rights groups like PETA believe animals shouldn't be used for research, food, products or entertainment.

c. Animal-welfare groups like the Alliance believe it's okay to use animals as long as they're treated humanely and that animal-rights groups exaggerate abuse claims to increase fund raising and membership.

d. The recipient doesn't have to be a nonprofit group but the money must go to charitable purposes.

3. a. The Technology Pioneers 2012 are drawn from the fields of information technology and new media, energy and environment, and life sciences and health, where they are active in a variety of areas, illustrating their broad cumulative impact.

b. In the coming half-century, the conventional, centralized business operations of the First and Second Industrial Revolutions will increasingly be subsumed by the distributed business practices of the Third Industrial Revolution.

c. "One particular aspect to highlight this year is the large number of companies that are focusing on having a social impact, such as providing health or financial services to under-served populations, while revolutionising the business paradigms in their industries," said Oliver Schwab, director and head of the WEF's Technology Pioneers.

d. Their diverse activities include drip irrigation on small farms; high-precision greenhouse-gas measurement; providing financial services to under-served, rural populations; developing photosynthetic biofuels; and molecular diagnostics.

4. a. The right to exploit, harness, and own nature in the form of property is tempered by the obligation to steward nature and treat it with dignity and respect.

b. The scientific evidence argues against the notion that human intervention can achieve any meaningful climatic impact.

c. The utility value of nature is slowly giving way to the intrinsic value of nature.

d. This is the deep meaning of sustainable development, and the very essence of biosphere politics.

5. a According to Philip Coggan, history is a battle between creditors and debtors.

b. And it's the creditors that ultimately call the shots - whether that is Britain in the days of empire, the United States after the second world war or indeed China in the century to come.

c. It's these forces acting on each other that ultimately allow us to judge whether we should have confidence in governments and whether the currency they issue has value.

d. But years of austerity will be equally hard for democracies to stomach.

6. a. For almost 50 years after the turn of the 20th century, the electronics industry had been dominated by vacuum tube technology.

b. But vacuum tubes had inherent limitations.

c. They were fragile, bulky, unreliable, power hungry, and produced considerable heat.

d. For Texas Instruments, the integrated circuit has played a pivotal role.

7. a. Decentralized energy technologies based on the availability of local resources can be a viable alternative to rural electrification in India through the extension of the main grid.

b. Diesel generator sets are used as a stand-by mechanism during electrical power shortages in many parts of urban India.

c. One of the principal decentralized applications is the pumping of water from groundwater for irrigation.

d. There were reportedly more than 15 million electricity-driven pumps and 6 million diesel pumps in operation in the agriculture sector in the year 2003.

8. a. However, these systems have focused primarily on only one aspect of serendipity: that of chance encounters.

b. A person uses lateral thinking to move ideas from one known idea to creating new.

c. Computer scientists, valuing the role of serendipity in discovery, have attempted to design systems that encourage serendipity.

d. Serendipity has a long tradition in the history of science as having played a key role in many significant discoveries.

9. a. But the large arm's length markets required in a modern capitalist economy need a substantial amount of infrastructure to support them.

b. These market institutions are however underdeveloped when the powerful see them as undermining their power.

c. Borders have to be kept open so that countries can enjoy competitive free markets, and keep the playing field level.

d. Small, informal markets are no doubt possible without much institutional infrastructure.

10. a. At first glance it might not seem that inequality as such would have any effect on overall pressures on consumption standards.

b. Advertising is everywhere: on television, on billboards, in newspapers and magazines.

c. Perhaps the simplest mechanism fostering a mass culture that underwrites consumerism is marketing.

d. Corporations pay enormous sums for "naming rights" of public facilities so that their brand is kept in people's minds.

11. a. Until now, a contender for the oldest living organism was a Tasmanian seagrass thought to live more than 40,000 years.

b. A sprawling meadow of seagrass in the shallows of the Mediterranean may be the oldest living organisms on Earth.

c. Scientists revealed the typical age of the seagrass, Posidonia oceanica, to be thousands or tens of thousands of years old, though some appeared to more ancient still.

d. Scientists hope that a better understanding of the giant seagrass meadows will lead to fresh ways to protect them from decline.

12. a. A critic who accused a Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist of scattering literary allusions like "tin cans tied to a tricycle" has won the Hatchet Job of the Year Award, a prize for the year's most lacerating book review.

b. The review condemns the novel's pretensions, saying it is "filled with thoughts about art, or (more ominously) Thoughts about Art."

c. Adam Mars-Jones, a British-born novelist, was awarded a golden hatchet and a year's supply of potted shrimp at a ceremony Tuesday in London.

d. The U.K.-centric prize was established by review aggregating website The Omnivore to honor "the angriest, funniest, most trenchant" review published in a newspaper or magazine in 2011.

13. a. Piracy's effects on the economy as a whole are hard to measure.

b. From book publishers like Macmillan to Hollywood studios like Disney, producers of content are deeply frustrated by the defeat of their efforts to curb online piracy in Congress last month.

c. But their concern is spot on: the rampant piracy enabled by the Internet undermines the very economics of creative industries.

d. The bill they favoured was flawed, and could have inhibited expression on the Web.

14. a. Germany's success story does not end there; German companies continued to increase their market share in world exports.

b. Its labor force is growing older, and as we have seen in Japan, a country with a current account surplus can quickly turn into a low-savings and current-account-deficit country as its population ages.

c. With only about 1 percent of the world's labor force, last year Germany produced about 10 percent of global exports.

d. A quick checkup of Germany in early 2012 would give the country a clean bill of health: it grew at about 3.5 percent in 2010 and 2011, outperforming the consensus forecasts.

15. a. One of its partners, EPA, is using the Lorax character to help promote low-power appliances that carry the Energy Star label.

b. The studio is being selective about its partnerships, with a focus on planet-saving activities like planting trees and conserving energy things that aren't usually the focus of children's movie campaigns.

c. Movie tie-ins once meant that children got plastic toys thrown into their fast food meal containers but Universal is taking a new approach.

d. The animated movie, set for release on March 2 in North America, is about a creature who "speaks for the trees" in a retelling of the Dr. Seuss children's book first published in 1971.

Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
15					

Practice Exercise - 2

Directions for questions 1 to 15: : In each of the questions given below, four sentences are given labeled a, b, c and d. Of these, three statements need to be arranged in a logical order to form a coherent paragraph/passage. From the given options, choose the option that does not fit the sequence.

1. a. Picking up where The Hands of History left off, Simon Hoggart's brilliant new collection of parliamentary sketches takes us from the dying days of Tony Blair's leadership, through the shadow-filled days of Gordon Brown and on to the utterly bewildering days of that comedy double-act Cameron and Clegg.

b. He is a striking representative of a great British tradition, of something we do well, and where he stands with his own heroes, George Cruikshank and Thomas Rowlandson.

c. Above all, he gives us incisive and witty pen-portraits of those responsible for our plight: the belligerent Brown, the unintelligible Prescott, the slippery Cameron and the bemused Miliband.

d. He charts the events that made the news, the faux-pas that should have, and the myriad mistakes that have landed us all where we are now.

2. a. Taking his own ignorance as a given, his style of dogged questioning of every certainty and his huge influence over the youths of Athens led to his trial, his defiant comment that "the unexamined life is not worth living for a human being", and ultimately to his execution by hemlock.

b. Socrates established a method of probing into the eternal questions of existence and morality by relentless inquiry and debate.

c. His demeanour is gentle and slow, but his endless questioning of moral norms puts him in direct conflict with authority.

d. Socrates is never mentioned in this book and it's not necessary to know anything about him, but the parallels are obvious.

3. a. For this was Dickens with the laughter taken out.

b. That *Great Expectations* achieves its seriousness of purpose by sometimes comic means, that the language bursts with life, that its gusto leaves you breathless and its shame makes the pages curl, that you are implicated in every act of physical and emotional cruelty to the point where you don't know who's the more guilty, you or Pip, you or Orlick, you or Magwitch, goes without saying if you are a reader of Dickens.

c. But you would never have guessed any of these things from the BBC's adaptation.

d. We must guess that the BBC is embarrassed by the eccentricity of the writing, the hyperbole of the characterization, the wild marginalia, the lunatic flights of fancy?

4. a. For me paper wealth and tangible wealth amount to the same thing.

b. If I get more money, I have more wealth because I can spend the money for other things — real things.

c. But if we all get more money overnight, as in a shower of money from helicopters, only our paper wealth increases; our collective tangible wealth doesn't change because there aren't more things to buy with the additional money.

d. If it did, the government could cure poverty and increase nation's wealth simply by printing more money.

5. a. More specifically, it is human beings alone who (a) operate in their everyday activities with an understanding of Being and (b) are able to reflect upon what it means to be.

b. But to think of Being in this way would be to commit the very mistake that the capitalization is supposed to help us avoid.

c. If we look around at beings in general-from particles to planets, ants to apes-it is human beings alone who are able to encounter the question of what it means to be.

d. This gives us a way of understanding statements such as "Dasein is ontically distinguished by the fact that, in its very Being, that Being is an issue for it."

6. a. Often, those who settled abroad were classified as selfish and self-serving, betraying the homeland.

b. Even in the West, all that we seem to be aware of, and revel in, are the Indians who have made good, not the many more working at low-end jobs or in the shadowy grey market.

c. Now, not only are they more valued but it is their intellectual labour which defines research fashion and priorities.

d. Be it literature or films, social science theorizing or managerial/entrepreneurial models - experience abroad is valorized and sought to be transplanted back home.

7. a. At other times it is the repetitiveness more than the variability of the names that makes them seem less than distinctive, an impression sometimes heightened by their transparent meaning.

b. The heroines of two different myths may have the same name, while the heroine in two versions of the same myth will have a different name.

c. This apparent contradiction reflects the two poles of the heroine's situation: to be little more than a name in a genealogy, or to be distinct, to suffer, sometimes even to achieve immortality.

d. On the other hand, a few of the most familiar figures have names that are significant and distinctive.

8. a. Doing research is essentially like solving a puzzle.

b. Puzzles have rules and predetermined solutions

c. Research involves extrapolating knowledge to newer territories and unforeseen challenges.

d. A striking feature of doing research is that the aim is to discover what is known in advance.

9. a. As far as we know, death is a great emptiness for us-a threshold beyond which we can directly perceive nothing.

b. Such a threshold is inseparable from the sacred, which aids us in our struggles to reconcile our inherent limitedness with our convictions.

c. Nevertheless, that which is beyond the threshold of death is unavailable to us in any direct or unmediated fashion.

d. Granted, we readily project our fantasies into, and live out of faiths in relation to this void.

10. a. Our culture is full of assumptions and stereotypes about how the mind works, perhaps none so enduring as the legend of the "tortured artist".

b. However, while the final verdict is still out on the issue, both the folk and the scientific evidence provide tantalizing clues that this legend may be fact.

c. The image is durable, but science has not yet been able to conclusively verify or disprove it.

d. Science stamps natural phenomena with a systemic form, and its theories with a natural inevitability.

11. a. Since any party's economic policies are a very salient part of its image and since free market policies in general tend to be associated with the political Right, the finding that libertarians advocate extreme market freedom seems to justify an assumption that they are extremely right-wing.

b. Libertarians themselves find it a strange experience to be labelled with the very thing they are devoted to opposing, but the ascription is nonetheless a hard one to dislodge.

c. Party members and even libertarians who are not party members are also commonly so described.

d. It stems of course from the habit of seeing all parties as fitting neatly along a single left-right continuum.

12. a. Various measures of authoritarianism have repeatedly been found not to correlate with various measures of maladjustment including standard clinical indices such as the Eysenck "N scale.

b. The failure of authoritarian attitudes to relate to authoritarian behaviour is, however, a more serious failure of the Adorno et al. account.

c. It is certainly true in other fields such as racism.

d. In fact, to psychologists the attitude/behaviour discrepancy is a familiar phenomenon.

13. a. India's interests require a significant, but not a dominant presence in Myanmar.

b. Four of our sensitive northeastern States - Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur and Mizoram - lie along this border.

c. Here is a neighbour with whom we share a 1,600 km long land boundary.

d. Why is Myanmar important to India?

14. a. The word 'Kabbalah' means many different things to many different people.

b. It teaches that all of the branches of our lives - health, relationships, business - emanate from the same trunk and the same root.

c. Kabbalah is an ancient yet entirely new paradigm for living.

d. It's the technology of how the universe works at the core level.

15. a. Yet without such analysis, combating terrorism seems a baffling contest against an indefinite threat.

b. Terrorism is never easy to understand, and least of all in the aftermath of a terrorist attack.

c. When society feels under threat, attempts at rational analysis are often openly resisted as giving aid and comfort to, or even sympathizing with, the enemy.

d. Something about terrorism makes its threat inflate, genie-like, way beyond its actual physical scale.

Scoring table

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15					

Deductive Reasoning 2

Introduction

It helps to think of deductive reasoning in terms of syllogisms.

A syllogism is a deductive argument relating two premises and a conclusion, all of which are quantified propositions, i.e. propositions joining concepts by using words such as 'some' and 'all'.

Deductive logic is used to derive conclusions from premises where the truth of the conclusion must always be contained in the truth of the premises.

Learning Objectives

· To understand the structure of an argument.

· To identify arguments involving deductive and inductive reasoning.

· To take the help of Venn Diagrams to get the picture.

· To attempt Type A and Type B Deductive Logic exercises.

Deductive Reasoning

In this and the next two chapters we are going to talk a lot about arguments, conclusions and premises. So lets start by first understanding these terms.

Argument — An `argument expresses a single comprehensive act of thought which gives judgement and is supported by two statements. So it consists of three propositions.

It is divided into two parts: Premises and Conclusion

Premises — Two proposition which support the third proposition giving judgement are called `Premises'.

Conclusion — The third proposition which gives a judgement and is supported by two premises is called a `Conclusion'.

Let's consider an argument.

1. All students are wise.

2. Ravi is a student.

3. Ravi is wise.

Here obviously propositions 1 and 2 are the premises and the proposition 3 which follows from the first two propositions, is called the conclusion.

Deductive and Inductive Logic

Consider the following example.

1. All mammals have lungs.

2. Cow is a mammal.

3. Cow has lungs.

Irrespective of any other characteristics of a cow, i.e. it gives milk, it is white, etc., the conclusion that a cow has lungs holds good, if (1) and (2) above are true.

This is deductive logic.

Some characteristics of deductive logic:

• It is a valid argument.

• Nothing can further strengthen this argument, i.e. no statement can make the conclusion more valid.

• Another way of looking at deductive logic is that when a `specific' conclusion is derived from a set of general statements, then it is deductive logic.

In the previous example, if we alter the sequence of sentences, i.e.

1. Cow is a mammal.

2. Cow has lungs.

3. All mammals have lungs.

The conclusion that all mammals have lungs is not necessarily valid. However, it is not necessarily invalid. There is a probability of this conclusion being true.

This is inductive logic.

Some characteristics of inductive logic.

• The conclusion cannot be said to be either totally invalid or valid.

• Addition of certain other premises may make the conclusion either more valid or invalid.

• Another way of looking at inductive logic is that when a `general' conclusion is derived from a set of specific statements, then it is inductive logic.

Deductive Logic:

The premises in deductive logic can be either affirmative or negative and can also be universal or particular. Thus we have basically four types of premises as summarized below

	Affirmative	**Negative**
Universal	All P are Q	No P is Q
Particular	Some P are Q	Some P are not Q

Lets understand each of these four statement in their entirety...

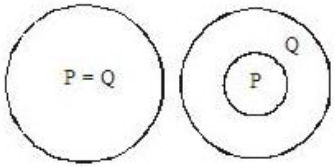
All P are Q

This statement means that there is no P which is not a Q. For those who understand the language of sets, it means that P is a sub-set of Q.

One of the most common mistake made in interpreting this statement is that there are certain Q which are not P. This is false reasoning. It is just a possibility that there are certain Q that are not P but we cannot be sure of it. It is quite possible that the entire set of P and Q overlap with each other.

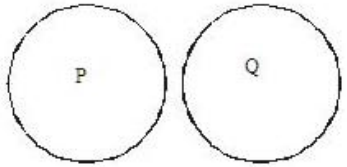
Similarly we also cannot conclude that `All Q are P' as there is a possibility of some Q not being P

Thus there are two possible venn diagrams for this statement :



No P is Q

This statement is the simplest and has just one interpretation i.e. the two sets of P and Q are disjoint or do not overlap.



Thus we can conclude that no P is a Q and also that no Q is a P.

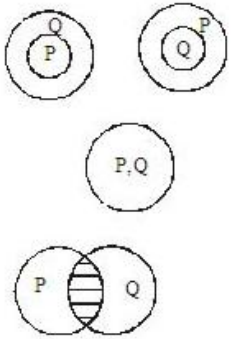
Some P are Q

The meaning of this statement is that there is atleast one P which is a Q

Thus we can also conclude from this statement that `some Q are P' because there is atleast one entity which is both a P and Q

This statement is most prone to be misunderstood. One of the most common misunderstandings of this statement is the conclusion `Some P are not Q'. Please note `Some P are Q' does not mean `Some P are not Q'. Understand it this way : the faculty of a class knows two individuals of the class personally and know that they are intelligent. Thus he is right in saying `some students of this class are intelligent'. At the same time all the student may also be intelligent, it is just that he does not know them well. The faculty when he says that some students of this class are intelligent is just referring to those two individuals. The faculty is not making a remark on the others. The others may also be intelligent.

In fact, there are FOUR possible venn diagrams for this statement.



Some P are not Q

Again here all that we know that there is atleast one P which is not a Q.

Please note the `atleast'. It is quite possible that no P may be a Q. Thus the conclusion that "some P are Q' cannot follow this statement.

To summarize:

	Correct conclusion	Commonly made wrong conclusion
All P are Q	Some Q are P	All Q are P
No P is Q	No Q is P	——
Some P are Q	Some Q are P	Some P are not Q
Some P are not Q	——	Some P are Q
		Some Q are not P

Now lets move on to find the inferences drawn from two such statements. Ideally we will try to eliminate the use of venn diagrams and try to decipher the conclusions verbally. Strive hard to visualize the venn diagram if required and not to draw it as venn diagrams are nothing but crutches and unnecessarily take time.

Deductive Logic: Type A

Practice Exercise - 1 (Level 1)

Directions for questions 1 to 14: In each question a set of six statements is given, followed by four answer choices. Each of the answer choices has a combination of three statements from the given set of six statements. You are required to identify the answer choice in which the statements are logically related.

1. A. All green is blue B. All green is white

C. All green is black D. All black is white

E. All blue is yellow F. All blue is white

a. ABF b. AEF c. CDB d. CBE

2. A. Pomfret is a fish B. Pomfret is not a fish

C. Pomfret will not lay eggs D. Some fish lay eggs

E. All fish lay eggs F. Pomfret may lay eggs

a. DFA b. ADF c. BDF d. EBC

3. A. All copper is metal B. All bronze is not metal

C. Some metal is silver D. Some metal is not silver

E. No copper is bronze F. Some silver is not metal

a. ABF b. ACB c. ABE d. CDF

4. A. T may be A B. A is T

C. T is G D. Some G are A

E. G may be A F. No A is T

a. CDA b. BCF c. DEF d. ACB

5. A. Actors know English B. He does not know English

C. He is an actor D. He is not an actor

E. He knows Hindi F. He should know English

a. ADB b. AEF c. DEA d. ACF

6. A. Some buildings may have rain B. Forests have buildings

C. Cities have forests D. Forests have monkeys

E. Forests have rain F. Cities have rain

a. CDE b. AFC c. AEB d. EBA

7. A. All beaters are cheaters B. All teachers are cheaters

C. Some cheaters are teachers D. Some teachers are beaters

E. Some teachers are beaters and cheaters F. Some beaters are cheaters

a. AFC b. BDE c. CDE d. FAB

8. A. Cricketers are politicians B. Rigging is happening now

C. Rigging precedes elections D. Elections precede cricket

E. Elections will happen next F. Rigging is done by cricketers

a. BEC b. CBE c. ACF d. DCF

9. A. Some people are corrupt B. Power is corrupt

C. He is powerful D. People is power

E. He is corrupt F. Corrupt is power

a. CBE b. CEB c. FAD d. ADF

10. A. Grass eats lion B. Lion eats mammal

C. Meat eats grass D. Lion eats meat

E. Grass eats mammal F. Lion eats grass

a. FDC b. DCF c. CBA d. FED

11. A. Some communists are socialists B. All socialists are Leninists

C. Some socialists are Leninists D. Marxists are not capitalists

E. All leninists are communists F. All communists are socialists

a. CEA b. CEF c. ABE d. BEF

12. A. All Sitas are liars B. Some Sitas are girls

C. All girls are Sitas D. Some girls are liars

E. All girls are liars F. All liars are girls

a. ABC b. BCD c. BCE d. CAE

13. A. Moon is a satellite B. Moon is a planet

C. Some planets are satellites D. Some satellites are moon

E. Earth is a planet F. Moon may be a satellite

a. CBA b. CBF c. CDB d. AEF

14. A. Some students study biology B. No student studies history

C. Some students study biology and history D. Some students study history

E. All students study biology F. All students study history

11. A. Some communists are socialists B. All socialists are Leninists

C. Some socialists are Leninists D. Marxists are not capitalists

E. All leninists are communists F. All communists are socialists

a. CEA b. CEF c. ABE d. BEF

12. A. All Sitas are liars B. Some Sitas are girls

C. All girls are Sitas D. Some girls are liars

E. All girls are liars F. All liars are girls

a. ABC b. BCD c. BCE d. CAE

13. A. Moon is a satellite B. Moon is a planet

C. Some planets are satellites D. Some satellites are moon

E. Earth is a planet F. Moon may be a satellite

a. CBA b. CBF c. CDB d. AEF

14. A. Some students study biology B. No student studies history

C. Some students study biology and history D. Some students study history

E. All students study biology F. All students study history

a. EDC b. ABE c. CDF d. DCB

Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
14					

Practice Exercise - 2 (Level 1)

Directions for questions 1 to 15: In each question a set of six statements is given, followed by four answer choices. Each of the answer choices has a combination of three statements from the given set of six statements. You are required to identify the answer choice in which the statements are logically related.

1. A. All cows are goats B. All goats are dogs

C. No goats are cows D. No goats are dogs

E. All cows are dogs F. All dogs are cows

a. FAB b. ABE c. AFB d. ABF

2. A. Some lids are nibs B. All hooks are lids

C. All hooks are nibs D. No lid is a nib

E. No lid is a hook F. No nib is a hook

a. EFD b. BCA c. DEA d. CDA

3. A. All MBAs are logical B. Sudhir is rational

C. Sudhir is a logical MBA D. Sudhir is a man

E. Some men are MBAs F. All men are rational

a. DEC b. EAF c. BCF d. FDB

4. A. Competitive examinations B. There is heavy competition in any field

are tough to pass

C. No student can pass MAT D. Very few students can pass MAT

E. MAT is a competitive examination F. MAT is tough to pass

a. AEF b. ABC c. DFB d. CDE

5. A. All pens are knives B. All knives are spoons

C. No knives are pens D. No knives are spoons

E. All pens are spoons F. All spoons are pens

a. ABE b. ABF c. AFE d. DBE

6. A. All As are Bs B. All Bs are not As

C. All Bs are good D. All As eat corn

E. All Bs eat corn F. All As are good

a. ABE b. ADE c. BED d. ACF

7. A. No poor is wise B. No wise is poor

C. All students are poor D. No student is wise

E. All poor are students F. Some poor are not wise

a. EFD b. CAD c. ABD d. ECB

8. A. Some rings are bangles B. All crowns are rings

C. All crowns are bangles D. No ring is a bangle

E. A few bangles are rings F. No bangle is a crown

a. BCA b. DFB c. CDE d. EFD

9. A. All cooks are smart B. A few cooks are wise

C. Some wise are cooks D. All smart are wise

E. No wise is cook F. No smart is a cook

a. AEF b. AFC c. ADC d. BEF

10. A. Lakme is a nail polish B. Some nail polishes contain oil

C. All nail polishes do not contain oil D. All nail polishes contain chemicals

E. Lakme has oil F. Lakme contain chemicals

a. BCE b. AEB c. FDA d. AEF

11. A. Some actors are poets B. Raj is a poet

C. Krishnan is an actor D. Krishnan is a singer

E. All singers are actors F. Raj is an actor

a. BED b. ADC c. DEC d. ABF

12. A. Some novels are formal books B. All magazines are formal books

C. Some magazines are humourous D. Some magazines may be humourous

E. Some formal books are humourous F. Some humourous books are not magazines

a. BEC b. DEB c. ABC d. BED

13. A. All philosophers are great B. A is mortal

C. A is a great philosopher D. A is a man

E. Some men are philosophers F. All men are mortal

a. DEC b. FDB c. EAD d. BCF

14. A. Santosh is intelligent B. Some smart people are intelligent

C. All intelligent are bold D. Not all intelligent people are smart

E. Santosh is bold F. Santosh is smart

11. A. Some actors are poets B. Raj is a poet

C. Krishnan is an actor D. Krishnan is a singer

E. All singers are actors F. Raj is an actor

a. BED b. ADC c. DEC d. ABF

12. A. Some novels are formal books B. All magazines are formal books

C. Some magazines are humourous D. Some magazines may be humourous

E. Some formal books are humourous F. Some humourous books are not magazines

a. BEC b. DEB c. ABC d. BED

13. A. All philosophers are great B. A is mortal

C. A is a great philosopher D. A is a man

E. Some men are philosophers F. All men are mortal

a. DEC b. FDB c. EAD d. BCF

14. A. Santosh is intelligent B. Some smart people are intelligent

C. All intelligent are bold D. Not all intelligent people are smart

E. Santosh is bold F. Santosh is smart

a. CAE b. CEA c. ADF d. DFA

15. A. All ants are animals B. All animals are not ants

C. All animals are mad D. All ants lay eggs

E. All animals lay eggs F. Ants are mad

a. ADE b. BED c. ABE d. ACF

Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
15					

Practice Exercise - 3 (Level 1)

Directions for questions 1 to 14: In each question a set of six statements is given, followed by four answer choices. Each of the answer choices has a combination of three statements from the given set of six statements. You are required to identify the answer choice in which the statements are logically related.

1. A. All bees are ants B. All ants are not bees

C. Ants are black D. All bees are cheerful

E. All ants are cheerful F. Bees are black

a. ADE b. BED c. ABE d. ACF

2. A. Humans are not dumb B. Some humans are not dumb

C. Not all humans are dumb D. Not all humans are not dumb

E. Ramu is a human F. Ramu is not dumb

a. EFA b. EFB c. ACD d. EFD

3. A. All violets are blue B. Some violets have no thorns

C. All blue flowers are violets D. This flower has thorns

E. This flower is blue in colour F. This flower is a violet

a. DEB b. DBA c. ACB d. CEF

4. A. Some clips are bolts B. All bolts are pins

C. Some clips are pins D. Some pins are clips

E. No clip is a pin F. No bolt is a clip

a. CDE b. FCD c. CDA d. ABC

5. A. No woman is proud B. No proud person is a woman

C. All counsellors are women D. No counsellor is proud

E. All women are counsellors F. Some women are not proud

a. EFD b. CAD c. ABD d. ECB

6. A. All bats are mats B. All mats are cats

C. No mats are bats D. No mats are cats

E. All bats are cats F. All cats are bats

a. ABE b. DBE c. FAB d. AFE

7. A. Smoking causes pollution B. Smoking creates ill-will

C. Smoking sometimes causes fire D. Ill-will causes pollution

E. Smoking causes fire and pollution F. All smokers cause fire and pollution

a. ABE b. FEC c. DBF d. BDA

8. A. All 1s are 10s B. All 10s are 100s

C. No 10 is a 1 D. No 10 is a 100

E. All 1s are 100s F. All 100s are 1s

a. FAB b. ABE c. DBE d. AFE

9. A. Rubber is made of acacia B. Trees are made of acacia

C. Paper is not made from trees D. Paper is made from rubber

E. Paper is made from trees F. Paper is made from acacia

a. FAC b. DAF c. DFA d. FED

10. A. No poet is rewarded B. Dipa was a poet

C. Poets are hanged D. All poets are rewarded

E. Dipa was hanged F. Some poets are punished

a. BFA b. ADE c. EFB d. CBE

11. A. All suns are white dwarfs B. A few suns are red giants

C. Some red giants are suns D. All white dwarfs are red giants

E. No red giants is a white dwarf F. No white dwarf is a sun

a. BEF b. ADC c. AFC d. CEF

12. A. All poets are wise B. William is creative

C. William is a wise poet D. William is a man

E. Some men are poets F. All men are creative

a. DEC b. FDB c. EAD d. BCF

13. A. Races are daces B. All daces are paces

C. No daces are races D. No daces are paces

E. All races are paces F. All paces are races

a. ABE b. FAB c. AFE d. DBE

14. A. No man is a goat B. Goats are stinky

C. Goats are pigs D. Pigs are from dump yards

E. Pigs may not be men F. Men eat pigs

C. Some red giants are suns D. All white dwarfs are red giants

E. No red giants is a white dwarf F. No white dwarf is a sun

a. BEF b. ADC c. AFC d. CEF

12. A. All poets are wise B. William is creative

C. William is a wise poet D. William is a man

E. Some men are poets F. All men are creative

a. DEC b. FDB c. EAD d. BCF

13. A. Races are daces B. All daces are paces

C. No daces are races D. No daces are paces

E. All races are paces F. All paces are races

a. ABE b. FAB c. AFE d. DBE

14. A. No man is a goat B. Goats are stinky

C. Goats are pigs D. Pigs are from dump yards

E. Pigs may not be men F. Men eat pigs

a. BDC b. CDE c. ACF d. CAE

Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
14					

Deductive Logic: Type B

Practice Exercise - 1 (Level 1)

Directions for questions 1 to 15: In each question four sets of three sentences are given. You have to identify whether the three sentences in each of these sets are logically related.

1. A. All plants are moon. All moon are stars. All stars are plants.

B. All men are thinkers. All poets are thinkers. All men write poetry.

C. Orange is a seasonal fruit. Guava is a seasonal fruit. Orange are guavas.

D. All tubes are handles. All cups are handles. Some cups may be tubes.

a. D b. A and B c. C and B d. B

2. A. Some players are singers. Some singers are tall. Some players are tall.

B. Some dancers steal. All who steal are immoral. Some dancers are immoral.

C. Some flowers are not stem. All stems are roots. Some flowers are roots.

D. Either Ram or Shyam attends college. Ram has gone to college. Shyam has gone to the cinema hall.

a. C and B b. D c. A d. B

3. A. All apples are oranges. Some oranges are mangoes. Some apples are mangoes.

B. All sports persons are healthy. Some who are healthy are women. Some sports persons are women.

C. All carrots are edible. All edible contain vitamin. Vitamin is present in carrots.

D. No car is a cart. No cart is a cycle. No cycle is a car.

a. A and B b. D c. C d. B

4. A. All coins are leaves. Some leaves are pens. Some coins are pens.

B. Mangoes contain allergen. Magan is mango. Magan contains allergen.

C. USA is a Security Council member. UK is a Security Council member. All Security Council members are not from the Asian countries.

D. X is Y's mother. All daughters wear socks. Y wears socks.

a. A and B b. B and D c. B d. D

5. A. Ram is a good boy. Rawan is good boy. Ram likes Rawan.

B. Some scientists are magicians. All magicians are emotional. All scientists are emotional.

C. Some fools are intelligent. Some who are intelligent are great.

Some fools are great.

D. All pilots are trained. All who are trained are professional. All pilots are professional.

a. B b. C c. A d. D

6. A. All hill stations in India have a sunset point. H is a hill station. H has a sunset point.

B. All men are educated. Educated persons are wise. All men are wise.

C. All locks are cups. Some cups are pins. Some locks are pins.

D. All who dress formally wear shoes. Clinton dresses formally. Clinton wears shoes.

a. A and D b. B and C c. A d. B and D

7. A. All lamps are books. No book is black. No lamp is black.

B. All youngsters are open minded. Open-minded persons are not superstitious. All non-superstitious persons are youngsters.

C. A is Z. B is Z. A is B.

D. No magazine is a monkey. All monkeys are troops. Some troops are magazines.

a. A b. B c. D d. C

8. A. Radha is fair. Doctors marry only fair girls. Radha is married to a doctor.

B. Mikha Singh is a sportsman. Sportsmen are healthy. Mikha Singh is healthy.

C. Rohan is honest. All honest are boys. Rohan is a boy.

D. Some ants are dinosaurs. Some dinosaurs are carnivorous. Some ants are carnivorous.

a. B b. D c. B and C d. A

9. A. Verma has 20 years of banking experience. A regional manager's rank is given after 21 years of banking service. Verma is a regional manager.

B. Some nurses are nuns. Mary is a nun. Mary is a nurse.

C. Some shirts are pants. Some pants are socks. Some socks are shirts.

D. All goats are wolves. All wolves are wicked. All goats are wicked.

a. A and B b. B and C c. A and C d. D

10. A. Actors are directors. Directors are producers. Actors are producers.

B. Lilies are cars. Cars are gangues. Some lilies are not gangues.

C. Radhakrishnan goes to school. Radhakrishnan is rarely absent from school. Radhakrishnan is intelligent.

D. Swimmers need stamina. Mrinal is a swimmer. Mrinal needs stamina.

a. A and D b. A and B c. B and C d. C and D

11. A. Tigers live in jungles. Houses are in jungles. Tigers live in houses.

B. Tables play chess. Chess is an easy game. Tables cannot play difficult games.

C. No rich person is polite. Some cricketers are rich. Cricketers are not polite.

D. Scientists are absent minded. No absent-minded persons are stupid. Scientists are not stupid.

a. A b. B c. C d. D

12. A. Smoking is injurious to the lungs. John smokes. John cannot be a cancer patient.

B. All neighbours are friends. Abhishek and Shekhar are neighbours. Abhishek and Shekhar are friends.

C. Some movies are entertaining. All movies are informative. Some movies are entertaining and informative.

D. Some kites are rails. All rails are heavy. All kites are heavy.

a. A and B b. B and C c. C d. D

13. A. All triangles are 12 sided. This has 12 sides. This is a triangle.

B. Some petals are peacocks; No peacock is beautiful; Some petals are beautiful.

C. Some pastries are salty; Some fruits are salty; Some pastries are fruits.

D. All roads are poles. All poles are lamps. Some lamps are roads.

a. A b. B c. C d. D

14. A. He is either a cricketer or a footballer. He is cricketer. He is a footballer.

B. Subroto has impeccable manners. Managers have impeccable manners. Subroto is a manager.

C. Some from Mars are cows. Nothing from Mars is real. Cows from Mars are not real.

D. All rats are dirty. Dirt leads to disease. Rats are not diseased.

a. A and C b. B and C c. C d. D

15. A. Soldiers serve their country. Women are not soldiers. Women do not serve their country.

B. Rich persons have great influence. Rakesh has great influence. Rakesh is a rich person.

C. Only smokers get cancer. Ritesh has cancer. Ritesh is a smoker.

D. All pens are petals. All petals are pins. Some pins are pens.

a. A and D b. B and C c. B d. C and D

Scoring table

D. All roads are poles. All poles are lamps. Some lamps are roads.

a. A b. B c. C d. D

14. A. He is either a cricketer or a footballer. He is cricketer. He is a footballer.

B. Subroto has impeccable manners. Managers have impeccable manners. Subroto is a manager.

C. Some from Mars are cows. Nothing from Mars is real. Cows from Mars are not real.

D. All rats are dirty. Dirt leads to disease. Rats are not diseased.

a. A and C b. B and C c. C d. D

15. A. Soldiers serve their country. Women are not soldiers. Women do not serve their country.

B. Rich persons have great influence. Rakesh has great influence. Rakesh is a rich person.

C. Only smokers get cancer. Ritesh has cancer. Ritesh is a smoker.

D. All pens are petals. All petals are pins. Some pins are pens.

a. A and D b. B and C c. B d. C and D

Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
15					

Practice Exercise - 2 (Level 1)

Direction for questions 1 to 14: In each question four sets of three sentences are given. You have to identify whether the three sentences in each of these sets are logically related.

1. A. Singing is an art. Singing is learnt. Learning is an art.

B. Most men commit blunders. Doctors are men. Doctors cannot commit blunders.

C. All posters are red. All pamphlets are red. All posters are pamphlets.

D. No box is a doll. All dolls are trunks. Some trunks are not boxes.

a. A and B b. A and C c. A d. D

2. A. Ram is Rita's husband. Rita loves Ram. Ram loves Rita.

B. Painting is a career. Drawing is a career. Painting is drawing.

C. All readers are writers. All writers are honest. All readers are honest.

D. Some scientists are researcher. No researcher is stupid. Some scientists are not stupid.

a. A b. B c. C and D d. D

3. A. Films are dramas. Dramas are plump. All plump are films.

B. Reading increases knowledge. Writing increases reading. Writing increases knowledge.

C. No rats are goats. This is a goat. This is not a rat.

D. Jainism is violence. Jainism teaches non-violence. Some violence teaches non-violence.

a. A b. B and C c. B, C and D d. C and D

4. A. Money is valuable. Integrity is valuable. Money is integrity.

B. Some men are famous. All who are famous are great. Some men are great.

C. Femina is a magazine. All magazines have an editor. Femina has an editor.

D. Pianos are costly. Pianos are difficult to learn. Anything that is difficult to learn is costly.

a. A and D b. B and C c. D d. B

5. A. All Fiats are Ambassadors. Some Fiats are white. Some Ambassadors are black.

B. There are handsome men. Only men are vile. It is false that nothing is both vile and handsome.

C. There is a picket line at the factory. Pickets are present only at strikes. There must be a strike at the factory.

D. No camera is a magazine. Some caps are magazines. Some caps are cameras.

a. A and B b. B and C c. C d. D

6. A. Only the express train does not stop at this station. The last train did not stop. It must have been the express train.

B. All belts are pens. All pens are lamps. All belts are lamps.

C. Graf lost the tournament. Martina won the tournament. Martina is a better player than Graf.

D. Hardwork pays. Honesty pays. Hardwork is honesty.

a. A b. C c. A and B d. D

7. A. All penniless were convicted. Some of the guilty were acquitted. Some who were not penniless were not innocent.

B. There can be no smoke without fire. There is smoke. There is fire.

C. This is a rose. This rose is red. Some roses are green.

D. No deer is a reindeer. No reindeer is a rabbit. No rabbit is a deer.

a. B b. A c. C d. D

8. A. Every boy who meets Mandira falls in love with her. Every boy who dates Prerna meets Mandira. Every boy who dates Prerna falls in love with her.

B. All practice is theory. All surgery is practice. All surgery is theory.

C. All alcoholics are intoxicated. All who are intoxicated are undependable. All alcoholics are undependable.

D. Either he or she drinks mineral water. He drank Thumbs Up. She drank mineral water.

a. A b. B, C and D c. C d. C and D

9. A. Bata watches was unable to pay interest on its debts. Bankrupt companies are unable to pay interest on their debts. Bata watches is a bankrupt company.

B. Everyone who smokes marijuana goes on to try heroin. Everyone who tries heroin becomes hopelessly addicted to it. Everyone who smokes marijuana becomes hopelessly addicted to heroin.

C. Fish never bite after a rain. Fish are not biting. It must have rained lately.

D. All buildings over 300 feet are skyscrapers. Skyscrapers are not the only example of modern architecture. All examples of modern architecture are buildings over 300 feet tall.

a. A b. B c. C d. D

10. A. At least one girl failed. One girl failed. There was only one girl in the class.

B. I wear sandals. Sandals come with or without straps. I wear any of the two kinds of sandals.

C. Children carry bags to school. Bags contain books. Children carry books to school.

D. Blue Lines are dangerous. Three people were killed on Delhi roads yesterday. Blue Lines should be banned.

a. B and C only b. A, B and C c. C only d. C and D

11. A. My personal library has 100 Rudyard Kipling books. Rudyard Kipling has written 100 books. My library has only Rudyard kipling.

B. The pencils are a part of the pencil box. Pencil boxes are contained in the bag. The bag may contain a pencil.

C. Some telephones are not cordless. All books are cordless. Some telephones are not books.

D. Blanket is used by all in winter. Body requires warmth in winter. Blanket is used to overcome cold.

a. A and D b. A, B and C c. B and C d. B, C and D

12. A. Shobha always laughs. Akbar is a Shobha. All who laugh are Akbars.

B. Susan is a Shobha. Shobhas always speak the truth. Susan cannot say, "I lied."

C. Brufen reduces pain. Citrocromycin is not Brufen. Citrocromycin does not reduce pain.

D. All atheletes eat porridge. Some dancers eat porridge. All atheletes are dancers.

a. Only A b. Only D c. Only C d. Only B

13. A. All animals need sleep. Men need sleep. Men are animals.

B. Dogs are animals. Men are animals. Some men are dogs.

C. All animals need sleep. Men are animals. Men need sleep.

D. All animals need sleep. Dogs are animals. Dogs need sleep.

a. B and C b. C and D c. A and C d. C only

14. A. Oranges are fruits. Some oranges are not sour. Some fruits are sour.

B. An ostrich lays eggs. An ostrich is a bird. All birds lay eggs.

C. An ostrich is a bird. Some birds can fly. An ostrich cannot fly.

D. Oranges are fruit. Some oranges are sour. Some fruits are sour.

a. A, C and D b. B and D c. D only d. A and D

Scoring table

C. Brufen reduces pain. Citrocromycin is not Brufen. Citrocromycin does not reduce pain.

D. All atheletes eat porridge. Some dancers eat porridge. All atheletes are dancers.

a. Only A b. Only D c. Only C d. Only B

13. A. All animals need sleep. Men need sleep. Men are animals.

B. Dogs are animals. Men are animals. Some men are dogs.

C. All animals need sleep. Men are animals. Men need sleep.

D. All animals need sleep. Dogs are animals. Dogs need sleep.

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a. A, C and D b. B and D c. D only d. A and D

Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
14					

Logical Consistency

Introduction

In Logical Consistency, the basic constituents are simple propositions which are combined into more complex propositions (conditional) by means of logical words, like 'not', 'and', 'or' and 'if'.

Learning Objectives

· To understand the logical validity of a complex proposition
such as: if, then; only if; unless; whenever

· To learn to avoid errors in reasoning that can render an

argument logically invalid

· To apply the concepts in a single exercise

Logical Consistency

Consider the following example.

If P is in the hotel (*Fact 1*), then R is in the room (*Fact 2*).

Can R be in the room when P is not in the hotel?

Yes

The condition given in the first statement is that if P is in the hotel (i.e. if *Fact 1* is true), then R definitely has to be in the room (i.e. *Fact 2* is definitely true). R can be in the room otherwise also, i.e. when P is not in the hotel.

The valid conclusions you can make about the main statement are:

i. P is in the hotel, R is in the room (straight logic).

ii. R is not in the room, P is not in the hotel (straight negation).

Statement (ii) above is also correct because at any given point of time R and P have two possible positions each i.e.

R	P
1. In the room	1. In the hotel
2. Not in the room	2. Not in the hotel

When R is not in the room, P has two options, of either being in the hotel or not in the hotel
(but not at both places). However, it can be concluded that P is not in the hotel because had it been the case, then R would have been in the room, which isn't true. So P is definitely not in the hotel.

In logical consistency questions you are given a main statement followed by four statements. You would have to pick a combination of two of these four statements, which are logically correct and are consistent with the main statement given.

To build up speed in these problems, one should just identify

• the two facts given in the conditional (main statement).

• whether it is a case of sufficient condition i.e.

Fact 1 (true) always implies *Fact 2* (true).

• whether it is a case of necessary condition i.e.

Fact 2 (true) always implies *Fact 1* (true).

If one is clear on the above three points, questions on logical consistency become a cakewalk.

If, When, Whenever

If it rains then the ground gets wet.

Here "it rains" is *Fact 1* and "ground gets wet" is *Fact 2*. This is an example of a *sufficient condition*.

Conclusions based on `Sufficient Condition':

We know that if *Fact 1* is true then *Fact 2* is definitely true i.e. *Fact 1* being true is sufficient (but not necessary) for *Fact 2* being true. In other words, if *it rains* then *ground definitely gets wet*. But, the *ground can getwet* even if *it doesn't rain*.

Additionally, if we know that *Fact 2* is not true, we can definitely conclude that *Fact 1* is also not true. That is, if the *ground doesn't get wet*, then "*it rains*" is also not true.

To summarise the above, we can make the following observations:

1.	It rains (*Fact 1* true)	$\Rightarrow$	Ground gets wet (*Fact 2* true)	(Definitely holds)
2.	It doesn't rain (*Fact 1* false)	$\not\Rightarrow$	Ground doesn't get wet (*Fact 2* false)	(Possible, not definite)
3.	Ground gets wet (*Fact 2* true)	$\not\Rightarrow$	It rains (*Fact 1* true)	(Possible, not definite)
4.	Ground doesn't get wet (*Fact 2* false)	$\Rightarrow$	It doesn't rain (*Fact 1* false)	(Definitely holds)

Also please note that the main statement (conditional) can be written in many forms like "If *Fact 1* then *Fact 2*", "Whenever *Fact 1* then *Fact 2*", "*Fact 2* whenever *Fact 1*". All these statements are the same.

Only if (Also used as *Only when*)

Only if my mother is pregnant then I am born.

Here "my mother is pregnant" is *Fact 1* and "I am born" is *Fact 2*. This is an example of a *necessary condition*.

We know that `my mother being pregnant' is a necessary condition for me to be born i.e. *Fact 1* being true is necessary (but not sufficient) for *Fact 2* being true.

In other words, if "I am born" then *my mother is definitelypregnant* but my "mother is pregnant" can be true even if *I am not born* as it could be my brother/sister who is born.

Additionally, if we know that *Fact 1* is not true, we can definitely conclude that *Fact 2* is also not true. That is, if my mother is not pregnant then `I am born' is also not true.

To summarise the above, we can make the following observations:

1.	My mother is pregnant (*Fact 1* true)	$\not\Rightarrow$	I am born (*Fact 2* true)	(Possible, not definite)
2.	My mother is not pregnant (*Fact 1* false)	$\Rightarrow$	I am not born (*Fact 2* false)	(Definitely holds)
3.	I am born (*Fact 2* true)	$\Rightarrow$	My mother is pregnant (*Fact 1* true)	(Definitely holds)
4.	I am not born (*Fact 2* false)	$\not\Rightarrow$	My mother is not pregnant (*Fact 1* false)	(Possible, not definite)

If and only if (Also used as *When and only when*)

This case is a union of the above two cases and is the simplest. The case also refers to the *Fact 1* being a *sufficient* and a *necessary condition* for *Fact 2* to be true.

`*Fact 1* if and only if *Fact 2*` would mean that

1. *Fact 1* is true $\Rightarrow$ *Fact 2* is true

2. *Fact 1* is false $\Rightarrow$ *Fact 2* is false

3. *Fact 2* is true $\Rightarrow$ *Fact 1* is true

4. *Fact 2* is false $\Rightarrow$ *Fact 1* is false

Either/Or

Either Sushmita is beautiful or Aishwarya is beautiful implies that at least one out of the two is beautiful but it doesn't mean that both cannot be beautiful.

To understand it further, let's take the following two cases:

Case I:

Sushmita is beautiful $\Rightarrow$ Aishwarya is not beautiful.

(Incorrect; she may be beautiful too)

Case II:

Sushmita is not beautiful $\Rightarrow$ Aishwarya is beautiful.

This case is a union of the above two cases and is the simplest. The case also refers to the *Fact 1* being a *sufficient* and a *necessary condition* for *Fact 2* to be true.

`*Fact 1* if and only if *Fact 2*` would mean that

1. *Fact 1* is true ⇒ *Fact 2* is true

2. *Fact 1* is false ⇒ *Fact 2* is false

3. *Fact 2* is true ⇒ *Fact 1* is true

4. *Fact 2* is false ⇒ *Fact 1* is false

Either/Or

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(Incorrect; she may be beautiful too)

Case II:

Sushmita is not beautiful ⇒ Aishwarya is beautiful.

(Correct; at least one out of the two has to be beautiful)

Practice Exercise (Level 1)

Directions for questions 1 to 22: In each question a main statement is followed by four statements: A, B, C and D. Choose the ordered pair of statements where the first statement implies the second, and the two statements are logically consistent with the main statement.

1. When it does not rain, frogs croak

A. It did not rain

B. It rained

C. The frogs did not croak

D. The frogs croaked

a. AC b. CA c. AD d. DC

2. Kamal drinks either tea or juice

A. Kamal does not drink tea

B. Kamal drinks tea

C. Kamal drinks juice

D. Kamal does not drink juice

a. AB b. CD c. AC d. BC

3. A and B cannot be selected if X and Y are selected in that order

A. A and B are selected

B. X and Y are not selected in that order

C. Y and X are selected in that order

D. A and B are not selected

a. CA b. BC c. AB d. AD

4. Vinod is either a poet or a doctor

A. Vinod is a poet

B. Vinod is a doctor

C. Vinod is an engineer

D. Vinod is not a poet

a. AB b. CD c. CA d. DB

5. A is with B on Monday only if X is not with Y

A. A is with B on Wednesday

B. Y is with X

C. X is with Y

D. A and B are not together on Monday

a. AB b. AC c. CD d. CA

6. He has a cold every time he plays

A. He did not play

B. He had a cold

C. He did not have a cold

D. He played

a. CA b. BD c. AC d. BA

7. Whenever he is loaded, he falls sick

A. He falls sick

B. He is not loaded

C. He does not fall sick

D. He is loaded

a. AB b. BA c. DC d. CB

8. He is a violinist or a pianist

A. He is a violinist

B. He is not a violinist

C. He is a pianist

D. He is not a pianist

a. AB b. CD c. AC d. DA

9. Each time Sachin is the captain India loses

A. Sachin is the captain

B. India did not win

C. Sachin is not the captain

D. India won

a. AD b. DC c. DA d. CA

10. Either this is a cat or a rat

A. This is a cat

B. This is not a rat

C. This is a rat

D. This is not a cat

a. CD b. DC c. AB d. Both (a) and (c)

11. When Ram drinks coffee, he feels unwell

A. Ram drank coffee

B. Ram did not drink coffee

C. Ram feels well

D. Ram feels unwell

a. AB b. AD c. CB d. Both (b) and (c)

12. He drinks tea and coffee only if he drinks them together

A. He did not drink tea

B. He drank tea

C. He did not drink coffee

D. He drank mango juice

a. AC b. AB c. AD d. CD

13. If T has juice today, N will have Horlicks.

A. T is drinking juice.

B. N is not drinking Horlicks.

C. T is not drinking juice.

D. N is drinking Horlicks.

a. AC b. BC c. CB d. CD

14. If I come first, I will be very jubilant

A. I have topped

B. I am not jubilant

C. I have not come first

D. I am excited

a. BC b. CA c. CD d. DA

15. R will go out with S if S wears black clothes.

A. R went out with S.

B. R did not go with S.

C. S did not wear black clothes.

D. S wore black clothes.

a. BC b. CB c. AC d. AB

16. All fish swim either in water tanks or in rivers.

A. Fishes swim in water tanks.

B. Fishes swim in river.

C. Fishes do not swim in river.

D. Fishes do not swim in water tanks.

a. CB b. AB c. CD d. DB

17. Rose is either a thorn or flower.

A. Rose is a thorn.

B. Rose is a flower.

C. Rose is a butterfly.

D. Rose is not a flower.

a. CD b. DA c. BC d. AB

18. If A is in the room, B exits from the room

A. A is in the room

B. A is not in the room

C. B is in the room

D. B is not in the room

a. BD b. DC c. BC d. AD

19. If an apple is ripe, it will taste nice

A. The apple is ripe

B. The apple is not ripe

C. The apple will taste nice

D. The apple will not taste nice

a. AC b. BD c. AD d. Both (a) and (b)

20. Opinder either does scanning or typing

A. Opinder does not scan

B. Opinder scans

C. Opinder types

D. Opinder does not type

a. BC b. AC c. CD d. AB

21. Either Paresh or Ashu is a zombie

A. Paresh is a zombie

B. Ashu is a zombie

C. Paresh is not a zombie

D. Ashu is not a zombie

a. AC b. BD c. AB d. CB

22. All that glitters is gold

A. X glitters

B. X is not gold

C. X is gold

D. X does not glitter

a. CA b. DB c. BA d. BD

Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
22					

Inferential Reasoning

Learning Objectives

Reasoning = Valid Logical Argument

In Inferential Reasoning, we are given an argument (a short paragraph) and asked to answer questions based on it.

Learning Objectives:

· To understand the basic structure of a Inferential Reasoning argument

· To identify key words that indicate transition in an argument

· To learn about kinds of assumptions

· To identify types of Inferential Reasoning questions

Inferential Reasoning

Inferential reasoning is made up of short reading passages. Here every single word should be considered carefully, shades of meaning are very important. Each of these passages is followed by one or two questions. These questions test your analytical and logical reasoning.

Before getting on to solving right away, let us try to understand the basic requirements to master inferential / critical reasoning.

1. Understanding the basic structure of inferential reasoning passages.

2. Identifying the parts of the argumentative passages.

3. Studying the question types.

4. Attacking the questions.

5. Eliminating the choices.

Understanding the basic structure of inferential reasoning passages:

Most inferential reasoning passages are in the form of arguments in which the writer tries to convince the reader of something.

Most of the arguments are built on certain facts. The facts could be one or many. On the basis of these facts one tries to give a conclusion to an argument. In this process of concluding one or many assumptions could also have been made. Hence, we could say:

Every argumentative statement will have three main parts, viz.

1. The Conclusion

2. The Premise/Facts

3. The Assumptions

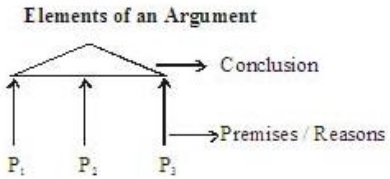
Having understood the general content of argumentative passages, now we need to understand, what is a conclusion, a premise and an assumption and how each one differs from the other.

The Conclusion : This is what one is trying to convince the other person of.

The Premises : These are the pieces of evidence one gives to support his conclusion.

The Assumptions : These are unstated ideas or evidence without which the entire conclusion might be invalid.

Visually an argument looks like this:



It can be said that the conclusion rests on the pillars or is supported by the pillars of premises.

Identifying Premise and Conclusion

Most of the inferential reasoning problems require evaluation and analysis of the arguments. Before analysing any argument one needs to identify and understand the different parts of an argument.

Identifying the parts of any argument.

Any argumentative statement could be in the form:

i. Premise, premise, premise, conclusion

ii. Conclusion, premise, premise, premise

So if we are to identify a conclusion, we should be looking at either the beginning of the statement or at the end of the statement. If you are looking for premise, it might again be either at the beginning and continue to the middle or start at the middle and go on till the end of the argument.

If you are looking for assumptions, then you need to remember that assumptions generally are not stated in the argument. Most of the arguments will have facts leading to conclusions based on unstated assumptions.

Look for the lead words

Identifying a conclusion:

1. Look for conclusion either at the beginning or at the end of the passage.

2. Trigger words that signal a conclusion are:

• Therefore • Thus

• So • Hence

• Implies • Indicates

3. Look for statements that cannot stand alone.

4. Otherwise look for facts that are parts of any argument.

Identifying Premise:

1. Premise is generally preceded by words like

• Because • In view of • Since • Given that

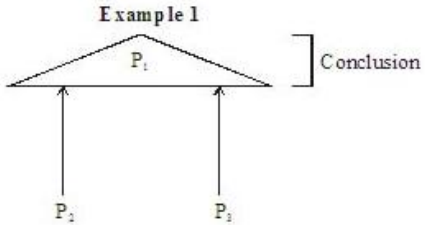
Example 1: Visualizing an Argument

The argument below consists of conclusion P1 supported by premises P2 and P3. It can be visualized as shown in the diagram below.

P1: Beauty pagents should be banned.

P2: Beauty pagents result in women being reduced to commodities.

P3: Also the kinds of dresses that they are asked to wear, especially in the swimsuit round, goes against the values of the Indian society.



Example 2: Visualizing an argument which has a sub-argument.

The argument below has a sub-argument. P1 is the conclusion drawn from the other premises. Also P2 is a sub conclusion supported by the premises P3 and P4.

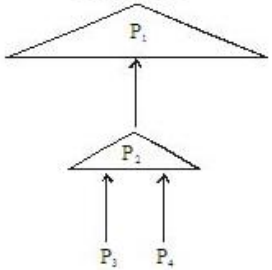
P1: Mohan should not be appointed as the head of the department because:

P2: he does not know how to handle or motivate people.

P3: he could not resolve the conflict between two of his subordinates last week.

P4: his present subordinates are demotivated and two of his 4 subordinates have already left.

Example 2



An assumption question asks you to identify an unstated premise of the passage. As you read the passage, what you will be looking for is a gap in the underlying argument.The gap that can only be closed by stating out aloud what is now being assumed.

Example 3: Identifying the assumption

P1: Morpheus Pvt Ltd has recently signed up Mckinsey for its restructuring operations.

P2: Mr. Prahlad Basu -the reputed management Guru- who helped to successfully restructure Gamma technologies is also working with Morpheus in an advisory capacity.

P3: Hence Morpheus should be a successfully restructured company by 2010.

Assumption:

1) Mckinsey and Mr.Prahlad Basu will be able to deliver in their capacity as consultants to successfully restructure Morpheus.

2) Morpheus will be able to implement the strategies of the consultants successfully.

Example 4:

P1: Kapil should not take the GMAT test.

P2: Kapil's family will not be able to support his education abroad.

P3: Kapil stands a good chance of getting through the IIMs here.

Assumptions:

1) Kapil cannot self-finance his education abroad.

2) IIMs are a reasonable alternative to education abroad.

Assumption

The assumptions made can be of different types.

1. Causal assumptions

2. Analogy assumptions

3. Statistical assumptions

Kinds of Assumptions:

Causal assumptions:

Causal assumptions take an effect and suggest a cause for it. Whenever you come across a cause being suggested for an effect, ask whether there might be an alternative for it.

Analogy assumptions:

An argument by analogy compares one situation with another, ignoring the question of whether the two situations are comparable. Hence, whenever you see comparables ask yourself whether the two situations are comparable.

Statistical assumption:

A statistical assumption uses statistics to prove its point. Whenever you see statistics, always question whether the statistics given are of a representative sample.

Having understood the basic requirements, now we need to understand the application of these fundamentals.

Hence to apply, we need to understand the situations where it should be applied.

Studying the question types:

The questions could be under the following heads.

• Additional fact questions

• Conclusion questions

• Hidden assumption questions

Additional fact questions:

Additional fact questions focus on the supporting details of the argument.You are presented with a complete argument and are asked to either strengthen or weaken the argument.

Conclusion questions:

At times, conclusion will be missing from the arguments. A series of facts along with unstated hidden assumptions will lead to the final statement that you must supply. Sound arguments are linear, in that you can easily predict in what direction the facts are heading. You may also consider the conclusions as an inference. You are inferring the conclusion from specific statements and associated assumptions.

Hidden assumptions:

To tackle the hidden assumption question, you must directly face the hidden statements that underlie the argument. Each hidden assumption statement meets the following criterion. It gives you extra information about the existing facts instead of supplying new facts, and it must be true for the argument to be valid.

Inference questions:

The questions do not really ask you to make an inference. Inference often will have less to do with the conclusion, but is more relevant to the premise. Generally, some information

has not been explicitly stated but subtly gives the information.

Mimic the reasoning questions:

These ask you to identify the method of reasoning used in a passage and ask you to identify the similar reasoning in the answer choices.

Resolve the paradox questions:

They ask you to resolve an apparent paradox or a possible discrepancy. The passage will present you with contradicting facts, and you are to find the answer which allows both the facts to be true.

How to attack inferential reasoning questions?

To understand how to attack the inferential reasoning section, we should first understand what type of questions appear.

The best possible suggestions for doing well in inferential reasoning is to understand how the problems are constructed, what the question is asking you to do, and then to practise. Keep in mind the following steps when tackling this section of the examination.

1. Read each paragraph.

2. Distinguish conclusion from fact and consider the hidden assumptions based on given facts.

3. Read the question carefully.

4. For additional fact questions, make sure of your task (strengthen or weaken) before proceeding. Choose the statement that directly addresses a given fact, hidden assumption or conclusion.

5. For conclusion questions, think in a linear fashion: What are the facts given?

Choose a statement that goes one logical step further from the given sfacts.

6. For hidden assumptions questions, remember to choose a statement that supports the argument with more information about the given issue.

7. Note which question types you have most difficulty with and which distracters trip you up most often. Being aware of your own strengths and weaknesses in this section should help you be more successful at it.

Attacking Each Question Type:

1. How to find a conclusion if it is stated in the passage?

Look at the first sentence of the passage, if this is a conclusion the statements that follow must be supporting facts. Does the second sentence for example support the first. If it goes on to make another point, then the first sentence probably is not the conclusion. Look at the last sentence, maybe it is the conclusion. Look for the trigger words like **thus**, **hence**, etc., and identify the conclusion.

2. Supplying your own conclusion?

4. For additional fact questions, make sure of your task (strengthen or weaken) before proceeding. Choose the statement that directly addresses a given fact, hidden assumption or conclusion.

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2. Supplying your own conclusion?

This passage will have many premises but no conclusion.

Now find the conclusion. Look for the choice with lead words, do not pick choices with any of the statements of the passage.

3. Assumption questions

Assumptions are never stated in the passage. Assumptions should support the conclusion. Look for causal, analogous or statistical situations. Just look for a gap in the argument.

4. Strengthen the argument

Any argument which has a gap in the logic can be fixed with additional information which strengthens the argument.

The added information should support the conclusion made in the argument.

5. Weaken the argument

Any argument which has a gap in the logic can be fixed with additional information which weakens the argument.

Practice Exercise - 1 (Level 1)

Directions for questions 1 to 10: Read the arguments and answer the questions that follow.

1. Americans know, all too well, the pain unleashed by the Great Recession of 2007-9. Still the numbers on the loss of personal wealth during those years are staggering and say a lot about why the economic recovery has been so sluggish - and why the government will need to do a lot more to turn things around. The middle class was hit the hardest because high-income Americans were cushioned by the greater diversity of their assets. Lower-income Americans were somewhat shielded by the safety net and by several provisions of the Obama stimulus of 2009, which helped to prevent a huge upsurge in poverty.

Which of the following if true strengthens the argument above?

a. Median family income, which was already edging down in the years before the recession, continued to decline, dropping from $49,600 in 2007 to $45,800 in 2010, about where it was in the mid-1990s.

b. As per experts, a continued struggle, or worse, backsliding, is almost inevitable, unless Congress and the Federal Reserve provide more aid.

c. What's needed now is even more support, including federal spending on education and public-works projects to create jobs, targeted tax credits for hiring, programs to deliver mortgage relief that supports house prices by keeping Americans in their homes.

d. None of the above

2. Dads are largely absent from the mainstream news media discussion about parenting, and fatherhood is rarely as controversial or politically volatile as motherhood. In movies and TV, dads are either well-meaning dopes like Phil Dunphy in "Modern Family" or the Seth Rogen character in "Knocked Up," or completely absent. Diaper ads are directed to "hardworking moms." Parenting sections of book stores have about three (if that) dusty volumes of books directed to men. But in my day-to-day observations about raising kids, dads are totally in the mix, at least 50-50, and sometimes dominant.

Which of the following if true strengthens the argument above?

a. Today's dads fret as much as moms do about their kids' diets, school curriculums, media consumption, future, past and everything in between.

b. Dads across the country have formed fathering meet-up groups, including the highly successful New York City Dads Group and this year's 17th Annual At-Home Dads Convention.

c. In New York City, more and more dads are attending Boot Camp for New Dads. The camp, a nationally acclaimed program that has reached over 300,000 dads over the past 20 years, emphasizes communication through man-to-man workshops and coaching.

d. Both (b) and (c)

3. The Obama administration's decision to allow as many as 800,000 young immigrants to avoid deportation and apply for work permits makes perfect sense. It wisely rescues blameless young people from legal limbo in an immigration system marked by dysfunction and toxic politics. Before the fog sets in - with the predictable Republican outrage and the distortions of an election year - it is important to be clear that this move does not offer amnesty and has nothing to do with green cards or a path to citizenship.

Which of the following if true strengthens the assertion above?

I. The decision provides limited and temporary relief to people who should not be deported anyway and allows them to work legally.

II. For the young people who would qualify, the decision opens pathways to higher education, to careers, to fuller involvement in society.

III. It shows common sense and a smart use of resources to focus on removing dangerous criminals, recent illegal immigrants and repeat offenders instead of young people who had no choice when they were brought here illegally, have deep American roots, clean records and dreams of higher education.

IV. It is well within Mr. Obama's authority to do this because the federal government can decide how to enforce immigration laws.

a. All of the above. b. Only III c. Only II and III d. Only I, II and III

4. Astonishingly, the nation's largest city is among the safest. Homicides in New York are expected to fall below 500 this year, fewer than in any year since reliable record-keeping began 44 years ago. Mayor Michael Bloomberg and his police commissioner, Ray Kelly, could easily pat each other on the back and call it a day. Laudably, they have instead pledged to bring crime under control in neighborhoods that have so far eluded success.

Which of the following if true weakens the assertion above?

a. Even as the city continues to grow in population, with record numbers of visitors, the police force, at 36,400 officers, remains well below its authorized strength of nearly 38,000.

b. The crime rate in New York has inched upwards and is now higher than the national average due to a sharp increase in the number of crimes like armed robbery, assault and theft.

c. Recruiting in Police has suffered in New York as it offers the worst starting annual salary in any major city, $25,100. Nearly 300 recruits in the graduating class did not make it, many because of the financial strain.

d. Crimes targeted at tourists have been increasing in New York over the last few years.

5. The Walt Disney Company last week announced plans to restrict junk food commercials on its television programs aimed at children. A few days before, Mayor Michael Bloomberg took steps to restrict the sale of supersized sugary drinks in New York. But isolated changes like these may not make a substantial difference at a time when Americans are gaining weight as a nation. Reducing obesity will require a broader shift in the culture.

Which of the following if true strengthens the argument above?

a. For decades, people have treated obesity as a personal failure. They blame individuals for eating junk food and choosing television over exercise.

b. Experts have increasingly recognized that obesity is caused mostly by social and environmental factors that limit people's ability to eat healthy foods and get enough exercise.

c. The consensus of experts, in a report published in May by the Institute of Medicine, is that only a nationwide approach aimed at encouraging a healthier lifestyle will work.

d. Both (b) and (c)

6. Shore Line East train service expanded in the 1990s to coax commuters east of New Haven out of their cars. To a large degree, the trains, which are operated by Amtrak through an agreement with the state, have succeeded; they offer eastern Connecticut residents an inexpensive connection to Metro North trains in New Haven, easing traffic on Interstate 95. So for many, Shore Line East takes the headaches out of getting to work. But not for commuters living in or around New London. Shore Line East serves New London in name only, with only six regularly scheduled Amtrak trains stopping there to take passengers to and from New Haven.

Which of the following, if true, strengthens the argument above that Shore Line East Serves New London commuters in name only?

a. In contrast to the service to New London, Shore Line East has 26 trains a day running to and from Old Saybrook and six other towns.

b. New London commuters are not allowed to pay the lower Shore Line East price like others do, to ride the six trains unless they buy a pricey monthly ticket.

c. Most commuters from New London have little choice but to drive their cars on clogged I-95, adding traffic to an already bad situation.

d. Owing to massive on-going residential development in the area the number of commuters from New London has significantly increased leading to overcrowding on the trains and forcing office goers from New London to take the I-95

7. Medical marijuana dispensaries have been popping up in different places across the United States, much to a deserved alarm. They are designed to supply individuals with medical needs for marijuana. There is always the fear that medical marijuana dispensaries might have negative effects on the communities where they are located. On one hand, there is no disputing that they are economically beneficial, but on the other hand, it is also felt that they tend to sometimes increase crime in these areas.

Which of the following if true weakens the argument above?

a. Marijuana dispensaries can be done away with since there are other pills viz. Marinol that have the same pain relieving effect as marijuana.

b. Medical marijuana dispensaries are professional institutions and not drug rings.

c. The crime mentioned above is unrelated to the fundamental mission of medical marijuana dispensaries.

d. Both (b) and (c)

8. I am one of the many who believe that mandatory voting enhances a democracy, improves voter participation, increases voter awareness on key political issues, and reduces arguably wasteful campaign spending on things such as voter turnout. There are currently 32 countries with compulsory voting around the world. Of these 32 countries, 12 aggressively enforce their mandatory voting laws with penalties of varying kinds, including nominal penalties and small fees of as low as $15 and the deprivation of government services or the freezing of one's bank account.

Which of the following if true strengthens the argument above?

a. A low voter turnout goes against the very definition of democracy, since the elected candidates are not the majority's choice.

b. Compulsory voting makes it more difficult for special interest groups to vote themselves into power.

c. Compulsory voting decreases risk of political instability.

d. Both (a) and (b)

9. At present, the world and individual countries are as divided with regard to adoption as to other areas of gay rights. As of 2000, four states in the USA (Arkansas, Florida, Mississippi and Utah) have specifically outlawed gay adoption, as have some Scandinavian countries (Denmark, Norway, and Iceland) that show an otherwise lenient attitude to same-sex relationships. By contrast, the National Adoption Week in the UK in October 2000 saw a drive to encourage gay couples to adopt, in order to find homes for the thousands of children seeking parents. The 2002 Adoption and Children Act allowed unmarried couples in England and Wales, including same sex partners to apply for adoption jointly. In my considered opinion, gay couples should be given the same legal rights as heterosexuals in adopting children and debate about whether they can be equally good parents is ridiculous.

Which of the following if true strengthens the argument above?

a. Children do not need distinct male and female parental role-models, what they need first are love, compassion, and care from their parents.

b. A changing society should not cling to traditional family models.

c. Society's early assumptions about the superiority of the traditional family form have been challenged by the results of empirical research.

d. All of the above.

10. Wind power is the conversion of wind energy into a useful form, such as electricity, using wind turbines. At the end of 2007, worldwide capacity of wind-powered generators was 94.1 GW.

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Globally, wind power generation increased more than fivefold between 2000 and 2007. The principle application of wind power is to generate electricity. Wind power has become increasingly popular recently because it does not involve burning fossil fuels. I think it should be a major component of 21st century plans to combat global warming and should be prioritized among the various alternative energy sources.

Which of the following if true weakens the argument above?

a. While wind power may emit no greenhouse gases during the generation process, the manufacture and transportation of wind turbines does so.

b. There is not enough capacity at present, to generate wind power enough to address the world's growing power needs.

c. Wind turbines are not economical and viable in the market place.

d. A huge number of birds are killed by the turbines which generate wind power. This is not morally correct.

Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
10					

Practice Exercise - 2 (Level 1)

Directions for questions 1 to 10: Read the arguments and answer the questions that follow.

1. Year-round schools are based on a schedule that has school throughout most of the calendar year, as opposed to having no school in summer. This approach helps because higher student throughput is accomplished via more effective scheduling of school resources. Year round schedules deliver the same number of total days of classroom education and vacation as traditional calendars; they are just distributed differently throughout the year. Students enrolled in year-round classes often claim that their calendar schedule is more balanced. Advocates claim that year-round calendars help students achieve higher and allow teachers to provide more effective education. Reports from the California State Department of Education show that standardized test scores increased an average of 9.5% in Grade 3 with an average increase of 13.3% in reading scores.

Which of the following if true weakens the argument above?

a. During summer break from school, students set aside learning entirely, fall behind educationally and mentally in those three months, and come back to school behind where they left off.

b. Shifting days of attendance does not address problems such as lack of parent involvement and the need for restructured curricula, continued education for teachers, and improved teaching methods, which are the main reasons for poor results.

c. Students who fall ill as a result of studying in school buildings ill equipped to deal with summers suffer loss of studies.

d. Summer breaks allow for indulging in hobbies, camps etc. which promote overall growth of the child.

2. Experts increasingly agree that there is sufficient data to justify the introduction of some of these newer vaccines. As such, India recently initiated plans to expand the Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) by introducing the second dose of the measles vaccine, as well as the pentavalent vaccine, a combination vaccine that protects against five causes of disease - diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, and hepatitis B

Several promising vaccine candidates are being developed by Indian companies that could potentially protect Indian children against one of the leading causes of severely dehydrating diarrhoea - rotavirus. One of these vaccines could be ready within the next one or two years. Studies have demonstrated that rotavirus vaccines would reduce the high burden of diarrhoeal disease in India.

Which one of the following, if true, weakens the assertion that new vaccines will protect Indian children?

a. It is an injustice of the highest magnitude that vaccines manufactured in India are saving countless lives around the world, while these same lifesaving vaccines are denied to India's poor.

b. Most new vaccines are available largely through private health providers only.

c. "Ready" as mentioned in the passage, does not mean that a vaccine will be commercially viable and available to all and at an affordable price.

d. The system of distribution of vaccines in India is imperfect and riddled with scams.

3. In April, the Center for Economics and Business Research made a much more unidirectional estimate about the break. They said that each bank holiday cost the UK economy £2.3 billion. That is not comforting news for an economy that is in a shambles. Or, indeed, for any other country enamored with holidays.

Some countries are beginning to wake up to this problem. There is also a prevailing view that governments should scrap most mandatory holidays and add them to employees' leave entitlements. Thus keeping companies running longer even if employees want to take time off. India is one of the countries with the most public holidays in the world. If the economy stays sluggish, adding a week's productivity back to GDP might start to look attractive.

Which of the following if true, supports the above premise that increasing work days might be a good idea for the GDP:

I. In May, struggling Portugal cut four of 14 public holidays for the next five years to address its economic concerns.

II. The fiscal impact of the large number of public holidays has emerged to be a very real concern to the keepers of the national purse strings, who have to watch the GDP growth.

III. Research shows that the nations with the lowest number of vacation days perform the best financially and in economic soundness

IV. Lower number of public holidays, translate into higher productivity for employees and the nation.

a. III only b. I and IV c. II only d. III and IV

4. Faced with states' complaints that students had stopped studying with the "abolition of exams" the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) on Wednesday has set up a panel to assess and implement continuous and comprehensive evaluation (CCE) as a mid-term evaluation.

The decision was taken after several states, led by Bihar, complained that students were doing poorly in their board exams and were no longer serious about their studies. Bihar education minister PK Shahi said, ``we feel that the ban on exams has had a negative impact on children. Our country is not yet ready for such a system. Students are studying less."

Which one of the following, if true, provides the most support for the argument?

a. Similar concerns were echoed by Chhattisgarh and Haryana who added that teachers in government schools were no longer as conscientious in their work.

b. Assam education minister said that the classes X results in his state were very poor compared to the national average, following the implementation of the CCE under the RTE.

c. There is no proof that students who fail do well next year, while there is ample evidence that those who fail drop out of school.

d. The students of the countries where CCE has been in place for a long time fare worse in international competitions, than students of countries where exams are conducted.

5. There's no reason India shouldn't be the fastest-growing economy this decade - but we need a whole bunch of reforms. We need to put this welfare state genie back in the bottle. The subsidy bill under this government has gone up exponentially. We need to be more inviting when it comes to doing business here. In the longer term, power needs to devolve to the states. India functions best as a commonwealth of states, not a solid central economy. Leave new reform legislation - like retail FDI - up to states. If India returns to its natural social fabric, a competition among states, that's its best hope.

Which one of the following, if true, provides the most support for the argument?

a. Our per capita income is so low, even if we do small things, it'll be revived.

b. The Indian growth model will come from a competition of states, not the centre deciding it.

c. The last decade's boom was a global boom, a rising tide of global liquidity lifting all emerging markets; we were just a part of that, so we need significant measures to grow in this decade.

d. China lifted millions out of poverty by sustained growth and ruthless capitalism despite being a command-control economy.

6. On the other side you have another set of secular, pluralist, modern-minded people who are not Muslim, who argue from a chivalric position. The Muslim community in this view needs time and space to reform itself from within. This is, in essence, the same argument that Jawaharlal Nehru employed in the mid-1950s when he exempted Muslims from the reformist republican zeal that resulted in the Hindu Code Bill. Then it was the need to make Muslims feel secure in India after Partition that called for forbearance while now it is the marginalization of Muslims as documented by surveys and reports that justify tact and patience.

Which of the following statements weakens the argument presented by the 'secular, pluralist, non-Muslim ' as given in the passage?

a. The main concern of the set of secular, pluralist, modern-minded people who are not Muslim, is the conservation of Muslim personal law: not with a view to reforming it over time, but as a way of buttressing Muslim identity in India.

b. The set of people who argue from a chivalric position, are joined by feminists who, while sympathetic to the circumstance of minorities in India, feel that the patriarchal biases of all religious establishments need to be resisted in the name of gender justice.

c. Exempting Muslims from the initial republican reforms led to not very fruitful consequences, as documented by various researchers.

d. Both (a) & (c)

7. With the drastic fall in the value of the rupee in relation to almost all other currencies in the world, starting with the US dollar, the migratory species known as the middle-class Indian traveler will have its wings clipped in its summer search - with the kids' schools closed and the heat stifling in most parts of the country - for foreign fields and pastures new, accessible via Jai Mata Di Travels (Family Tours A Specialty - From Dadi to Dolly, Everyone Jolly!). Faced with the prospect of having to shell out a truckload of depreciated rupee notes for 6 days/7 nights, Bangkok, Phuket, Pattaya (ShudhShakahari Meals Included) neither Dadi nor Dolly will feel particularly jolly.

Which of the following if true weakens the premise above about the fall in the rupee affecting foreign travel?

I. Following the fall in the value of the rupee, the share of wallet dedicated to other recreational activities has shifted to foreign travel

II. Many tour operators have come up with special schemes to lure the rich Indian traveler.

III. Most of the holidays were booked in advance, before the rupee fell in value so much

a. Both I and III b. Only I c. Both II and III d. Only III

8. Railing as one AI pilot did that the minister's actions are suggestive of a khappanchayat, is not likely to make him quake in his shoes, rather it is likely to make him toughen his stand. Many may feel that Mr Singh has done the right thing by not giving in to the pilots' demands for exclusive right to fly the new Dreamliners and added incentives. In fact, strikes have been taking place with such regularity that we are not really clear on what exactly would make the pilots happy and keep them in the cockpit for a reasonable length of time. But while the minister has shown courage to face down the striking pilots to the extent of telling them that they can apply as fresh candidates if they want to rejoin the force, the real issue has still not been addressed.

Which of the following if true strengthens the argument above?

I. AI has run up losses of Rs. 20,000 crore, has debts of Rs. 43,000 crore and the daily loss from the pilots' strike is Rs. 10-15 crore.

II. The government has enough on its plate without being in the aviation sector and can't be responsible for the close monitoring of the commercial success of AI.

III. The infusion of new pilots may get the airline going temporarily, but a large consulting firm has concluded that the long-term solution lies in the government moving out of the aviation sector, in India.

IV. Despite several detailed discussions with the pilots, there has been a stalemate in negotiations.

a. Only IV b. Both I & III c. II, III and IV d. Only III

9. Two happy souls were detained at LA airport after one of the tourists tweeted that he was "going to destroy America" during their vacation. When the officials interrogated them about their suspected plot, the two insisted that the expression is British slang for some mad, bad partying. While ensuring national security is a laudable cause, one wonders why the US authorities did not keep the 'tourist-terrorists' for some more days to ferret out information about their sinister plan if they were so sure about their intentions. And, the men who fight for America in every corner of the world must be laughing their heads off and calling for a party themselves because 9/11 did more than they expected: along with spreading security paranoia, it has also managed to kill the art of making harmless jokes. What a dry and paranoid world we inhabit! We feel a little destroyed ourselves.

Which of the following if true weakens the above argument?

a. The humorless and paranoid US officials are not alone, in 2001, 14 Britons were charged with espionage in Greece after they were arrested outside an air base while they were - oh, not again - plane-spotting.

b. In 2010, Delhi Police arrested two Britons for "suspicious plane-spotting activities" based on their tweet, the two men had some sophisticated and potentially harm causing equipment with them.

c. English novelist George Eliot wrote prophetically: "A difference of taste in jokes is a great strain on the affections".

d. None of the above

10. Even the most conservative allopathic physician will admit that endocrine disorders-more than other pathologies-respond to mind-body medicine. It makes sense. Anything that has to do with hormones, depression, memory and balance has a mind-body component to it. Any time a doctor tells you that you have to reduce your "stress" in order to get better, you must explore alternative remedies. Stress is a nebulous thing-you can't see it; and often times, you cannot even feel it till it gets the better of you and leads to a breakdown. Stilling the mind through yoga or meditation has been proven to help.

Which of the following if true weakens the argument above?

a. Research has shown that all diseases of the body originate in the mind.

b. There exist multiple stress relieving allopathic medicines that have proven to be effective.

c. Yoga and meditation still the mind but are difficult to do on a daily basis for most people.

d. Both (b) & (c)

Scoring table

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Practice Exercise - 3 (Level 2)

Directions for questions 1 to 10: Read the arguments and answer the questions that follow.

1. It's with clinging to such pseudoscience like eugenics that the hidden human urge to perpetuate control over the other does come into full play with false claims to self superiority and perfection. This goes against the nature endowed diversity and plurality of life- the basis for any cultural and civilization advancement. Even with some potential benefits for the medical and biological research or some other utilitarian considerations, this type of unnatural selection of human species goes against the very grain of humanity, let alone the moral-ethical considerations.

Which of the following if true strengthens the argument above

I. The eugenicists have very general ideas about genetics and heredity, very crude ideas about intelligence, and deeply poisonous ideas about racial hierarchies

II. Eugenicists are most likely to empower the state (and the medical establishment) to determine which fetal lives should be carried to term, and which should be culled for the good of the population as a whole

III. In 90 percent of cases, a positive pre-natal test for Down syndrome leads to an abortion.

a. Both II and III b. Both I & III c. All of the above d. Only III

2. Doing what law and justice required, Gov. John Kasich of Ohio on Tuesday granted a two-week reprieve to Abdul Awkal, who had been scheduled to be executed Wednesday morning. Mr. Awkal, who was convicted of killing his estranged wife and brother-in-law in 1992, has a long history of severe mental illness and has been found mentally incompetent by three courts in the past 20 years. Shockingly, it took Governor Kasich's reprieve to permit Mr. Awkal to have the required hearing. But his story is not unusual. The death penalty system fails to take adequate account of severe mental illness, whether at trial, at sentencing or in post conviction proceedings. This is yet another reason the penalty should be abolished and further evidence of the grave injustices committed in this system.

Which of the following if true further strengthens the argument above?

I. A defense psychiatrist who examined Mr. Awkal concluded that he is "a severely mentally ill man" who suffers from "a chronic psychotic disorder" and delusions.

II. Many convicts feign mental illnesses to escape capital punishments

III. The fatal constitutional infirmity in the punishment of death is that it treats 'members of the human race as nonhumans, as objects to be toyed with and discarded.

IV. Ultimately, the moral question surrounding capital punishment has less to do with whether those convicted of violent crime deserve to die than with whether state and federal governments are empowered to kill those whom it has imprisoned.

a. Only I b. Only I and III c. Only III d. Only III and IV

3. For the average Australian, there's little obvious benefit in knowing an Asian language. But for the nation as a whole, the economic and security benefits are significant. One focus of the Asian Century white paper should be explaining how Australians can benefit from higher Asia literacy. Build demand for cultural and social engagement and the language, business and security links will follow.

Which of the following if true will weaken the argument above?

I. Many, if not most, Asian languages are very difficult, with mastery requiring years of effort and study.

II. The efforts on and study of Asian languages do not lead to more job opportunities for young Australians.

III. Those who have graduated with a major in Chinese during the last decade, regret that it has probably been the least useful of their qualifications.

IV. Most people believe that better money and easier promotion opportunities in other 'less glamorous' departments exist and an ability to speak Chinese is almost irrelevant.

a. All of the above b. Only II and III c. Only I, II and III d. Only II

4. For people who value freedom and truth, what's not to applaud about Wiki Leaks? Certainly in Australia, the cablegate saga (where US embassy, consulate documents were leaked to the public) - and its local offshoot - has unlocked a tide of libertarian righteousness. Throughout the media and much of civil society, there's a thrill of surprise at the unsaintly ways and words of diplomacy, a frisson of satisfaction at seeing the powerful humbled and exposed, and a current of outrage on behalf of Julian Assange.

Which of the following if true weakens the argument above?

I. If the public really needs to know, then there's no time like the present and no reason we should not see the original documents.

II. It would be nice to imagine cablegate as the dawn of a new diplomacy which has no place for discretion or deception. It is more realistic to conclude that the old games of statecraft will resume in new ways, with the chessboard temporarily shaken up.

III. All this is muddled with some less noble impulses, including the voyeuristic buzz of reading a lot of other people's mail.

IV. Cablegate is bad for diplomacy and international cooperation.

a. All of the above b. Only II and IV c. Only II and III d. Only III and IV

5. Opponents of free trade often make the 'level playing field' argument - there's no sense putting our own economy at risk by lowering tariff barriers if the other side won't reciprocate. Clearly it would be better if tariff protection was lowered all around, and it would be preferable if China's political system was just as transparent as America's. But whether the other side reciprocates or not, America as a nation can be strengthened when the barriers to the free flow of information and goods are lowered.

Which of the following if true strengthens the argument above?

I. If China adopts a democratic style of government it would lead to a lowering of barriers to Sino - American trade and thus strengthen the American economy.

II. Overall level of employment (which has been going down) is determined by monetary policy, not trade policy.

III. Basically, tariff and non-tariff barriers (NTBs) result in higher prices for consumers. Barrier costs are passed on to consumers, or consumers are forced to buy more expensive, domestically produced goods.

IV. Everyone benefits when countries produce and sell freely what they do most efficiently. Thus everyone should specialize in what they do best and governments should intervene as little as possible in the process.

a. Only I and IV b. Only IV c. Only I, II and IV d. Only III and IV

6. Fergus notes the luke-warm feelings Australians have for Indonesia (reciprocated by Indonesians). One of the explanations of this attitude is the carping, condescending and critical tone of Australian journalistic commentary on Indonesia. President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono's problems with parliament have been consistently reported here as being about corruption in the rescue of the mid-tier Bank Century while Indonesia was caught up in the backwash of the Global Financial Crisis in late 2008.

Which of the following if true weakens the argument above?

I. After four months of pernickety inquiry, parliament has found nothing more than a couple of minor administrative peccadilloes in the rescue of Bank Century. No hint of corruption on the part of the Vice-President or the Minister has been found.

II. If such a situation were to arise in Australia, it would be reported for what it is: pure politics. Not pretty, very distracting for the President, but part of the messy process of democracy. The Australian press, however, either doesn't know or finds the corruption story fits its prejudices better.

III. The critics of Australian journalism are only looking at a limited range of material in the Australian media at any one time on Indonesia.

IV. As we go down the track of more integration between the two countries in whatever sector of life that proves possible there is likely to be more unruly commentary from people who are new to the territory - from journalism and elsewhere.

a. None of the above. b. Both III and IV. c. Only III d. Only IV

7. Military strategy, like most human enterprises, has fashions that come and go with changing political and technological circumstances. These tend to originate as innovative responses to thorny strategic problems that have defied resolution by more established means.

Having produced a successful outcome in one instance, these newly proven ideas then become entrenched in the habits or preferences of military organizations - often as a result of their leading exponents being promoted to senior positions - usually until they

prove unsuited to the changed circumstances in which they're next employed. In recent years, the strategy of the moment has been counterinsurgency (COIN), an approach that emphasizes protecting local populations, respecting their institutions, listening to their concerns, and providing for their basic needs

Which of the following if true strengthens the argument above?

I. People who choose a career in the military often do so out of a genuine desire to help people and make a difference, and COIN, with its focus on nation building and protecting innocent populations, goes a long way toward satisfying that desire.

II. While tens of thousands of extra troops on the ground - in neighborhoods rather than bases - undoubtedly helped to suppress al Qaeda's movements in Iraq, the strategic reorientation
towards COIN nevertheless seems to have been at best a secondary factor in the improvements in security that occurred around that time.

III. The people calling for COIN in Afghanistan might be making an age-old mistake: drawing the wrong lessons from the last war.

IV. The recent renaissance of COIN study and doctrine in Western military forces should not be confused with earlier obsessions with 'effects-based operations', 'rapid decisive operations', the 'revolution in military affairs' or other historically ignorant fantasies.

a. Only II b. Only II and III c. Only I, II and III d. All of the above

8. Recently Alan Dupont advocated a re-evaluation of the need for 12 submarines and 100 Joint Strike Fighters (JSF) in light of the economic and strategic circumstances that the Australian defense forces are likely to face. His argument was not that there was no need for these hugely expensive platforms, but rather that the changing geostrategic circumstances since the last Defense White Paper called for a more fundamental review of the reasoning behind the quantity the Australian Government plans to purchase.

This is entirely reasonable since the difficulty has always been to understand the rationale by which Defense has determined the quantity of the equipment it requires.

Which of the following if true weakens the argument above?

I. The number of JSFs was arrived at by a writing team on some basic math over a decade ago, and the assumptions on which it was based have not been revisited.

II. Defense's requirement for equipment is classified and has never based on a detailed study into such requirements.

III. Details as to how the decision, on the quantity of equipment to be purchased, was arrived at are not publicly available.

IV. It is impossible to provide a mathematical solution because strategic circumstances are unusually uncertain and tend to change over time.

a. Only III and IV b. Only IV c. Only I, III and IV d. Only II and IV

9. Islam, as a religion, has become a victim of western stereotyping and misconception. The emphasis has shifted from underlining the causes leading to terrorism in the name of Islam to a religion that is militant by definition. This is a great injustice to Islam and to Muslims all over the world.

Which of the following strengthens the argument above?

a. Militant Islam and the U.S have been equally responsible for destabilizing numerous regions in the World in different ways.

b. Islamic terrorism is also a threat to the world at large (including Islamic areas).

c. Most militant Islamic groups have a specific mission and will not randomly attack people who have nothing to do with their cause.

d. Terrorism is caused by misinterpretation of the religion by the disillusioned few.

10. An average of 15 patients die every day in the US whilst awaiting an appropriate organ. The genuine figure will likely be inflated by the deaths of patients that are never waitlisted for a transplant. In addition, substantial numbers of patients die annually on account of the absence of both kidney donors and the lack of dialysis machines. The sale of human organs can be considered as a possible solution to the crippling shortage. In 1983, Dr. Barry Jacobs requested that the U.S. government to accept the proposal to set up a business that would buy kidneys from living donors for transplantation in American patients.

Which of the following statements given below, if true, would least weaken the given argument?

a. The sale of organs will condone the grossest discrimination between rich and poor.

b. The opportunity for those unable to afford to purchase to receive a donated organ will be eliminated.

c. The financial rewards make the decision to sell an organ one of compulsion rather than consent.

d. Chinese judicial officials are reported to execute prisoners on the basis of the market value of their body parts.

Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
10					

Practice Exercise - 4 (Level 3)

Directions for questions 1 to 10: Read the arguments and answer the questions that follow.

1. Assisted suicide is "suicide accomplished with the aid of another person, especially a physician." It is sometimes used interchangeably with euthanasia. However, it is said that the guiding principle of medical ethics is to do no harm: a physician must not be involved in deliberately harming their patient. Legalizing euthanasia, the medical profession would lose a great deal of trust; and admitting that killing is an acceptable part of a doctor's role would likely increase the danger of involuntary euthanasia, not reduce it.

Which of the following would best weaken the author's assertion that assisted suicide or euthanasia through a physician should not be legalized?

a. Humanity dictates than one's pain should not be prolonged; every individual has a right to live a dignified and respectful life, euthanasia helps a physician to put an end to their patient's misery.

b. Medical ethics require a doctor to address to a patient's suffering, be it physical or emotional. Euthanasia, in fact, does exactly that.

c. Numerous opinion polls indicate that many physicians practice euthanasia on justifiable occasions and half of the medical profession would like to see it made a law. So, it's better to bring this practice out of the closet, where it can be regulated.

d. The illegality of euthanasia is cruel and unfair for those who are disabled by their disease and can't commit suicide without assistance.

2. Research 1: Those who drive in the city recall advertisements put up on roadside hoardings that can be viewed from traffic signal points far better than they can recall advertisements put up on roadside hoardings that are somewhere along the route between two consecutive traffic signals.

Research 2: Roadside hoardings as a form of advertising are becoming less effective. The proportion of brand names promoted through roadside hoardings that people driving on city roads can recall is slowly but surely decreasing.

R1 most likely contributes to an explanation of R2, if which of the following is also true?

a. On an average, those who drive around the city recall less than two-third of the brand names promoted in advertisements that they see on roadside hoardings.

b. The average stoppage time at a traffic signal has increased due to the increase in the density of vehicles in the city.

c. The average number of hours per day that people spend driving is decreasing.

d. The proportion of hoardings near traffic signals is decreasing with respect to the total number of roadside hoardings.

3. Social causes, such as organ donation, have become a good cause that organizations and individual celebrities feel can be leveraged for publicity. So every now and then you

will see the odd film/sports star pledging to donate his or her organs. His/her photo with the donor card will dutifully be flashed in the newspapers and on television and this is supposed to help increase awareness. Look beyond the headlines and it becomes apparent that such exercises are little more than a PR job and, in effect, achieve very little.

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

a. Involving celebrities in social causes is something that is being done the world over.

b. If 'star power' results in social good, there is no harm in harnessing that power.

c. Public relations (PR) are a proven tool that yields long-term benefits especially in case of raising awareness about pertinent social issues.

d. The government has used the 'star power' of Amitabh Bachhan for popularizing the pulse polio campaign resulting in the eradication of polio from the country.

4. Pediatricians conducted a study and found that Extra-large letter spacing improves reading in dyslexic children. However, when this experiment was tried out by a medical research agency with two different groups of selective dyslexic children as the subjects, the results were diametrically different. The first group improved on reading while the second group did not show any improvement whatsoever. This clearly shows that the findings of the pediatricians were faulty.

Which of the following helps resolve the discrepancy presented in the above argument?

a. Extra-large letter spacing in reality has no bearing on the reading habits of dyslexic children.

b. Simple manipulation of letter spacing can uniformly improve text-reading performance only if the sample of dyslexic children is unselected.

c. The two groups had access to absolutely different reading material, which in turn resulted in different outcome for the two groups.

d. Extra-large letter spacing only helps to break the reading deficit by rendering the reading material more easily accessible.

5. Since all swans I have encountered have been white, it follows that the swans I will see when I visit the Mumbai Zoo will also be white.

Which of the following most closely parallels the reasoning of the preceding argument?

a. Some birds are incapable of flight: therefore, swans are probably incapable of flight

b. Every ballet I have attended has failed to interest me: so a theatrical production which fails to interest me must be a ballet

c. Since all cases of severe depression I have encountered were susceptible to treatment by chlorpromazine, there must be something in the chlorpromazine which adjusts the patient's brain chemistry

d. Since no medicine I have tried for my allergy has ever helped, this new product probably will not work either

6. EENA: Participation in intramural competitive sports teaches students the importance of teamwork, for no one wants to let his or her teammates down.

MEENA: That is not correct. The real reason students play hard is that such programmes place a premium on winning and no one wants to be a member of a losing team.

Which of the following comments can most reasonably be made about the exchange between Eena and Meena?

a. If fewer and fewer schools are sponsoring intramural sports programmes now than a decade ago, Eena's position is undermined

b. If high schools and universities provide financial assistance for the purchase of sports equipment, Meena's assertion about the importance of winning is weakened

c. If teamwork is essential to success in intramural competitive sports, Eena's position and Meena's position are not necessarily incompatible

d. Since the argument is one about motivation, it should be possible to resolve the issue by taking a survey of deans at schools which have intramural sports programmes.

7. The cost of housing in many parts of Germany has become so excessive that many young couples, with above-average salaries, can only afford small apartments. Mortgage commitments are so huge that they cannot consider the possibility of starting a family. A new baby would probably mean either the mother or father giving up a well-paid position. The lack of or great cost of child-care facilities precludes the return of both parents to work.

Which of the following adjustments, could practically be made to the situation described above which would allow young couples to improve their housing prospects?

a. Encourage couples to remain childless

b. Encourage couples to have one child only

c. Encourage couples to postpone starting families until at later age than previously acceptable to society

d. Encourage young couples to move to cheaper areas of Germany.

8. Unless new reserves are found soon, the world's supply of coal is being depleted in such a way that with demand continuing to grow at present rates, reserves will be exhausted by the year 2040.

Which of the following, if true, will most weaken the above argument?

a. There has been a slowdown in the rate of increase in world demand for coal over the last five

years from 10% to 5%

b. It has been known for many years that there are stocks of coal under Antarctica which have yet to be economically exploited

c. Oil is being used increasingly in place of coal for many industrial and domestic uses

d. None of these

9. A cryptographer has intercepted an enemy message that is in code. He knows that the code is a simple substitution of numbers for letters.

Which of the following would be the least helpful in breaking the code?

a. Knowing the frequency with which the vowels of the language are used

b. Knowing the frequency with which two vowels appear together in the language

c. Knowing the frequency with which odd numbers appear relative to even numbers in the message

d. Knowing the conjugation of the verb to be in the language on which the code is based

10. One way of reducing commuting time for those who work in the cities is to increase the speed at which traffic moves in the heart of the city. This can be accomplished by raising the tolls on the tunnels and bridges connecting the city with other communities. This will discourage auto traffic into the city and will encourage people to use public transportation instead.

Which of the following, if true, would LEAST weaken the above argument?

a. Nearly all of the traffic in the centre of the city is commercial traffic, which will continue despite toll increases.

b. Some people now driving alone into the city would choose to carpool with each other rather than use the public transportation.

c. Any temporary improvement in traffic flow would be lost because the improvement itself would attract more cars.

d. The numbers of commuters who would be deterred by the toll increases would be insignificant.

Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
10					

Odd Word Out

Introduction

Each question in odd word out questions has four items. We have to select the item that does not belong to the group.

Learning Objectives

· To learn simple techniques to tackle this type of questions

· To attempt a simple exercise to check learning

Odd Word Out

There will be three words, which would be similar in meaning to each other, and the fourth word would be dissimilar in meaning.

In this exercise, it is very important to have a good vocabulary because if you know the meaning of the four words, it is very easy to decipher the odd one out.

For example:

a. Gaffe b. Blunder

c. Mistake d. Verbosity

Clearly, we can make out that the odd word out is verbosity as it means a tendency to talk too much; whereas the other mean mistake.

The exercise can also be altered and you can be asked to pick the odd idea out.

For example:

a. Birds fly in the sky. b. Parasailing is very risky.

c. Rock-climbing is very dangerous. d. Bungee-jumping is exciting.

Practice Exercise (Level 2)

Directions for the questions 1 to 30: Each question has four items. Select the item that does not belong to this group.

1. a. Preserve b. Sack c. Bag d. Pouch

2. a. Spiritual b. Devout c. Pious d. Atheist

3. a. Repose b. Warrant c. Permit d. Allow

4. a. Extrovert b. Reticent c. Amiable d. Gregarious

5. a. Slay b. Butcher c. Assassinate d. Coax

6. a. Repose b. Doze c. Slumber d. Agitation

7. a. Jeer b. Scoff c. Sweep d. Deride

8. a. Steadfast b. Staunch c. Unswerving d. Treacherous

9. a. Moan b. Beat c. Tremble d. Cry

10. a. Masquerade b. Pretend c. Portend d. Disguise

11. a. Stealth b. Treachery c. Staunch d. Deception

12. a. Gerrymander b. Obfuscate c. Misconstrue d. Expedition

13. a. ASEAN b. NAFTA c. NATO d. EU

14. a. Thar desert b. Pacific ocean c. Everest d. Greenland

15. a. Aristotle b. Socrates c. Einstein d. Plato

16. a. Precarious b. Dangerous c. Perilous d. Perjidious

17. a. Primordial b. Rudimentary c. Archaic d. Prognosis

18. a. Meander b. Seer c. Deviate d. Bend

19. a. Beat b. Kill c. Maul d. Goad

20. a. Rogue b. Vagabond c. Hooligan d. Mendicant

21. a. Unscrupulous b. Ethical c. Moral d. Virtuous

22. a. Bowdlerize b. Extol c. Remove d. Prohibit

23. a. Draconian b. Vampire c. Bloodsucking d. Parasitic

24. a. Veracity b. Mendacity c. Perjury d. Fabrication

25. a. Drab b. Humdrum c. Prosaic d. Arduous

26. a. Boodle b. Lucre c. Pelf d. Oodle

27. a. Slimy b. Time-worn c. Passé d. Crumbling

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28. a. Psychoses b. Schizophrenia c. Neuroses d. Filaria

29 a. Applause b. Clap c. Pat d. Kick

30. a. Advise b. Counsel c. Suggest d. Direct

Scoring table

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30					

Degree of Truth and Falsity

Introduction

We can use logic to determine the degree of truth and falsity in an argument. We can decide whether the opinion or belief is consistent with or follows from other beliefs and opinions expressed in the argument.

Learning Objective

· To understand the significance of deductive and inductive reasoning to draw reasonable conclusions from a body of information

· To critically analyze a series of questions to determine the appropriate response

Degree of Truth and Falsity

The questions that come under this category are basically of five types. Given a small paragraph you need to identify whether the statement given is:

1. Definitely true

2. Definitely false

3. Probably true

4. Probably false

5. Data inadequate based on the paragraph

Students generally find it easy to determine what is `definitely true' and what is `definitely false'. The problem however comes with `probably true, probably false and data insufficient'. The concept of deductive logic and inductive logic comes in very handy.

What are these deductive logic and inductive logic?

Consider these examples.

· All men are mortal.

· Ravi is a man.

The inference you can draw is that Ravi is mortal. This is deductive logic. When we can deduce a specific from a set of general statements, then we can say the answer is `definitely true'. If the inference goes against the main statement, then it is `definitely false'. For example, if the inference had been `Ravi is not mortal'.

However, if we bring out a general statement from a specific, it is called `Inductive logic'.

For example,

· Ravi is mortal.

· Ravi is a man.

4. Probably false

5. Data inadequate based on the paragraph

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However, if we bring out a general statement from a specific, it is called `Inductive logic'.

For example,

· Ravi is mortal.

· Ravi is a man.

· All men are mortal.

Whenever you see inductive logic, then the answer becomes `probably true or probably false'.

If the inference is a general statement made on the basis of some specific statements, then it is probably true. If the inference is a general statement based on the basis of some specific statements and if it is contradictory to these statements, then it is probably false.

Data is insufficient when we need to assume too much to get an answer.

Practice Exercise (Level 1)

Directions

In this section of logical deduction, the question consists of a brief passage followed by certain inferences based on it. The candidate is required to analyse the passage and grasp the desirable facts from it. Then he has to consider each inference in context of the given passage, decide upon its degree of truth or falsity and then choose the best alternative provided accordingly.

Mark your answer as:

a. If the inference is `definitely true'

b. If the inference is `probably true'

c. If the `data provided is inadequate'

d. If the inference is `probably false'

e. If the inference is `definitely false'

Passage - 1

Consider the global market as a pyramid of consumers based on economic strength. The new and emerging opportunity in countries such as China, India and Brazil is in the lower-income segments: Tiers 2, 3 and 4. Serving these markets will dramatically influence the management process in transnationals. This market demands a fundamentally different type of capability. Firms ought to be able to rethink the price-performance relationship.

1. Emerging markets are price conscious.

2. Different markets demand different capability.

3. There are more people with higher levels of income in India, China and Brazil than the rest of the world.

4. US and other developed countries are at the top of the pyramid.

5. Transnationals have not entered emerging markets yet.

Exercise 1

Passage - 2

Using the Google search engine — so efficient at winnowing the wheat from the chaff — I looked up `Karmapa' on the Internet the other day and got nearly 3,000 sites in 20 seconds. Scrolling down and reading a few, I noticed some were credible, some were not, something like what I have seen in the media since the 14-year-old 17th Karmapa escaped from his monastery in Tibet and arrived in Dharamshala, India. Nothing about the Karmapa is easy, particularly in the convoluted world of politics and diplomacy.

6. Karmapa is a politically important figure.

7. There are more than one search engines.

8. All the information in the media is credible.

9. Finding precise information about Karmapa on the Internet is easy.

10. The Internet has information about the other 16 Karmapas.

Passage - 3

Much wailing has taken place over America's relative economic decline. The fact is that, despite misconceptions the US still represents the same share of the Gross World Production that it did 15 years ago. But manufacturing is no longer the most important gauge of an economy's importance. In the services and information sectors, which represent the leading edge of the super-symbolic economy, the United States outpoints not only Europe but Japan. As a result, unemployment in the United States has proved a less persistent problem than in Europe.

11. Economies strong in information and services sector have lesser unemployment problem.

12. United States, Europe and Japan are the three strongest economies in the world.

13. Gross World Production is not a measure of the manufacturing sector.

14. America was stronger economically 15 years back than it is now.

15. Unemployment in all countries will increase if the information and services sectors become dominant.

Passage - 4

Looking back at the life and times of Periyar (1879-1973), one may safely conclude that he was accepted as the leader by the Tamils in spite of all his disdain for Tamils and contempt for Tamil only because he was perceived to be a genuine individual, a rarity among those in public life. There was no shade of hypocrisy in him and he never attempted sophistry while propounding his social philosophy. His message was clear. For people to advance and prosper, they must abandon religion.

16. The public figures of Periyar's generation were hypocrites.

17. Genuine individuals in public life win public support.

18. The Tamil people and Periyar had mutual respect.

19. Tamil people of that age were satisfied with religion as it existed then.

20. Periyar propounded abandoning the caste system, idol worship and superstitions.

Passage - 5

The recovery of counterfeit high denomination currency notes (Rs. 500) being pumped into India by Pakistan's Inter Services Intelligence (ISI), has triggered a silent but alarming phenomenon in the capital. Complaints have been pouring in from the members

of the Muslim community that a large number of shopkeepers and traders were reluctant to accept the Rs. 500 notes from them and were instead demanding that they should pay through currency notes of a smaller denomination. As a consequence, the womenfolk in their households have been asking for not even hundred but Rs. 50 currency notes to run the domestic expenditure.

21. Traders perceived a link between Muslims and ISI.

22. ISI pumps counterfeit notes to all its enemy countries.

23. Counterfeit notes of all denominations were being pumped into India by ISI.

24. Womenfolk in households do not know the difference between Rs. 500 and Rs. 100.

25. Producing counterfeit notes is possible.

Passage - 6

With stock markets booming and the net asset values surging, the mutual funds sector could not have asked for better times. Inflows in the sector have risen dramatically over the last six months; thanks to most of the funds outperforming at the sensex. Investors seem to have gained confidence in the sector after they had shunned mutual funds due to their poor performance and lack of adequate returns. The sector is becoming a popular route also on account of the tax incentives it received in the budget for 1999-2000.

26. The sensex touching 6,000 points was the best thing to happen to the mutual funds.

27. The tax liability on earnings from Kotak Mahindra mutual fund is more than ICICI, which is not a mutual fund.

28. There is no link between the sensex and mutual funds' performance.

29. Tax incentives are one of the ways to encourage investments in mutual funds.

30. Mutual funds are basically not different from other non-banking financial institutions.

Passage - 7

It was believed that democracy means representation of the people. Our politicians seem to believe it means representation of condoms. This is the implication of the Union cabinet's decision to freeze the allocation of Lok Sabha seats between states till 2025. The allocation was due to be revised in 2001 to take into account changes in population. But Tamil Nadu and Kerala complained that a revision on the basis of population would reduce the number of Lok Sabha seats for the southern states with good family planning records and give more seats to northern states which had neglected birth control.

31. Tamil Nadu and Kerala are not southern states.

32. Lok Sabha seats allocation for states is done on the basis of population.

33. The actual population of northern states is more than the southern states.

34. Union cabinet is the ultimate deciding authority on allocating Lok Sabha seats.

35. Northern states have neglected birth control so as to have more Lok Sabha seats.

Passage - 8

The average millionaire's test scores as student were not good enough for them to get into many top-notch universities, and once at university, they did not excel. There is no correlation between SAT scores, grade point averages and economic achievement. Millionaires choose careers that match their abilities. They may not have great analytic intelligence, but they are creative and practical. They focus on a goal, take calculated risks and then work harder than most people.

36. SAT scores are a test of one's analytical capability.

37. Variables other than intellectual capacity are involved in economic achievement.

38. If one has a good intellectual capacity, then one cannot become a millionaire.

39. Intelligent people do not take calculated risks.

40. Millionaires are unlike most people in their analytical intelligence.

Passage - 9

Exports and imports, a swelling favourable balance of trade, investments and bank balances, are not an index or a balance sheet of national prosperity. Till the beginning of the World War II, English exports were noticeably greater than what they are today. And yet England has greater national prosperity today than it ever had. Because the income of an average Englishman has gone up.

41. A country's balance of trade is the main criteria of determining its economic prosperity.

42. The example of England can be generalised to all economies.

43. Per capita income is the best judge for a country's economic standard.

44. English exports have been regularly going down since World War II.

45. England's prosperity increases with increase in exports.

Passage - 10

Aruna Roy has just won a Ramon Magsaysay Award. Really? It is great that another Indian has been given the most prestigious of Asian awards, but who is Aruna Roy? The problem with this year's recipient of the Magsaysay Award for community leadership is that she is little known outside her sphere of operations, although her achievements have enormous significance for all Indians — and perhaps for communities elsewhere too. Roy, 53, is the moving spirit behind the Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan (MKSS) whose decade-long struggle forced the Rajasthan Government to formulate and pass the Right to Information Bill in May this year. That is no small feat although Roy is matter of fact about the scale of her triumph. "I am no Mahatma Gandhi or Mao. I do not have very large areas to operate in like them. My work is confined to only five tehsils (blocks) in five districts of Rajasthan." True enough. Yet, the former bureaucrat who gave up the prestige

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46. Aruna Roy has won the Ramon Magsaysay award in the public service category.

47. Mao Se Tung and Mahatma Gandhi were mass leaders who inspired thousands of people.

48. The Central government has decided to pass the Right to Information Bill.

49. Roy resigned from the Indian Administrative Service (IAS) when she was thirty-year-old.

50. The Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan (MKSS) has been founded by Aruna Roy.

Fact, Inference, Judgement

Introduction

In life we find statements which are verifiable and objective, statements which are conclusions based on the known and also subjective opinions.

Learning Objectives

By the end of this chapter you will be able to understand how to classify statements into

· Fact

· Inference and

· Judgement

Fact, Inference, Judgement

Fact, Inference, Judgement questions type is of vintage origin.

A CAT question type of the 20th Century. It made a reappearance in CAT 2006. Let us try to distinguish a fact, an inference and a judgement from one another.

Fact : If you throw a fact at a group of people/students, they will be reasonably in agreement over it. This is because facts can be easily verified.

Facts can be said to be

• Incidents in the past or present

• Information that one has seen, heard, read etc which can be verified.

• Universal truths

• Defining statements many times are facts.

Eg 1) Sachin Tendulkar has scored 34 hundreds.

2) The growth of the Indian economy was close to 7% last year.

3) The sun rises in the east.

Judgement: If fact is considered as the one end of a room then we can consider judgement as the other end. A judgement can be defined as an individual subjective opinion. If a judgement is thrown up in a group then there would be objections to it as people generally have their opinions on things. Thus, we can say that a judgement is open to question. It is usually a statement which is difficult to verify because of the non-quantifiable or abstract nature of the variables involved. It usually implies approval or disapproval of persons, objects, situations and occurrences in the past, present or future.

Eg. 1) Red tape leads to corruption and distorts people's character.(CAT 2006)

2) The walls of the room look beautiful with blue wallpaper on them.

Now looking at statement 1, someone can say that Red tape does not lead to corruption and can substantiate it with arguments.

Regarding statement 2, someone can have a counter opinion that the walls of the room do not look beautiful. Also, notice that beautiful is not a variable which is easy to quantify or define.

Inference: Inference lies in the grey area between a fact and a judgement. It is closer to a fact than a judgement. Inference can be defined as a conclusion based on facts. Since it is based on facts it is more objective as compared to a judgement. It has been defined by CAT as a conclusion drawn about the unknown based on the known.

Common examples are conclusions based on research studies.

Eg. 1) The recent initiatives of networks and companies like AIDSCARE etc. would lead to availability of much needed drugs to a larger number of people. (CAT 2006).

2) From the recent CSIR report it can be seen that the Indian economy has grown in the last five years.

3) Every red tape procedure is a point of contact with an official, and such contacts have the potential to become opportunities for money to change hands.(CAT 2006)

• One should be able to classify the statements in the question into fact, inference and judgement. At least one can identify the facts and judgements.

• Then looking at the choices one can approximate the inferences.

Practice Exercise (Level 2)

Directions for Questions 1 to 15: 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. There have been various studies conducted on the human mind by the Tata Research Institute.

2. The mind is nothing but a flow of thoughts.

3. The human mind cannot be seen but its wonderful effects are clearly experienced by each one of us living in this world.

4. In the scriptures, the mind has been compared to a lake; this may be because comparison with a lake makes the task of explaining the nuances of the mind relatively easy.

a. FJFJ b. JFIJ c. IFFJ d. IFFI e. FJJI

2. 1. Hindustani classical music has a style of singing called Vilambit, in which the tempo of singing is very slow.

2. Dhrut, another important part of Hindustani classical music, is more melodious to listen to than even Vilambit.

3. The recent conference on Raga Therapy in Chennai will create more awareness on the therapeutic effects of Ragas on the human body and mind.

4. The great Ustad Bade Ghulam Ali Khan Saheb had once said that if every child in pre-Independence India had studied classical music, the partition of India and Pakistan would not have occurred.

a. FJJI b. JJJF c. IIIJ d. FJJF e. IIIF

3. 1. The South Indian Superstar Rajnikant is all set to star in his next movie Shivaji.

2. Rajnikant is a much better actor than Amitabh Bachchan when it comes to action movies.

3. The film has been dubbed in English, so as to cater to the UK audience as well.

4. Rajnikant has said that he feels disturbed on being compared with Amitabh Bachchan.

a. JJJF b. FJIJ c. FJIF d. JJIF e. FJJJ

4. 1. 1,400 women die every day from problems related to pregnancy and childbirth.

2. Tens of thousands more may experience complications that will leave them with severe disabilities.

3. The dangers of childbearing can be greatly reduced if a woman is healthy and well nourished.

4. Governments have a particular responsibility to make prenatal and postnatal services available.

a. IIIJ b. IFIJ c. JFJJ d. FIIJ e. FFII

5. 1. Europe's economies are in the doldrums, and no one seems to know how to revive them.

2. Two noisy arguments now raging clearly show that an alarming number of Europeans are in denial about the economic facts of life.

3. A clear majority of voters and national governments are set on limiting these freedoms.

4. The freedom of movement of people is enshrined in the almost 50-year-old Treaty of Rome.

a. IJJI b. JIJF c. JJIF d. JJJF e. IJIF

6. 1. Poachers have killed three Asiatic lions in the rare animal's only natural habitat.

2. The bones are used for traditional Chinese medicine and the claws are worn by some men as pendants in the hope of increasing their virility.

3. The number of lions in Gir had risen to 359 in 2005 from 327 in 2001, a government census showed.

4. As seen from incidents over the past few years, the animals may face other dangers besides poaching.

a. JFIJ b. JIIJ c. IFIJ d. IFFJ e. FFFI

7. 1. Starting June 1, all cigarette, bidi and gutkha packets will carry prominent pictorial health warnings.

2. The move isn't coming a day too soon - official statistics show every second man and every seventh woman in India is a tobacco-user.

3. In our country, 46.5 per cent men and 13.8 per cent women use tobacco.

4. Only graphic warnings will be effective, because many tobacco users are illiterate and cannot read the health warning.

a. FJFJ b. IFIJ c. JFJJ d. JJJJ e. JFII

8. 1. India needs further economic reform if it is to achieve its goal of 8 to 10 percent annual economic growth over the longer term.

2. In a report, WTO said structural reforms, including trade liberalisation, have played a key role in helping the Indian economy grow at an average 8.5 percent since 2003.

3. If this fast growth is to be sustained, however, further reform will be required.

4. The report said reform should focus on infrastructure bottlenecks particularly in transport.

a. JFJI b. JFJF c. JIJF d. IFJF e. JFFJ

9. 1. Saudi Arabia's military expenditure amounted to 8.8% of GDP in 2005.

2. America spent 4% of its GDP on defence.

3. Saudi Arabia has expensive tastes, buying military hardware, such as jet fighters, from its British and American allies.

4. China spends 1.4% of GDP and it may have the second-biggest total expenditure after America.

a. JFIF b. FFJJ c. FFJI d. IFJF e. IFFF

10. 1. "Edit this page", just three little words, but what a miracle they have wrought.

2. "Just about every entry on Wikipedia.org, the online encyclopedia, invites visitors to fiddle", notes Richard Wharton.

3. Wikipedia is the biggest encyclopedia in the world; one of the contributors seems to be its open door policy.

4. Wikipedia is a testament to the magnificent vision of one man, Jimmy Wales.

a. JIJF b. IFJF c. JFJI d. JFIJ e. FJIJ

11. 1. Communication is the backbone of any operational transformation.

2. The classic communication challenge - the right message to the right audience at the right time - has become a critical issue due to the changing dynamics of the market.

3. To build buy-in, a communication program should begin as soon as investigation of a potential change is initiated.

4. By coupling a clear business mandate with a fact-based assessment, companies can confirm that the initiative will deliver value to the business.

a. JJJJ b. JFJJ c. JIJF d. JFIF e. IJIF

12. 1. Attila the Hun was born around 406 A.D.

2. The Scourge of the Gods, Attila the Hun, could have ruled the Hun Empire from A.D. 433 to 453.

3. Attila's first order of affairs was to unite his subjects for the purpose of creating a powerful army.

4. Passing unhindered through Austria and Germany, Attila plundered and devastated all in his path.

a. FIFJ b. JIJJ c. JIJF d. FJFF e. FJII

13. 1. Restricting glucose first spurred the worms to generate more free radicals, but then they quickly built up long-lasting defences against them, said Michael Ristow, an endocrinologist at the University of Jena and the German Institute of Human Nutrition, who led the study.

2. The couple had married under the Special Marriage Act and on August 30, probably fearing harassment by the Todis, sought police protection in writing.

3. The assumption of the police and parents is that an adult woman is incapable of choosing her own partner - even though she can vote and decide the future of the country - and must therefore be coaxed, coerced or emotionally blackmailed to do her father's bidding.

4. Negative emotions like lust, pride, attachment, anger, ego, greed and jealousy are distortions of love.

a. IIIJ b. FFIJ c. FIJJ d. JIJJ e. FIJF

14. 1. Our life is a struggle involving pretensions of what we are not and in the process we do not feel good.

2. Politics is unlike any other career, in the sense that it needs more passion and commitment and care for people.

3. The reduction in the interest rates of loans for new borrowers is likely to create an incentive for the buyer who is thinking of a new house.

4. We cannot thank our teachers enough for what they have given us.

a. FFJI b. FIJI c. JJIJ d. FIJJ e. IIIJ

15. 1. A recent trend in capital punishment has been the reduction in the number of offences statutorily punishable by the death penalty.

2. The traffic control drive, which began in this week, is expected to inspire drivers to obey traffic rules.

3. The government has decided to maintain the United Kingdom's independent nuclear deterrent.

4. In 1993, the Booker Prize was awarded to Salman Rushdie for Midnight's children.

a. FIIJ b. JIIF c. FIFF d. JFIJ e. IJIF

Scoring table

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Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
15					

Paracompletion and Summary Type Questions 8

Learning Objectives

· Appreciate the importance of Logic and Reading in solving Para completion and Summary paragraph questions.

· Have an orientation to Para Completion Questions and approaches to solve them.

· Gain familiarity with Summary type questions and approaches to solve them.

Para Completion and Summary type questions have made their presence felt in CAT and other entrance exams. Para-completion can be called as a regular question type whereas Summary Paras appears intermittently. Both question types require a combination of Logic and Reading skills. The paragraphs in both question types need to be read and understood logically. The choices need to be read and eliminated/examined logically. Hence both these question types are included in this book. This chapter will orient you towards both question types.

Paracompletion

In this question type, a short paragraph of around 100 words is given to you. The last sentence of the paragraph is left out. You need to identify it from the answer choices.

These questions test a student's ability to understand the core of a certain paragraph and identify the choice that carries the idea forward. A mix of logic and language skills are required here. The following strategies can be applied to arrive at the correct choice.

· Identify the **core idea or the theme** of the paragraph.

· Look for **clues** in the choices. Normally the correct choice is the one which continues under the theme.

· The choice may **expand** /**extend** the idea or **contrast** the idea running in the paragraph.

· Many times the **last sentence** of the paragraph can also provide a clue.

· **Short, creative end:** Sometimes the correct choice turns out to be a short creative one which adds on/carries forward the second last line in an emphatic manner.

· **Tone:** The tone of the correct choice is usually in line with the tone of the paragraph. If the tone is opposite then it would be preceded by a contrast word like but/however.

· **Scope:** The last line of any paragraph usually does not **deviate** from the subject matter too much. The boundary of the theme within which a certain premise or statement appears relevant can be called as scope. So the correct choice should be within the scope of the paragraph/argument.

Following are 5 questions on Paracompletion which will help you to get a feel of the topic before moving on to a test.

Directions for Questions 1 and 5: Each of the following questions has a paragraph from which the last sentence has been deleted. From the given options choose the one that logically follows/can be deduced from the passage, in the most appropriate way.

1. But there are costs that can be absorbed and those that cannot. The government will be aware of the political costs of making a deal with Asean that threatens the existence of domestic producers, particularly in agriculture. The Asean demand for unrestricted import of palm oil, for instance, would be politically very difficult to implement. Much as India would like to be a part of any new surge in Asian integration, it needs to be sensitive to the price it is being asked to pay. _____

a. In any negotiation with Asean the government will try to safeguard its own interests.

b. And Asean is, at the moment at least, asking for too much

c. India would also like to guard against an uncontrollable surge in imports by creating tariff rate quotas.

d. And to make matters even more skewed, Asean is reluctant to go beyond goods to other areas where India would have an advantage, like services

e. And Asean is, at the moment, the best among organizations.

2. Investigative reporting and crusading journalism have exposed scandals and helped promote causes but some of this has also been partisan and self-serving. Journalists and journals have come to scorn objectivity and balance as a value. None other than the Prime Minister recently complained of hit-and-run journalism. There is certainly grave danger when the reporter turns partisan or activist.

a. Nothing is right with the Indian journalistic approach

b. If the observer becomes a participant, what results is pamphleteering not journalism.

c. Journalistic values too suffer erosion.

d. Good editors have declined as market savvy proprietors and managers have taken over.

e. Only the PM has an authority to do so.

3. Mozart's talents brought him little money and no security. His personal life descended into disorder and finally desperate poverty. The "G Minor Symphony" is the most often played of all Mozart's symphonies. It is also the most loved, perhaps because in its gentle melancholy it reminds the listener of the fate of its maker - to be divinely gifted, and to die young. _____

a. Long after his death, Salzburg, the city of Mozart's birth is waking up to his musical genius.

b. The great musician died unsung and a pauper.

c. His music, however, was unstained by the misfortunes of the man who created it.

d. He paid a heavy price for his gifts.

e. The great musician was highly talented.

4. The price list, the freedom to sit for hours at an empty table and the intellectual aura of the place have never really brought questions about the strategy for survival. For a city always with a weakness for the cerebral than the cosmetic, this establishment, with its shabby decor and worn out walls, will always remain a cut above the rest. _____

a. CafeCoffee Days and Baristas notwithstanding.

b. Steadfast in its aversion to cosmetic change in spite of changing times.

c. Any wonder, that sitting here is an inexplicable experience.

d. However, telltale signs of ruin scream for attention.

e. It is much acclaimed by newspapers.

5. Athletes who carry one type of a well-known `fitness' gene might actually push themselves so hard that they tire out their hearts. That's the finding from a study of individuals who competed in one of the most gruelling races in the world. _____

a. Exercise experts have long assumed that heart muscles, unlike those of our legs and arms, don't tire.

b. But a few studies of athletes have hinted that the heart also gets worn down by many hours of extreme exercise.

c. Trainers and athletes should be aware that their bodies can outstrip their hearts.

d. In theory, it might even be possible to specifically train heart muscle.

e. Nations should put a cap on the exercise limit.

Summary paras

Summary paras is a question type which has been appearing in CAT intermittently. It is somewhat similar to the central theme question in Reading Comprehension. You must have definitely encountered Precis-writing in your school days. In Summary Paras, precis'/summaries of the paragraph are given in the choices. You have to decide which is the best summary.

Following are some strategies which you could adopt while cracking this question type.

· Gauge the **central idea** of the given paragraph keeping track of the details.

· Generally the wrong options have the following characteristics:

· **Incomplete information/Narrow:** When you read this option you get a feeling that it is incomplete in summarizing the passage.

· **Excessive information/ Verbosity**: When you read this choice you get a feeling that the choice is long-winded and verbose.

· **Wrong information / Misleading**: This is very common. The choice seems to sum up the paragraph but one or two elements are deliberately twisted or distorted. Hence

misleading.

· **Extra information/ Beyond scope:** In this the choice talks about things not mentioned in the paragraph.

If the wrong choices are eliminated, it is quite easy to arrive at the correct option.

Solve the following questions before moving on to the test.

Directions for Questions 1 and 5: Five alternative summaries are given below each text. Choose the option that best captures the essence of the text.

1. Nationalism is not to be confused with patriotism. Both words are normally used in so vague a way that any definition is liable to be challenged, but one must draw a distinction between them, since two different and even opposing ideas are involved. By `patriotism' I mean devotion to a particular place and a particular way of life, which one believes to be the best in the world but has no wish to force on other people. Patriotism is of its nature defensive, both militarily and culturally. Nationalism, on the other hand, is inseparable from the desire for power. The abiding purpose of every nationalist is to secure more power and more prestige, *not* for himself but for the nation or other unit in which he has chosen to sink his own individuality.

a. Nationalism and patriotism differ. Patriotism is defensive whereas nationalism is offensive. The emotions behind both the ideas are the same.

b. Nationalism and patriotism differ. Patriotism demands the individual to be submissive; nationalism demands a dominant attitude.

c. Nationalism and patriotism differ. Patriotism is defensive and nationalism is power-centric. This is due to the difference in the underlying emotions and motives.

d. Nationalism and patriotism differ. Patriotism demands people to feel strongly about the country; nationalism demands a fanatical devotion to the nation.

e. Nationalism and patriotism differ. Patriotism is military in nature whereas Nationalism is cultural in nature.

2. The changes I was so conscious of had actually begun some time before I went away. I had dismissed them as passing fads. I returned, however, to what had become a revolution in public language. The likes of my colleagues no longer thought of this new tongue as an alien one, into which they translated thoughts originally composed in a more familiar idiom. They had become native speakers. Today, this language pervades both the public and private sectors, and much of the working population is fluent in it. We may joke about the clichéd absurdity of mission statements and standardised phone greetings, but we find it hard to remember a time when these were not clichés - when we reacted to them with genuine incomprehension, and sometimes with genuine outrage.

a. The language of mission statements and standardized phone greetings has spread widely. People are so inured of it that they don't recall the time when it sounded out of place.

b. The language of mission statements and standardized phone greetings has spread fast. People are now making their additions to the language and pretend to forget the time when all this seemed alien.

c. Mission statements and standardized phone greetings were initiated so as to make people feel comfortable. Ironically, they have descended into becoming a cliché.

d. The changes sweeping the world are fast as revealed with the example of mission statements and how fast this idiotic idea swept across the world.

e. Mission statements and phone greetings were started to initiate people into public etiquette.

3. "The old stereotype that the head of the household is a male who makes all the financial decisions is sorely out of date," says Dan Richards, president of Marketing Solutions Inc. "Any financial institution that ignores women is fundamentally missing the point." His company's survey of 5,000 mutual fund holders was one of the largest of its kind in Canada, and held some surprises for the investment community, he says. "This is a natural market that has been waiting to be discovered for a long time," admits Peter Wallace, president of Midland Walwyn Inc., which this summer launched "Women and Wealth," a program specifically aimed at female investors.

a. Although women now control a large portion of any country's wealth and they are being neglected at everyone's peril.

b. It's beginning to dawn on financial institutions that women represent a huge untapped market of potential investors.

c. The banks are trying to be more sensitive to the burgeoning market comprising of female investors and its different needs and aspirations.

d. Financial planning has been a gender issue till date.

e. Women control many financial decisions in the household and therefore they should be given priority over male investors.

4. Our words are amalgams of some sound and meaning, and put in some order to express our feelings, thoughts, information, beliefs and so on, for different purposes in life. We also understand others by interpreting their words, which may involve certain background knowledge, perspectives, and presuppositions. Chomsky is well aware that in actual circumstances, language use is guided and affected by many factors, which he thinks are not amenable to scientific studies. But in his view, some general properties of meaning and sound can be identified and explained by internal principles and rules.

a. Many people tend to think that linguistic activities are instances of the use of a *common language* or publicly accessible set of well-formed sentences.

b. Linguistic phenomena have their origin in the human mind/brain, which contains the language faculty as one of its components.

c. Words are a fusion of language performance, which we can trace back to knowledge of language and further, to the internal mechanism that is cognised by a language user.

d. Words have an internal structure, and are analytically related.

e. Words if not conveyed properly change the structure of communication.

5. Many people view drug abuse and addiction as strictly a social problem. Parents, teens, older adults and other members of the community tend to characterize people who take drugs as morally weak or as having criminal tendencies. They believe that drug abusers and addicts should be able to stop taking drugs if they are willing to change their behaviour. These myths are damaging for individuals with drug-related problems, their families, their communities and the health-care professionals who work with them. Addiction does begin with drug abuse, but addiction is not just "a lot of drug use." Recent research provides strong evidence that not only do drugs interfere with normal brain functioning by creating powerful feelings of pleasure, but they also have long-term effects on brain metabolism and activity. At some point, changes occur in the brain that can turn drug abuse into addiction. Those addicted to drugs suffer from a compulsive craving and need treatment to end the compulsive behavior.

a. Drug addiction, contrary to popular belief, is not a result of willful inclination towards violation of accepted norms or insufficiency of morality but a consequence of physiological change in the addicts metabolic functioning.

b. Myths regarding drug abuse are affecting the lives of all those who are related to drug related problems.

c. Research shows that metabolic activity has a direct bearing on emotional responses of a drug addict.

d. Although addiction begins with drug abuse, which may stem from social problems, it may take place due to reasons other than just a lot of drug use by drug dependant individuals.

e. Drug addiction can be stopped if parents guide their wards properly.

Practice Test 1

Directions for Questions 1 to 20: Each of the following questions 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.

1. Life in ancient times was full of risks and uncertainty for those people living there. Much trust was put in the unknown, but as civilizations progressed, there was a feeling of need to understand the unknown and the meanings of life. Within this paper I will discuss three important issues that deal with the progress of life in relation to the civilizations of the Mesopotamians, Egyptians, Hebrews and Greeks. In ancient civilizations concepts of the afterlife were based on myth. _____

a. The scenario was not very different from what we experience now.

b. Glamorous stories about gods and goddesses from the past were the motivation for ancient people to live their lives.

c. These myths helped to alleviate the fear of the unknown

d. The Egyptians, especially, were fascinated by these myths which had a life of their own

e. In Mesopotamian culture, every day was controlled by the gods and goddesses of the world.

2. What went wrong is that we allowed ourselves to be lulled into a false sense of security by media representations of crime and violence that portray both as the province of those who are anything but white like us. We ignore the warning signs, because in our minds the warning signs don't live in our neighborhood, but across town, in that place where we lock our car doors on the rare occasion we have to drive there. That false sense of security -- the result of racist and classist stereotypes -- then gets people killed. _____

a. But are we ready to accept this?

b. Like they say "Ignorance is bliss"

c. And we are least bothered.

d. And its too late to regret

e. And still we act amazed.

3. Remember doing something mischievous or wrong when you were a kid and getting the label "delinquent" slapped on you ? Did you ever wonder what it meant ? That is what my topic for today is . . . juvenile delinquency. In this report I will: define juvenile delinquency, give the extent of juvenile delinquency, give some suggestions on what causes juvenile delinquency, and what is being done in various communities to deal with this growing problem. The legal term juvenile delinquent was established so that young lawbreakers could avoid the disgrace of being classified in legal records as criminals. Juvenile delinquency laws were designed to provide treatment, rather than punishment,

for juvenile offenders. Young delinquents usually are sent to juvenile courts, where the main aim is to rehabilitate offenders, rather than to punish them. _____

a. The courts operate on the principle that young minds even if temporarily wayward can be moulded .

b. The law prohibits sending minors to prison.

c. Punishment churns out hardened criminals whereas rehabilitation gives them a chance to improve.

d. But the term juvenile delinquency itself has come to imply disgrace in today's society.

e. Their identities are kept secret so as to avoid bias by society later on.

4. Whatever one's individual tastes in heroes, one fact is abundantly clear: the great men and women whose achievements provide inspiration for millions come with an assortment of specific characteristics. Some are predominantly physicalistic heroes, some primarily intellectual, some are excellent examples of the principle of mind-body integration; some are grand-scale characters towering through a work of fiction, whether on the printed page, stage or screen--while some perform their great and notable deeds in actual existence. More prosaically, some are male, some are female; some are white, some black, some Oriental; many are Americans, many are not; some lived in the 20th century, many lived in the past, hopefully many are yet to come. _____

a. And yet, through the teeming multiplicity of individualized differences, there runs a recurrent thread, a distinguishing essence that unites them.

b. And yet, there are many whose heroism is never discovered or celebrated.

c. And yet, we feel the need to classify their heroism into categories which trivialises their contribution to mankind and does not do them justice.

d. And yet, heroism is considered as an immanent quality which is possessed only by a few.

e. And yet, there are those amongst us who find inspiration through the most common and ordinary personalities.

5. Neuroscientists have developed a powerful technique that allows them to look deep inside a person's brain and read their intentions before they act. The technique involves brain imaging which has been used to identify the tell-tale activity linked to lying, violent behaviour and racial prejudice.This latest work reveals the dramatic pace at which neuroscience is progressing, prompting the researchers to call for an urgent debate into the ethical issues surrounding future uses for the technology. If brain-reading can be refined, it could quickly be adopted to assist interrogations of criminals and terrorists. _____

a. The ability to probe people's intentions, minds, background thoughts, hopes and emotions though desirable may not always be justified.

b. Researchers are already devising ways to deduce the nature of patterns that are associated with different thoughts.

c. Rapid advances in neuroscience have forced scientists in the field to set up their own neuroethics society to consider the ramifications of their research.

d. However, it is just another new technology that society has to come to terms with and use for the good.

e. This technology could also drive advances in brain-controlled computers and machinery to boost the quality of life for disabled people.

6. But then another Australia was "discovered". The only martyrs whom Australians had never mourned were found right under their noses: those of a remarkable indigenous people who had owned and cared for this ancient land for thousands of years, then fought and died in its defence when the British invaded. In a land littered with cenotaphs, not one honoured them. For many whites, the awakening was rude; for others it was thrilling. A secret history revealed that, long before the rest of the western world, Australian working people had fought for and won a minimum wage, an eight-hour working day, pensions, child benefits and the vote for women. _____

a. So, we are all second-rate citizens of Australia who share its good luck.

b. Thus, Australians had already achieved what their counter parts took centuries to accomplish.

c. However, the world does not grant the respect and honour that Australians deserve.

d. Despite all the discoveries, Australians seem to worship the history and values of other western powers.

e. It is a pity, because Australians do not give due recognition to martyrs.

7. China boasts a civilization at least three thousand years old. It is home to 1.3 billion people. It is authoritarian and formally communist. And, since 1978, it has burst back onto the world scene in a manner paralleled in scale and speed in world history only by the rise of the United States between the Civil War and the First World War in 1914. _____

a. If China remained communist there would be substantial implications for the organization of Western economies and societies.

b. The central argument in this book is that if the next century is going to be Chinese, it will be only because China embraces the economic and political pluralism of the West in general, and our Enlightenment institutions in particular.

c. The open question is whether the twenty-first century is going to be the Chinese century in the way the twentieth century was American and the nineteenth century British.

d. What I try to show is that these are not 'Western' but indispensable components of any well-functioning economy and society.

e. Those in the higher echelons of society, meanwhile, can continue to enjoy the trappings of growing inequality.

8. The Grave received its name because the cells are little larger than coffins. Pay close attention, because this is a key destination in the War on Terror. Admittedly, it is not where President George W. Bush would take visitors on a showpiece tour, and yet here in this dungeon, on this day, 17 December 2002, are at least seven prisoners who claim to have arrived courtesy of the United States. _____

a. In charge of the centre is a man named George Salloum, an officer of Syrian military intelligence, dressed smartly in trousers, a golf shirt and a pair of leather shoes.

b. The Palestine Branch is a house of confession.

c. The vice or virtue of his methods and whether, in the War on Terror, such methods may regrettably be necessary, will be examined later.

d. There is no daylight coming into his cell, just a dim glow through a hole in the reinforced concrete ceiling.

e. There are two more prisoners in this jail who were handed over by the United States.

9. Two major developments have bolstered scientists' confidence that the answers lie within their grasp. The first is the enormous progress made in cosmology - the study of the large-scale structure and evolution of the universe. _____

a. Why are we here? How did the universe begin? How will it end? How is the world put together? Why is it the way it is?

b. Observations made using satellites, the Hubble Space Telescope, and sophisticated ground-based instruments have combined to transform our view of the universe and the place of human beings within it.

c. For all of recorded human history, people have sought answers to such 'ultimate' questions in religion and philosophy, or declared them to be completely beyond human comprehension.

d. These spectacular advances hint at a much grander synthesis: nothing less than a complete and unified description of nature, a final 'theory of everything' in which a flawless account of the entire physical world is encompassed within a single explanatory scheme.

e. If almost any of the basic features of the universe, from the properties of atoms to the distribution of the galaxies, were different, life would very probably be impossible.

10. The Bush administration has now moved beyond the "axis of evil" focus of the post-9/11 period toward a new strategy based on the active promotion of democratization in states which Condoleezza Rice has called "outposts of tyranny." In part, this shift reflects Washington's recognition that military regime change - even credible military pressure - is prohibitively expensive as a major component of U.S. foreign policy. _____

a. The strategy is dangerous precisely because the Bush administration hasn't fully articulated how states that aren't ready for the transition can withstand the buffeting they'll face in the depths of the curve.

b. The twelve states visited in this book demonstrate nothing so clearly as that each country has developed a political, intellectual, economic, and social culture that is unique.

c. The administration lacks both the material resources and the political capital to continue to use these tools in all but the most extreme cases.

d. The damaging effects of pushing for comprehensive change in a society that isn't ready for it can last for years.

e. The state cancelled the elections and declared a state of emergency that still exists today.

11. To what extent should parents be allowed to use genetic interventions in order to choose the kind of children they have? Contemporary practice is that using genetic techniques is acceptable to avoid having a child who would inherit a life-threatening or seriously disabling disorder. _____

a. Avoiding something bad is allowed, but creating something better is not.

b. Someone who has lost their sight can reorganize their life in such a way that they find new sources of meaning and value.

c. Giving sight to someone who has been blind from birth can be a destructive change that cuts them off from their own sense of identity.

d. Genetic cloning produces freaks who may not be able to fit into the fabric of society.

e. It is unacceptable to enhance the abilities of an otherwise healthy child.

12. Management and leadership are two words that are considered synonymous but describe two different concepts. According to the dictionary, management is the act, manner, or practice of managing; handling, supervision, or control; leadership is the capacity or ability to lead. _____

a. Essentially, management is "the process of working with people and resources to accomplish organizational goals"

b. Not only that, management is a theory and a way of doing business.

c. In many organizations, management is a job description; leadership is a positive trait.

d. For an organization to be successful, management should be exercised cautiously.

e. Focus on management coupled with a positive environment lead to effective corporate strategy.

13. There are one or two certainties on Today. You know that a story about cruelty to animals will always get a bigger reaction than one about cruelty to children. You know particular subjects will stir great passion in the chests of a certain section of Radio 4 listeners: `elf `n' safety rules; political correctness gone mad; anything about the Union Jack and, of course, anything about the English language. We all care about language. _____

a. It is the first thing we teach our children.

b. An incorrect usage barely causes a flutter.

c. Your concern may be different from the young hoodie's.

d. It is one thing we have in common.

e. It is like beads in a chain.

14. Sometimes, out and about, I catch a stranger fixing me with a gimlet eye. Does she recognize me? Perhaps. I wrote a first-person story for Washingtonian magazine back in 1989 about getting a facelift — with before-and-after mug shots on the cover. Maybe that stranger stashed it in a bedside drawer. I imagine her fishing it out after one of those blood-freezing flashes when she spots her own reflection in a shop window and thinks her mother's come to town._____.

a. But millions more have surrendered to the knife, and a charming new vocabulary has been born

b. The girl before the mirror checks her camouflage

c. Mind-boggling new technologies have blossomed: lasers, microsurgeries, wrinkle fillers, etc.

d. At its core, of course, the rage for "age management" is a ghastly business

e. Over the intervening 17 years, my own visage has slid back into its pre-lift contours

15. In recent times, a number of attempts have been made to determine the position of aesthetics. Thinkers such as Schelling and Nietzsche in their own ways sought to rehabilitate aesthetics to the degree that they even claimed this neglected field to be the highest form of philosophy. To most philosophers, however, reflections about aesthetics seem to be less important than epistemology or ethics. _____

a. However, it is in Kant's system that aesthetics was for the first time assigned an autonomous place as a discipline within philosophy

b. Even in the philosophy of Immanuel Kant, it seems at first sight as if aesthetics came as an afterthought

c. The importance of aesthetics to philosophy can, on reflection, not be denied

d. Why do we, for instance, claim that a sunset is beautiful?

e. Metaphysics has been neglected

16. Naming has always been a tricky business in astronomy. When Galileo discovered four "planets" accompanying Jupiter, he intended to name them "Medicean stars," after his hoped-for patron. He got the job, but lost on the names. Kepler introduced the word "satellites," and Medicean never stuck. William Herschel tried to name his new planet "Georgium Sidus" for King George III, but the international astronomy community would have none of that, calling it Uranus instead._____

a. Yet controversy finally caught up with Pluto in 2006

b. Pluto, it had turned out, was not a massive object influencing Uranus and Neptune in their courses

c. Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, Ariz., was luckier with Pluto, which incorporated the initials of Boston Brahmin Percival Lowell

d. It was a dwarf, smaller than our moon, and 400 times less massive than the earth

e. It is an act of branding celestial bodies

17. It's a crowd-pleasing story, but there has always been more to Threadless than mere mobocracy. For instance, it also offers a line of Select T-shirts, featuring the work of well-established designers like Cody Hudson. The voting system is straightforward: users rate each submission on a 0-to-5 scale and offer comments that range from the constructive to the unprintable. _____

a. Kalmikoff says that eliminating ugly designs before a vote is an infrequent but sometimes necessary measure to "protect the experience" of Threadless voters.

b. While most winners have scores of 2.6 or higher; one recent batch included a design with a score of 2.0.

c. Still, some submissions never make it to the voting stage, usually because they ignore format rules, raise copyright issues or, sometimes, are simply "awful."

d. That's because the final decision about which T's actually get made and sold has always involved a bit of nonpublic number crunching.

e. For example, Threadless looks at how many 0s and 5s a design gets; designs that inspire passionate disagreement, often get printed because they tend to sell.

18. But the ambition that lifted Rain (real name: Ji Hoon Jung) out of a one-room house in Seoul won't be sated by simply conquering the biggest continent on earth. Rain is looking east to the U.S., studying English day and night. He sold out two shows at Madison Square Garden's smaller venue in February, and that could be just a few drops of the deluge that some think will follow the release of his English-language debut album this fall. _____

a. Rain is the face—and well-muscled torso—of pop globalism.

b. Rain already has a fan base, thanks to Internet music sites, satellite TV and DVDs of his soap operas.

c. Those are the same media that make it easier than ever for growing numbers of Americans to get their fix of Japanese anime.

d. Yet even if Rain, whose style virtually clones American pop, fails to make it in the U.S., the trend he represents is here to stay.

e. Pop culture is a global swirl, no more constrained by borders than the weather, rain, after all, falls on everyone.

19. The idealism of philosophy consists in nothing else than in recognising that the finite has no veritable being. Every philosophy is essentially an idealism or at least has idealism for its principle, and the question then is only how far this principle is actually carried

out. This is as true of philosophy as of religion; for religion equally does not recognise finitude as a veritable being, as something ultimate and absolute or as something underived, uncreated, eternal. _____

a. Hence, the opposition of idealistic and realistic philosophy has no significance.

b. A philosophy, which ascribed veritable, ultimate, absolute being to finite existence as such, needs to be condemned.

c. The principles of ancient or modern philosophies, water, or matter, or atoms are *thoughts,* universals, and ideal entities, not things as they immediately present themselves to us.

d. That is, in their individuality — not even the water of Thales.

e. For although this is also empirical water, it is at the same time also the *in-itself or essence* of all other things.

20 . Bertolt Brecht has a famous poem from 1933, "Germany, pale mother" (Fassbinder later used the words as the title for a film). The poem has an epigraph: "Let others talk about their shame, I will talk about mine." Grass has done the opposite: he has carefully incubated his particular shame for 60 years, all the while encouraging others to talk about theirs. _____

a. "Now I remember, now I forget", was his motto.

b. These lifelong silences, and the manner of his breaking it, have hurt Grass's reputation in ways from which it will never recover.

c. Now, possibly threatened by its imminent disclosure - the relevant documents have surfaced lately in Grass's Stasi file.

d. It transpires that the 17-year-old Grass - who had never previously admitted to being anything worse than a "Flakhelfer", was a conscripted civilian ack-ack gunner.

e. Michael Hofmann is dismayed by the tone and content of Günter Grass's self-revelation in "Peeling the Onion."

Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
20					

Practice Test 2

Directions for Questions 1 to 10: Five alternative summaries are given below each text. Choose the option that best captures the essence of the text.

1. In the future the old people -say those over 50-will not keep on working as traditional full-time nine-to-five employees, but will participate in the labour force in many new and different ways: as temporaries, as part-timers, as consultants, on special assignments and so on. The human-resources departments still assume that those who work for an organisation are full-time employees. Employment laws and regulations are based on the same assumption. Within 20 or 25 years, however, perhaps as many as half the people who work for an organisation will not be employed by it, certainly not on a full-time basis. This will be especially true for older people. New ways of working with people at arm's length will increasingly become the central managerial issue of employing organisations, and not just of businesses.

a. Older people will be a part of the labour force in the future but in a manner customized to their needs. This will mean other options besides full-time jobs.

b. The labor force of the future would have far older people and they will have to be absorbed in a different manner. This will make sure that older HR managers will be needed to resolve these problems.

c. Different job profiles beyond a full-time one will emerge in the future with the older people benefiting the most. This will also create its unique set of problems.

d. The labor force of the future would create unique problems that could be dealt with only by employing older people. This will create its unique set of problems.

e. Older people will enjoy pension schemes and this will create a lot of problems.

2. A man finds his true identity only in his social milieu, where the family plays a fundamental role. The family's influence may have been excessive at some periods of history and in some places, the long-standing social frameworks, often too rigid and badly organized. Though existing in developing countries, these are, nevertheless, still necessary for a time, yet they are progressively relaxing their excessive hold. However, a natural family, monogamous and stable, must remain in a place where various generations come together and help one another to grow wiser and to harmonize personal rights with the other requirements of social life.

a. Badly organized and rigid social frameworks existed in developing countries jeopardizing progress.

b. A family is required to help a man maintain his position in his society.

c. To maintain a `stable' family, a man must marry only once in his lifetime.

d. A man is identified not only by his experiences, but also by the unity and the accordance of his family.

e. Family is the only source of the socialization process.

3. Every one will readily allow, that there is a considerable difference between the perceptions of the mind, when a man feels the pain of excessive heat, or the pleasure of moderate warmth, and when he afterwards recalls to his memory this sensation, or anticipates it by his imagination. These faculties may mimic or copy the perceptions of the senses; but they never can entirely reach the force and vivacity of the original sentiment. The utmost we say of them, even when they operate with greatest vigour, is, that they represent their object in so lively a manner, that we could almost say we feel or see it. All the colours of poetry, however splendid, can never paint natural objects in such a manner as to make the description be taken for a real landscape. The most lively thought is still inferior to the dullest sensation.

a. There is difference between the perception of the mind and the brain. The difference is most acute when one considers the experience of nature.

b. The experience between sensation and recollection/visualisation is huge for human beings. The latter is much inferior to the former.

c. The experience of remembering is always weaker to the experience of creating. This is most clearly demonstrated in the case of nature and man.

d. Man recreates by using his memory and this creates the problem of other thoughts interfering with the recall.

e. The recall of states and feelings replicates the actual.

4. Our age is the age of criticism, to which everything must be subjected. The sacredness of religion, and the authority of legislation, are by many regarded as grounds of exemption from the examination of this tribunal. But, if they are exempted, they become the subjects of just suspicion, and cannot lay claim to sincere respect, which reason accords only to that which has stood the test of a free and public examination.

a. In the age of criticism, there are no unverified truths except religion and legislation. The reason for this is their nature and inability to verify their essence.

b. Religion and legislation by their very nature are never criticized. This leads to the creation of absolute authority that, in the end, damages their credibility.

c. In the age of criticism, religion and legislation are seen to be above doubt. This, however, affects their credibility as they have not passed the test but evaded it.

d. Criticism means a clear doubting of every aspect of human life. Anything that passes this scrutiny is credible, the ones that do not like religion and legislation deserve reproach.

e. In the age of criticism, religion and legislation are credible as they have evaded the test.

5. Plato _ who may have understood better what forms the mind of man than do some of our contemporaries who want their children exposed only to `real' people and everyday events knew what intellectual experiences make for true humanity. He suggested that the future citizens of his ideal republic begin their literary education with the telling of myths,

rather than with mere facts or so-called rational teachings. Even Aristotle, master of pure reason said, "The friend of wisdom is also a friend of myth".

a. Plato comprehended the effects of the intellectual life on real human beings.

b. Plato realized how little a purely intellectual education could do for people's actual well being.

c. Plato grasped which sorts of experiences helped promote the development of truly humane individuals.

d. Actual human beings are transformed by reading the scholarly works of Plato.

e. Plato believed in facts and figures.

6. Of course, peace and stability are also the dearest wish of the Uygurs, since there is no people who likes to live in an environment not peaceful and stabile. However, if we look at the real situation in Eastern Turkistan, we realize that it was the Chinese government who was destabilizing and breaking peace in this territory and has been greatly benefiting from that - and this is well known to the world. For example, in the December 2005 edition of the famous magazine "Economist" in America there is an article "Western district under Chinese pressure" and in this article it is written: "in Uygurs' territory because of rise of dissatisfaction of Muslim people who are not of Chinese origin, the Chinese government may apply a policy which was applied before in 1997 in Guldja". It has foreseen that the Chinese way of planting seeds, which will destabilise and break peace in this area, will give its results in the future. Let's have a look on the political situation of Eastern Turkistan for one year, and it will become obvious that the policy of the Central government of China against the Uygurs was in comparison even worse than in previous years.

a. Eastern Turkistan is under immense pressure from the Chinese government, which has been manipulating its policies to benefit from it.

b. Eastern Turkistan is under immense pressure from the Chinese government because of its miniscule population of Muslims who are not of Chinese origin.

c. Eastern Turkistan is under immense pressure from the Chinese government owing to the difference in methods of planting seeds.

d. Eastern Turkistan is under immense pressure from the Chinese government because it wants to destabilize the district.

e. China's communist rulers have captured lands which previous dynasties have only held intermittantly. Beijing rules many muslims whose ancestors owed no traditional allegiance to Beijing.

7. Leaf blowers were first used by gardeners in the early 1970s in California. In the mid-1970s, a drought in California led to water conservation, and leaf blowers replaced hoses to clean driveways and sidewalks. By 1976, Beverly Hills had banned blowers, saying they were a nuisance. Throughout the 1980s, other communities in California enacted restrictions on the blowers, and as environmental awareness has heightened and more people have started to work at home, restricting leaf blowers has become popular

elsewhere too. Today, leaf blowers are used for every aspect of yard clean-up. According to industry estimates, there are more than 8 million gas-powered leaf blowers in the country today, with another 1.5 million expected to be sold next year. However, estimates by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency put the country's gas-powered leaf blower population at closer to 3 million. At least 40 communities in California currently have bans or restrictions on leaf blowers. In addition, three Chicago suburbs, several New Jersey towns, and seven communities in Westchester, including Scarsdale, have restrictions or seasonal bans.

a. California is the most environmentally proactive state followed by Illinois as at least 40 communities in California currently have bans or restrictions on leaf blowers.

b. Though the leaf blower saves water and was immensely popular during the initial phase of its introduction, its use is being increasingly banned because of its environmental implications.

c. The leaf blower is a great way to conserve water and at the same time keeps yards effectively clean; it replaced hoses to clean driveways and sidewalks.

d. Despite bans on the use of the leaf blower, its popularity is on the rise as reflected by its burgeoning sales figure.

e. A Swedish based scientist has found that just one hour's mowing could produce the same amount of carcinogens as an average car does in a 150 km drive.

8. Children cannot really be brought up in jars. Individuality cannot be trained out of us like a bad habit. Either it persists as the mainspring of our energies, if it is crushed, its collapse destroys the rest of our capacities. Human beings in fact are not blank paper at birth and cannot be conditioned to be social insects. The selfless communal consciousness which perhaps pervades a beehive is simply not an option for us.

a. Individuality stems from a process of gradual and persevered conditioning of selfhood.

b. The author posits that the mind is like a *tabula rasa* or blank slate, at the beginning of its hominid journey.

c. Human beings need to retain their individuality and hone their capabilities to flourish.

d. *Selflessness* channeled through the collective contributes to the progress of our children.

e. Individuality is alien to the communal consciousness which pervades a beehive.

9. The reductive atomistic picture of explanation, which suggests that the right way to understand complex wholes is always to break them down into their smallest parts, leads us to think that truth is revealed at the end of that other seventeenth-century invention, the microscope. When microscopes dominate our imagination, we feel that the large wholes we deal with in everyday experience as mere appearances. Only the particles revealed at the bottom of the microscope are real. Thus, to an extent, unknown in earlier times our dominant technology shapes our symbolism and thereby our metaphysics, our view about what is real. The heathen in his blindness bows down to wood and stone - steel

and glass, plastic and rubber and silicon - of his own devising and sees them as the final truth.

a. Reliance upon telescopes is better than reliance upon microscopes as telescopes provide a magnified view of the celestial bodies.

b. Our dominant technology shapes our view about what is real.

c. According to Gestalt psychology - the whole is greater than the sum of its parts.

d. A heathen accepts materialism as the final truth.

e. Dominant technology has ruined tradition.

10. The more prevalent view of language, at least since the scientific revolution and still assumed in some manner by most linguists today, considers any language to be a set of arbitrary but conventionally agreed upon words or signs, linked by a purely formal system of syntactic and grammatical rules. Language, in this view, is rather like a code; it is a way of representing actual things and events in the perceived world, but it has no internal, no arbitrary connections to that world, and hence is readily separable from it.

a. Active speech is the generative core of all language.

b. By attending solely to the denotative and conventional aspect of verbal communication, we can hold ourselves apart from, and outside of the rest of animate nature.

c. Language is a set of rules and codes which represents the world.

d. Language represents the world but is separable from it.

e. That language is a set of rules is an assumption.

Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
10					

Practice Test 3

Directions for questions 1 to 15: In the questions given below, a paragraph is given from which the last sentence has been deleted. From the given options, choose the one that completes the paragraph in the most appropriate way.

1. In a Festival of major expectations and minor disappointments, the Palmarès (as the 45-minute closing ceremony is known) boasted its own snippets of drama, star quality, comedy and embarrassments. When Dunst, a popular choice, won the Best Actress award, she synopsized the four days since Melancholia opened — and director Lars von Trier was censured by the Festival for his injudicious jokes about Hitler and the Nazis — by saying, "What a week it's been!" She expressed her gratitude to the Festival for allowing the film to still be in Competition. When she thanked von Trier, a gust of cheers could be heard in the big auditorium. Whatever the opinions of the film and its director, the Jury's way of rewarding it and him showed diplomatic aplomb.

a. As the biggest movie star to head the Jury since Clint Eastwood in 1994 (when Pulp Fiction won), De Niro received a hero's welcome when he was introduced.

b. More warm applause greeted The Artist's Dujardin, Best Actor winner as the silent-movie star whose career tailspins when in the new talkie era.

c. As charming in person as on screen, Dujardin flashed his mile-wide smile at the crowd and then did a few steps from the tap dance that ends Michel Hazanvicious' film.

d. Diplomacy, after all, has been the forte of the French much before the Suez crisis erupted in 1956.

2. Presaging the apparently-imminent departure of Michele Alliot-Marie from the Quai d'Orsay, a recent op-ed in Le Monde written anonymously by current and former French diplomats is sounding the death knell of France's diplomatic influence. "Africa is drifting away, the Mediterranean region wants nothing to do with us, we've been tamed by China and Washington ignores us!" they write. On this last point, they add, many potential partners have been put off by France's "sycophancy" toward the U.S, and the decision to rejoin NATO has eroded the country's visibility.

a. Most of this they blame on President Nicolas Sarkozy's administration, which they accuse of "amateurism, impulsivity and obsessive media exposure."

b. The group maintains that during the Cold War France did not enjoy a unique international profile, it mostly sided with Russia.

c. A rebuttal op-ed, also anonymous but purportedly written by another group of diplomats, appeared Thursday in Le Figaro.

d. The French foreign influence has not waned, and the group should get its facts right.

3. In a recent article in the LRB, Julian Barnes discussed the problem with particular reference to Madame Bovary. He cites six different English renderings of a single sentence, which vary to one degree or another, and of which, he observes, none is obviously preferable to the others. He resorts to a wine-tasting metaphor called "mouth

feel" to make the necessary discriminations between the alternatives. Equally, a "brilliantly witty but sparse and snappy tale" by the Congolese novelist Alain Mabanckou was recently translated by two different people, who were unaware of each other's efforts until the time came to compare them. Their final texts had only one sentence in common.

a. So, of the two versions of the story, which is "by" Alain Mabanckou?

b. I'm pretty clear that Crime and Punishment, even when indifferently translated, is by Dostoevsky.

c. It read: "Really?"

d. We constantly encounter, in one form or another, the problem of not understanding what another person says or means.

4. The retailer has twice restructured its stores, using a company voluntary agreement _ a legal deal with landlords designed to slash rent costs. The most recent one, struck this year, has earmarked up to 95 stores for closure if their performance does not improve. Substantial costs associated with the shake-up pushed JJB to a pre-tax loss of £181m on sales of £363m in the year to 30 January. Yet, JJB has a real chance of recovery if it considers that this is the beginning of the hard work and not the end.

a. McTighe said the chain's performance had met board expectations in the first quarter of the new financial year.

b. JJB has yet to recover from losses associated with the acquisition of two footwear chains in 2008 by former chief executive Chris Ronnie.

c. Although the company is now on a much sounder footing, it will be a long haul back to recovery.

d. The retailer plans to differentiate itself from rival Sports Direct by reinventing itself as an "authentic" sports chain selling equipment and clothing.

5. Rosario Ferre is one of a group of angry young Puerto Rican women authors who have seized the pen and wielded it effectively. Educated on the island and the mainland, Ferre is the daughter of a former governor of Puerto Rico and by birth a member of the upper-class, conservative society she satirizes in her fiction. She has acknowledged that writing is for her a destructive as well as a constructive endeavor and that she is driven by a need for vengeance and a desire to give permanence to what hurts and to what attracts her.

a. Ferre has spoken of the need to rewrite "history" as it should have occurred and in Papeles de Pandora she engages in revisionary mythopoesis.

b. The anger that impels much of her work is evident in her 1976 collection of stories and poems, Papeles de Pandora.

c. Her stories show not only the roles in which women are often cast but also the attempts some women make to break out of those roles.

d. Ferre's book tells what Molly Hite has termed the other side of the story, the alternative version that gives events a different set of emphases and values.

6. Though only a provincial leader, she is, in the words of a political commentator, `a colossus who dominates national politics'. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi loved to be

known as the only man in her cabinet. Jayalalitha goes a step further. As chief minister of Tamil Nadu, she loves to be known as the only man in the 100 million strong political party she heads. This is surprising because Tamil Nadu, though small, is respected for the intellectual strength, political sagacity, legal acumen and moral rectitude of its people. Indira Gandhi's power was not resisted because of her Nehru bloodlines.

a. Whatever Jayalalitha has achieved - what has she not achieved? - she owes it wholly to herself.

b. Jayalalitha models herself on Margaret Thatcher and Indira Gandhi.

c. Born in poverty in another State, Mysore, with her father dead in her second year, she and her mother found themselves cast away in a heartless man's world.

d. Whereas Jayalalitha had to put her academic career on hold and took to films and subsequently politics out of necessity.

7. There is no defined career path to becoming a cartoonist. I came to it almost in reverse. I have loved cartoons, drawing and having a laugh, but the notion of doing it for a living didn't take root until very late. I had studied art, but I found the idea of being an artist risible. (Monsieur L'Artiste was one of the first characters I ever drew at university.) So I started out as a teacher, but the stress was unbelievable. I knew things had gone too far when being off to have my wisdom teeth taken out felt like a relief.

a. I handed in my notice and followed my friend from university, Kipper Williams, into the daunting world of freelance cartooning.

b. While I was teaching, I had been drawing strip cartoons and illustrations, unpaid, for Birmingham Broadside, the city's answer to Time Out.

c. What I craved was a job where I could shut myself in a room and talk to myself, sometimes very loudly and in a variety of accents.

d. Despite my ambition and self-belief, I knew I needed to work on my caricatures. I never realized they would become a life's work.

8. The launch of Sputnik 1 had a "Pearl Harbor" effect on American public opinion. It was a shock, introducing the average citizen to the space age in a crisis setting. The event created an illusion of a technological gap and provided the impetus for increased spending for aerospace endeavors, technical and scientific educational programs, and the chartering of new federal agencies to manage air and space research and development. Not only had the Soviets been first in orbit, but Sputnik 1 weighed nearly 200 pounds, compared to the intended 3.5 pounds for the first satellite to be launched in Project Vanguard.

a. Even before the effects of Sputnik 1 had worn off, the Soviet Union struck again.

b. In the Cold War environment of the late 1950s, this disparity of capability portended menacing implications.

c. The concerns of John Hagen and others, raised on Sputnik Night, exacerbated by later Soviet accomplishments in space flight, enjoyed a long gestation period.

d. While the first satellite had weighed less than 200 pounds, the next spacecraft launched weighed 1,120 pounds and stayed in orbit for almost 200 days.

9. Then there is farm technology. Seeds are better than they used to be, requiring less water. Most tractors these days are equipped with GPS, many of which will allow farmers to map out the most and least productive areas of their land so they can better distribute seeds and fertilizer. And when I was recently out in Nebraska I saw a number of farmers just starting to experiment with double row planting- staggering seeds so they could fit two rows in space that is not much wider than what they used to use for one. The result is that crop yields are way up, and rising.

a. Once the general economy rebounds, and fear abates, farmland prices would plummet.

b. In Nebraska where I was, the farmland prices have reached about $6,000 an acre.

c. But demand for food is not going away.

d. If farmland is more productive than it was a few years ago, it should be worth more.

10. D'Errico's fascination with the Biblical tale wasn't just a childhood passion. As she grew older, she continued to study and research the ark, especially stories suggesting that it was close to being found. According to legend, the ark is located on Mount Ararat, a snow-capped, dormant volcanic cone in the easternmost part of Turkey that has two peaks: Greater Ararat, with an elevation of 16,854 feet, and Lesser Ararat, which is 12,782 feet above sea level. However, despite numerous sightings and expeditions, no solid proof of the ark has ever been found.

a. D'Errico is planning to fulfill a lifelong dream of climbing Mount Ararat in Turkey to search for the frozen remains of Noah's ark.

b. D'Errico would like to be the person who makes the historical find.

c. It still remains to be seen whether the ark for D'Errico is part of God's plan.

d. But it seems like Noah's Ark is due for a flood of media attention.

11. The ultimate method of execution, according to the late science fiction writer Douglas Adams, is the "total perspective vortex". This machine, featured in the second book of *TheHitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* series, presents its victims with a lucid vision of their status
in relation to the universe _ a glimpse of infinity and an unimaginably minuscule "you are here" sign.

a. A more subtle kind of torture might be to make someone aware of how irrelevant his conscious thoughts are in comparison with the rest of the activity going on in his brain.

b. The apprehension of insignificance on this scale is so shocking that the subject instantly dies.

c. I believe we're already there. But instead of treating the revelation of our intellectual feebleness as cause for alarm, we celebrate it.

d. The euphoria of recognition is so overwhelming that the subject's determination to live increases exponentially and supersedes everything and the machine gets destroyed.

12. Studios are in a lather to show new movies via video-on-demand within 60 days from their first theatrical release. Exhibitors have fired back by threatening to ban such films from their theaters. If the suggested $30 price tag for a 60-day VOD is accepted, families may wait to see a new animated film at home in bright, cheerful 2-D rather than being charged a premium to see it in dim and annoying 3-D. They can make their own popcorn, which the theaters dread, because the studios take up to 90 percent of the opening-week box-office gross, and movie theaters literally make their money at the snack counter. The communal experience of movie going will be threatened. The erosion of community continues. Robert D. Putnam's seminal 2000 book, Bowling Alone, suggested Americans were losing their love of church groups, lodges, sewing circles, book clubs, film societies, veterans' halls, and so on.

a. Who foresaw we might also someday be seeing new movies alone?

b. Grown-up films and creative projects were "over" in the new Hollywood, and many are turning to long-form television.

c. Film societies have become totally irrelevant because of a lack of interest in movies nowadays.

d. This decline of church groups will continue until Christianity becomes a minority sect of largely elderly people, in little more than a generation.

13. Researchers in the growing field of bioprecipitation believe that bacteria may be what triggers rain, snow, and even hailstorms. Although minerals or other particulates have long been thought to cause water droplets to form, for that to happen the water needs to be much colder than is usually found in clouds.

a. This also ties into an ongoing study of the idea that drought cycles are connected to bacteria in clouds.

b. Recently, Alexander Michaud of Montana State University found traces of bacteria at the centers of large hailstones.

c. Another issue is whether the concentration of such particulates is high enough to impact precipitation formation in any significant way.

d. Hail is formed when a particle, like dust, attracts a drop of moisture to itself; the particle gets blown upward by strong updrafts in the cloud, and freezes as it goes through a colder layer of air.

14. The "persistent" vegetative state was first described in 1972, and since then a further category _ "permanent" vegetative state _ has been added to emphasize the fact that recovery is thought to be impossible. The consequence of a diagnosis of permanent vegetative state is that it can be lawful to withdraw assisted nutrition and hydration (ANH) with the result that the patient ultimately dies. In England and Wales court approval is needed before ANH can be removed, but by and large courts have acted as a rubber stamp of clinical recommendations rather than undertaking a full forensic debate.

a. If the patient cannot recover, but is sentient, then does the ability to communicate at some level, critical to whether or not treatment is futile?

b. The presumption seems to be that it is permissible not to continue with ANH because it is essentially futile.

c. Research shows that there may be a level of consciousness in some cases, this does not necessarily imply that recovery is possible; merely that the ability to communicate at a relatively elementary level exists in some cases.

d. The only thing worse than being in a vegetative state must be being in one, but being aware, this is what the law is trying to avoid when it permits withholding of ANH.

15. Why does our species need to feel like there is something bigger out there or to have a sense of purpose and so on to begin with? Do other animals have these same existential needs? If not, why don't they? These are not just aimless psychological musings. Many scientists believe human beings evolved a suite of cognitive traits that are more or less unique to our species. This does not make us "better" than other animals but only different. And one of these uniquely human traits, commonly referred to as "theory of mind", is at the heart of every profound existential question you could ever hope to ask.

a. It is instinctive for us to seek a grand, moralistic mind that is not there, God is a human instinct.

b. But unlike any previous generation, we are now in a position to understand why we sense a mental presence that never was.

c. Though there are philosophical approaches to issues raised in such discussions, theory of mind as such is distinct from the philosophy of mind.

d. What happens when we die? What is the meaning of life? Why do bad things happen to good people?

Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
15					

Practice Test 4

Directions for questions 1 to 15: In the questions given below, a paragraph is given from which the last sentence has been deleted. From the given options, choose the one that completes the paragraph in the most appropriate way.

1. Many things continue to amaze me, even well into the sixth decade of my life. I'm started or taken aback when people walk up to me and tell me they are Christians. My first response is the question "Already?" It seems to me a life long endeavor to try to live the life of a Christian. I believe that is also true for the Buddhist, for the Muslim, for the Jainist, for the Jew and for the Taoist who try to live their beliefs. The idyllic condition cannot be arrived at and held on to eternally.

a. The depression, which was difficult for everyone, especially so for a single black woman in the south tending her crippled son and two grandchildren, caused her to make the statement of faith often.

b. I suddenly began to cry at the grandness of it all.

c. It is in the search itself that one finds the ecstasy.

d. I grew up knowing that the word of God had power.

2. When I think of death, and of late the idea has come with alarming frequency, I seem at peace with the idea that a day will dawn when I will no longer be among those living in this valley of strange humors. I can accept the idea of my own demise, but I am unable to accept the death of anyone else. I find it impossible to let a friend or relative go into that country of no return.

a. In a world where many desperately seek to know all the answers, it is not very popular to belief, and then state, I do not need to know all things.

b. I remind myself that it is sufficient that I know what I know and knew that without believing that I will always know that what I know will always be true.

c. What legacy was left which can help me in the art of living a good life.

d. Disbelief becomes my close companion, and anger follows in its wake.

3. Nevertheless, we can assume that if Adam & Eve have a normal amount of emphatic desire, and their non-emphatic desires are not too incompatible, they will get along well and not interfere too much with the fulfillment of each other's desires. What really worries snake, in his role as moral arbiter, is that they will reproduce, begetting Cain, Abel and so on. With each extra subject in the equation, the desire calculus becomes harder to perform.

a. And so it becomes necessary to formulate some rough & ready code of behavior: a list of actions which on the whole will further or hinder the ability of people in general to realize their desires.

b. At this point, snake persuades Eve to eat the apple which once consumed will invite the God's wrath.

c. This is, in fact, the normal situation in any successful marriage or friendship.

d. Ironically, if the disparity is total, there is no problem.

4. The important things in life always happen by accident. You could worry yourself sick trying to be a better person, spend a thousand sleepless nights figuring out how to live clean and decent and honest, you could make a plan and bolt it in place, hell, you could go to church and promise properly. And then

a. you could cross your heart seven times with your eyes tight shut.

b. you could pen solemn vows on a rock with your own blood.

c. out of the black beyond some nameless catastrophe would swoop into your life and turn everything upside down and inside out forever.

d. you could sit on the roof biding your time and watching the rats have a little fun.

5. The image of the burning elk had haunted him all night. He had fallen asleep thinking of it and now it came to him again, imposing itself upon the stars. It bothered him that the animal's antlers had been so big, for by this time of year it should have shed them and any new growth would be much smaller. May be it was just a trick of the light, but he still couldn't stop wondering what the apparition might mean and why he should think it had meaning at all. His father had never had much truck with superstition. The here, the now and the visible seemed sufficient. His mother, on the other hand, was a walking almanac of omens.

a. She said it came from her Irish ancestry.

b. Her mother did burned a sprig of sage at night.

c. It bothered him that he felt the way he did about the elk.

d. In her day she had been a minor celebrity on the women's rodeo circuit.

6. Our office is in the rear of the complex, a two-suite affair with a small wooden porch outside and two steps leading up to the door. Inside, it is quite austere. There are no oil paintings, or metal sculptures. There is a small library that doubles as a conference room, an even smaller reception area and a room that we have divided into two offices.

a. So far, we have made it on word of mouth.

b. We have refrained from posting a sign out front or on the door.

c. The façade on the street is white plaster in the style of a colonial Spanish hacienda.

d. A half-mile south is the northern edge of the silver strand.

7. Unlike its Asian ally, Germany adopted a policy of laissez-faire, pure & simple. While Japan feared foreign competition in the early stages of development, Germany had no such qualms. The European powerhouse challenged global rivals soon after the war, and its companies quickly began to out compete their counterparts in England, France & Italy. It imposed low duties on foreign products, especially those exported by its neighbours,

most of which were socialist economies rendered inefficient by the lack of internal competition.

a. Their goods were no match for the intensely productive labor force & factories of West Germany.

b. German products set the standards for quality & durability all over the world.

c. What is even more interesting is that Germany's export locomotive did not trample the rights of its workers.

d. Their excess demand had to be met with an import surplus.

8. India still has a long way to go. Today it is gasping for breath under the stranglehold of official graft and a general state of confusion. Jawaharlal Nehru, the country's first prime minister, had great intentions but little common sense. He chose "the socialist pattern of society".

a. And that turned out to be a slippery slope.

b. There seemed to be no light at the end of Indian's ever deepening tunnel.

c. Not surprisingly, India had to live with constant budget deficit.

d. And that resulted in state monopolies which were beneficial & efficient.

9. Wealth concentration exerts a strong influence on market mania. As a person grows rich, he or she is less fearful of risky investments. Furthermore, to a millionaire, small returns offer littler satisfaction. He or she seeks large yields which spring only from speculation.

a. Hence, speculative fevers cannot last without growing wealth concentration.

b. Speculation thus, is not necessarily a bad thing.

c. Once market fever heats up, it is fueled by cheap credit.

d. Productivity will ultimately be at the mercy of the wealthy.

10. If you're cursed with my phobia, it can compromise your evening. Screeds of dialogue have passed me by over the years, as I've sat with fingers in lugs, anticipating gunfire. That's not irrational. If there's a gun being toted in one's vicinity, one seldom focuses elsewhere. And to be nervous of guns is a survival instinct, right? Just ask the actor David Birrell, accidentally shot in the eye with a fake pistol during a performance last year of Sondheim's Passion at the Donmar.

a. Being shot, to my mind, could scarcely be more painful.

b. In a real-life held-at-gunpoint scenario, I reckon I'd be fine - given that, if the bullet was fired, either death or extreme pain would presumably take my mind off the noise.

c. Guns - even stage ones - are dangerous things.

d. I'm happiest when I get less bang for my buck.

11. Nobody in the Congress or the UPA has been talking to this India, whether in cities or villages. This has been the quietest, the shyest government in India's history, and nobody can govern this country from the trenches. If the mood at Jantar Mantar is anti-politician, or for an apolitical system, this has been an incredibly apolitical government, which is its own and India's tragedy.

a. If you do not speak to the voters for two full years, they will turn to somebody, to the courts, to high-decibel TV anchors, to Anna Hazare.

b. Because in a democracy, politicians must speak with people, to sell their ideas, plans, explain their mistakes, promise redress, and so on.

c. Sonia and Rahul rarely, if ever, speak in public.

d. The party behaves as if this government has been outsourced to bureaucrats.

12. This is the magic of Yosemite: It forges heroes. No matter where they come from, from the Alps to the Andes, all self-respecting rock climbers yearn to make a pilgrimage to "the valley" to measure themselves against its giants: El Capitan, a shimmering prow of stone so immense it makes the hundred-foot ponderosa pines at its base look miniature; Cathedral Rocks, a dark fortress forever in the shade; and Half Dome, a granite apple cleaved in half, its soaring northwest face an invitation to the boldest climbers in the world.

a. Visiting a Yosemite climbing camp today, you're just as likely to meet a divorce attorney from Delaware as a wild-haired dirt bag.

b. The Nose, a 2,916-foot line on El Cap, may be the most famous rock-climbing route in the world.

c. Regardless of ability, every climber comes to Yosemite with a dream: a route he or she is aching to do.

d. To climb here is a rite of passage.

13. Such a catastrophe, even imaginary, fits right in with Bangladesh's crisis-driven story line, which, since the country's independence in 1971, has included war, famine, disease, killer cyclones, massive floods, military coups, political assassinations, and pitiable rates of poverty and deprivation a list of woes that inspired some to label it an international basket case. Yet
if despair is in order, plenty of people in Bangladesh didn't read the script.

a. In fact, many here are pitching another ending altogether, one in which the hardships of their past give rise to a powerful hope.

b. Before this century is over, the world, rather than pitying Bangladesh, may wind up learning from her example.

c. For all its troubles, Bangladesh is a place where adapting to a changing climate actually seems possible, and where every low-tech adaptation imaginable is now being tried.

d. Yet precisely because Bangladesh has so many problems, it's long served as a kind of laboratory for innovative solutions in the developing world.

14. It's hard to tear your eyes away from splashy self-sabotage, the destruction of a reputation built over years. Especially if there's hypocrisy involved — like the priggish Tiger Woods. There's some satisfaction, for many, in watching high eminence trip and collapse. It is cathartic, like the Greek idea of tragedy — there is a pity and fascination about the marked man. You read social pathologies into his action. You search your own life for parallels, you cluck and exclaim and mock. A scandal is, in essence, a bit of social theatre that ends up affirming conformity.

a. By scapegoating an errant individual and casting him out, a set of values is illustrated to a saucer-eyed audience.

b. We relish scandal because it shows us our own untrammeled appetites, our id on the loose.

c. But context is everything with scandal; it determines the difference between a minor ripple and a real typhoon.

d. In fact, all scandals have a fairly conventional form, a three-part juridical structure — a transgression occurs, it is exposed, and the person is publicly denounced and cast out.

15. Fast bowlers are cricket's showmen, eliciting gasps as they hurl down deliveries capable of snapping batsmen's ribs. But the game's most successful bowlers are its spinners. Appreciation of the spin bowler's art separates the cerebral fan from the bloodthirsty.

a. Cricket is more fascinating for their flourishing.

b. As much as spinners have changed the game, the game has also changed them.

c. Where fast bowlers are described as fearsome and snarling, spin bowlers attract adjectives such as wily or mysterious.

d. Spinners need a contortionist's fingers, not the athleticism of a fast bowler, which is why it has thrown up some unlikely heroes.

Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
15					

Practice Test 5

Directions for questions 1 to 15: In the questions given below, a paragraph is given from which the last sentence has been deleted. From the given options, choose the one that completes the paragraph in the most appropriate way.

1 In the beginning of the twentieth century, traveling exhibitors commissioned films of local people for screenings in local cinemas. The films were made, and people paid for the chance to see themselves on the silver screen. What has accidentally resulted from this is a huge archive of footage that gives twenty-first century viewers a cultural insight previously unknown.

a. The "Electric Edwardians" is a collection that features a range of footage from across the archive, covering football matches, workers on holiday, processions, marches and numerous other everyday experiences.

b. It is an experience much like Mass Observation televised; it gives a visual element to what so far has only been read about, the lives of genuinely ordinary people going about their daily life.

c. The accident could prove to have far reaching effects on the present generation.

d. It is a boring oft-repeated theme that would be of interest only to the actors featuring in it.

2. Though physically awkward, intellectually Chesterton was as nimble as a hummingbird. His writing became famous for its use of paradox: little controlled explosions that ranged from everyday clichés ("travel narrows the mind") to the perils of the suffragette movement: "Ten thousand women marched through the streets of London saying: `We will not be dictated to', and then went off to become stenographers."

And whereas Wilde's slick one-liners were usually polished up in advance, Chesterton's came as naturally as breathing.

a. Like every true genius, his humor was laced with bitterness.

b. Like every true genius, his humor lacked punch.

c. Like every true genius, he assumed that everyone thought as he did, and simply needed to be reminded of the fact from time to time.

d. Like every true genius, he took credit for his speechwriter's one-liners.

3. A breathalyzer is a device for estimating blood alcohol content from a breath sample. But it is not failsafe. One of the most common causes of falsely high breathalyzer readings is the existence of mouth alcohol. In analyzing a subject's breath sample, the breathalyzer's internal computer is making the assumption that the alcohol in the breath sample came from alveolar air—that is, air exhaled from deep within the lungs.

a. Blood tests provide more reliable results.

b. But even mouthwashes contain significant proportions of alcohol.

c. There have been instances where people have been indicted despite being sober.

d. However, mouth alcohol levels tend to drop off very quickly.

4. Gourmets are thick on the ground in Provence, and pearls of wisdom have sometimes come from the most unlikely sources. We were getting used to the fact that the French are as passionate about their food as other nationalities are about sport and politics, but even so it came as a surprise to hear Monsieur Bognols, the floor cleaner, handicapping three-star restaurants. He had come over from Nimes to sand down a stone floor, and it was apparent from the start that he was not a man who trifled with his stomach.

a. Every day precisely at noon he changed out of his overalls and took himself off to one of the local restaurants for two hours.

b. So I was surprised when he turned down my offer of lunch at my house.

c. Every day precisely at noon he went to the local park to participate in the activities of the laughter club.

d. But I was pleasantly surprised when he accepted my invitation to lunch at a gourmet restaurant.

5. The cello is part of the Opera of the Future lab run by the infectiously energetic Tod Machover. A renaissance man for the 21st - or perhaps 22nd - century, Machover is a composer, inventor and teacher rolled into one. He sweeps into the office 10 minutes late, which is odd because his watch is permanently set 20 minutes ahead in a patently vain effort to be punctual. Then, with the urgency of the White Rabbit, he rushes me across the room to show me the cello. It looks like any other electric classical instrument, with a solid wood body and jack socket.

a. But it is a letdown.

b. But he obviously believes in its magic.

c. But he is unsure about it.

d. But it is a thinking machine.

6. On the surface, it looked as if there was nothing in mathematics that Timothy Gowers couldn't achieve. Yet there were a few complex mathematical problems that he had struggled to solve. "In most cases, I just ran out of steam," he explains. So one day he took one of these - finding a mathematical proof about the properties of multidimensional objects - and put his thoughts on his blog. How would other people go about solving this conundrum?

He called it the Polymath Project and it rapidly took on a life of its own.

a. Within days, readers, including high-ranking academics, had chipped in vital pieces of information or new ideas.

b. "I was delighted" says Timothy.

c. Effort has led to several papers published in journals under the collective pseudonym DHJ Polymath.

d. "Something is better than nothing" said Gowers.

7. There are those who believe that technology has hijacked the whole of the visitable earth, snatched it away, miniaturized and simplified it, making travel so accessible on a flickering computer screen that there is no need to go anywhere except to your room. In a related way, the travel book is believed to have been not just diminished but made irrelevant by the same technology. Since we know everything - the information is easily dialed up - and the world has been so thoroughly winnowed by travelers, what is the use of a travel book?

a. Why do people continue to blame technology for everything that goes wrong - from wars to the end of travel books.

b. So why do people read travel books?

c. Surely it has all been written.

d. Where on earth would you go to remark each anxious toil, each eager strife, or watch the busy scenes of crowded life?

8. "What I am reflecting about now is not that I don't think I know an answer to your question," says a pensive Henry Kissinger, sitting in his spacious Park Avenue corner office adorned with signed photos of former presidents and foreign leaders. "It's that I don't know whether I choose to talk about it at this moment and in this forum. . . . And I don't mind dropping the interview and I don't mind you saying that I refused to go any further and pay the price for it."

a. But my question, which comes a few minutes into our interview, is of a milder variety.

b. When it comes to Mr. Kissinger there is never a shortage of controversial topics.

c. I was nonplussed for a moment by this extraordinary disavowal.

d. What sort of hard-hitting question should elicit such evasiveness from the former secretary of state?

9. Businesspeople are fond of accusing business academics of being all mouth and no trousers (if the accusers are British) or all hat and no cattle (if they are Texan). But when it comes to globalization the professors have trousers and cattle aplenty. In the past decade business education has globalized more thoroughly than business itself. This not only matters in its own right (business schools are a big business and a training ground for the global elite).

a. It also matters because some business schools have campuses built on the other side of the world.

b. It also matters because people can switch between two countries.

c. It also matters because the rest of academia is likely to follow where business schools have led.

d. It also matters because big schools such as the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School have established campuses abroad.

10. A colleague is writing about "celanthropy", and catching his tweets in mid-stream I had no idea what he was talking about. Ben Affleck came up, and I thought maybe he'd recently started some kind of advanced degree, as James Franco has, at some university with a good master's program in celanthropy. Only after reading the word a few times did I realize what it
was. Maybe you were quicker than I was to analyze the portmanteau of "celebrity philanthropy".

a. I think it makes more sense to me now than when I first heard it.

b. Or maybe you were slow to get it too.

c. "Celanthropy" isn't scientific, but aesthetic.

d. "Celanthropy" is too much -anthropy, not enough celebrity.

11. When President Barack Obama arrived in Joplin, Missouri, on May 29th, the sun was shining. He toured one of the neighborhoods that the previous week's tornado had destroyed, then spoke at a memorial service for the dead. (By late last week, the official toll was a hundred and thirty-eight people.) At the service, the President's tone turned brooding. "The question that weighs on us at a time like this is: Why?" he said. "Why our town? Why our home? Why my son, or husband, or wife, or sister, or friend? Why?"

a. Such questions, the President went on, cannot be answered, as "these things are beyond our power to control."

b. The answer to such questions, the President said, is that "It may be beyond our power to control the climate, but we can determine it".

c. But, now that the immediate crisis has passed, the President needs to stop asking those kind of questions that can't be answered and start addressing those that can.

d. Obama's visit to Joplin was the third that he had made in a month to the site of a weather-related disaster.

12. Though the impact of the global crisis was not taken into account by India initially, it is clearly concerned with the rising number of jobless in the last few months. Rising unemployment could be an important election issue. Many factories in India are closing down with export orders cancelled. Official figures for unemployment in the last three months are as high as 500,000 workers. The numbers could increase if we count the job losses in the unorganized sector. Not only have export industries like diamond cutting, textiles, handicraft, carpets, sports goods, and leather been directly hit but information technology, hospitality and financial services have also been afflicted by the slowdown.

a. It is the youth who will suffer because they will find it difficult to get their first jobs.

b. It means job openings in manufacturing are not expanding.

c. In most cases, cutting jobs seems to be the only way to remain afloat.

d. There is no safety net for the average worker here which can take care of children's education, healthcare and other essentials.

13. Climate change is literally bringing European neighbors Italy and Switzerland closer. Melting glaciers in the Alps have prompted the two countries to redraw their borders, with a parliamentary draft legislation being readied in Rome. The international border has been fixed since 1861 when Italy became a unified state. But for the past century, the surface area of the Alpine glaciers, especially around skiers' paradise Matterhorn has been shrinking steadily, with dramatic acceleration in the past five years.

a. The change will not affect any town or communities as the border lies 4,000 meters above sea level.

b. Experts say that the border is moving because of warmer climate among other reasons.

c. Climatologists say that there have been noticeable changes in landscapes in the past 20 years.

d. Swiss lawmakers don't need to approve the changes in the border but in Italy this is not the case.

14. It is a sad commentary that judicial pronouncements of late provide ample ground for criticism and debate. The police now feel stifled to effectively perform their statutory duties and assigned tasks, as forces in armed combat cannot function with the prospect of a murder charge hovering over them thanks to impractical or unrealistic judicial pronouncements. The morale for those facing bullets is hit. Courtroom logic does not cut ice for the underpaid, overworked jawan risking life and livelihood for lofty ideals. He cannot perform if he is not guaranteed security from prosecution for genuine exchanges of fire. Human rights are sacrosanct.

a. No one advocates fake killings, be it of innocents or criminals.

b. The life and security of the citizens must be paramount.

c. Legal pundits are unanimous on several points.

d. But the life and security of forces fighting the battle must be paramount.

15. Sikh leaders from around the world are committing themselves to reduce global warming, in collaboration with the UN Development Program and UK-based Alliance of Religions and Conservation. Addressing the EcoSikh meeting in Delhi, UNDP's director of development policy said that throughout history, religions have helped people and civilizations interpret and understand events around them to respond to new challenges in light of their spiritual heritage and moral compass. He further added that the leadership of religions is now required to meet the challenge of climate change.

a. Sikhs have a responsibility to revere the environment.

b. Environmental ethics has always been an integral part of India's precepts and philosophy.

c. He stated his delight that the Sikh community was taking upon itself the noble service of forging environment friendly practices.

d. EcoSikh is a five-year plan formulated by the US-based Sikh Council of Religion and Education.

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Scoring table

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15					

Practice Test 6

Directions for questions 1 to 15: In the questions given below, a paragraph is given from which the last sentence has been deleted. From the given options, choose the one that completes the paragraph in the most appropriate way.

1. Poor time management is often a symptom of over confidence: techniques which used to work with small projects and workloads are simply reused with large ones. But inefficiencies, which were insignificant in the small role, are ludicrous in the large. You cannot drive a motorbike like a bicycle, nor can you manage a supermarket-chain like a market stall. The demands, the problems and the payoffs for increased efficiency are all larger as your responsibility grows; you must learn to apply proper techniques or be bettered by those who do. Possibly, the reason Time Management is poorly practised is that it so seldom forms a measured part of appraisal and performance review;

a. what many fail to foresee, however, is how intimately it is connected to aspects which do.

b. what many fail to foresee, however, is that it has many facets.

c. what many fail to foresee, however, is how most managers don't recognize all the facets of time management.

d. what many fail to foresee, however, is that it is a tool for the systematic ordering of your influence on events.

2. In a vibrant and mature democracy, there would be no need to have special laws to prosecute the powerful or protect the weak. If a crime takes place, the law would simply take its course. In a country like ours, however, life is not so simple. Terrible crimes can be committed involving the murder of hundreds and even thousands of people, or the loot of billions of rupees. But the law in India does not take its course.

a. The Lokpal bill represents an effort to get the law to change its course.

b. India needs a law to protect its most vulnerable citizens from mass violence.

c. It is a duty no civilized society can wash its hands of.

d. More often than not, it stands still.

3. Soon afterward, I started to travel in the band between the equator and the tenth parallel. I visited places where the two religions often clash: Nigeria, Sudan, Somalia, and the Horn of Africa; Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines. Over the past decade, there has been much theorizing about religion and politics, religion and poverty, conflicts and accommodation between Christianity and Islam.

a. Growing populations intensify these competitions.

b. Africa's and Asia's populations are expanding, on average, faster than those in the rest of the world.

c. I wanted to see how Christianity and Islam are actually lived every day by huge numbers of vulnerable, marginal believers.

d. Race, like religion, was a rallying cry in this complicated war.

4. The government has done well to increase domestic fuel prices at a time when inflation is yet at intolerably high levels and global oil prices have softened a bit. One easy way out would have been to try to repress inflation by maintaining domestic prices at artificially low levels. The most immediate impact on the Indian economy could well be negative, as inflation rises despite the cut in indirect taxes on fuel.

a. But there are clear long-term benefits, from the boost to the tattered financials of the public sector oil companies to the cut in the government's subsidy bill.

b. But most important of all, the government has shown guts at a time when there are fears about the drift in policy.

c. But a further benefit is that higher prices will discipline consumers.

d. But the immediate impact could have a long-term negative impact too.

5. We kept our old corporate name for some time after we started putting the Sony logotype on our products. For the first product logo, we used a tall thin sloping initial letter inside a square box, but I soon realized that the best way to get name recognition would be to make the name as legible and simple as possible, so we moved to the more traditional and simple capital letters that remain today.

a. We liked the idea.

b. That was it!

c. The name itself is the logo.

d. It carried the connotations we wanted.

6. It's the end of the Second World War, and the United States is deciding what to do about two immense, poor, densely populated countries in Asia. America chooses one of the countries, becoming its benefactor. Over the decades, it pours billions of dollars into that country's economy, training and equipping its military and its intelligence services. The stated goal is to create a reliable ally with strong institutions and a modern, vigorous democracy.

a. The country not chosen was India, which "tilted" toward the Soviet Union during the Cold War.

b. What was the result of this social experiment?

c. The benefits that Pakistan accrued from this relationship were quickly apparent.

d. The other country, meanwhile, is spurned because it forges alliances with America's enemies.

7. If you wish immediate wealth you have only to locate several oil-pockets and dig into them. Similarly, if you aspire to succeed at marketing photographs you have only to discover the needs of editors and to satisfy them. But although there are not many more available oil-pockets, there are many editors and innumerable editorial needs. It would be as absurd for me to attempt to state precisely what you should photograph as it would be for me to make a pencil-dot on a map and to say: "There's an oil-pocket; go dig into it."

a. The one way to discover the needs of editors and how to satisfy them is to develop a "nose for news".

b. When most newspapers require a photograph of something local, the city editor telephones to a commercial-photographer and tells him to "get it."

c. The kinds of subjects bought by newspapers from free-lance photographers are those of local interest, brought to the office while the interest in them is still keen.

d. A large number of subjects which are of interest to newspapers are available daily.

8. Societies become truly secular not when they dispense with religion but when they are no longer greatly agitated by it. It is when religious faith ceases to be a vital part of the public sphere, not just when church attendance drops or Roman Catholics mysteriously become childless, that secularization properly sets in. Like art and sexuality, religion is taken out of public ownership and gradually privatized. It dwindles to a kind of personal pastime, like breeding gerbils or collecting porcelain. As the cynic remarked, it is when religion starts to interfere with your everyday life that it is time to give it up.

a. In this respect, it becomes a translation of the biblical claim that "the kingdom of God is among you".

b. In this respect, it has a curious affinity with alcohol: overindulgence will wreck your life.

c. In this respect it is curiously unique.

d. In this respect, religion is a lot simpler to practice than people tend to imagine.

9. Degrees are of importance to employers all over the world. They act 'as a sort of sifting mechanism' or 'a way of ranking, screening and selecting' people. `From an employers experience while the degree's not a perfect indicator, it is useful... they're using it as a basic IQ test, an indication that people can buckle down and work for three years and to some degree, and sometimes very much, for specific skills.' That's why ensuring that as many people have a degree as possible, 'at the expense of quality if necessary', is counterproductive:

a. Wolf calls this the flipside of degrees.

b. This is a simplistic belief, a kind of supply side solution, says Wolf.

c. The best thing to happen to education is to go for quantity- the more, the merrier, notes Wolf.

d. 'The quickest way to halve the value of a degree overnight is to say, "we don't care about quality anymore, we're going for quantity"', notes Wolf.

10. What is going on in small-town America? The nation's mythology of small towns comes to us straight from the Music Man's set designers. Many Americans think about flyover country or Red America only during the culture war's skirmishes or campaign season. Most of the time, the rural crisis takes a back seat to more visible big-city troubles. So while there is a veritable academic industry devoted to chronicling urban decline, small towns' struggles are off the grid.

a. And yet, upon close inspection, one finds that there is nothing in common between rural and urban America.

b. And yet, upon close inspection, the rural and urban downturns have much in common, even though conventional wisdom casts the small town as embodiment of all that is right with America and the inner city as all that is wrong with it.

c. But, there are many stories of suffering and struggle in rural America too.

d. Is all the money and time spent on the urban decline worth it?

11. Most importantly, the project highlights the close link between the tangible and intangible aspects of this heritage which must be recognized while developing a conservation methodology for this region. Interactions with monks visiting the site also drew attention to the need for safeguarding the rituals associated with the restoration of living temples and incorporating them into the conservation programme. For instance, in living temples, the conservation process should integrate rituals for shifting the energy during the restoration and reconsecrating the site on completion.

a. The conservation programme has now expanded to look at other historic structures in the village.

b. A village meeting was organized to discuss the future conservation work needed in the village as well as the re-use of the old temple.

c. The conservation programme cannot simply view the temple in isolation of its sacred meaning and value.

d. The project does raise several ethical issues that need to be addressed to bridge the gap between sacred beliefs and scientific conservation principles.

12. I, therefore, don't have to ensure that the kids have packed their bags on a Tuesday as per that day's timetable and not any other day's, as my youngest brother would invariably do. I don't lose my temper every morning at the sight of my children fiddling with their shoelaces, messing up the knots, because the school has instead prescribed hassle-free Velcro shoes. On days when one is not able to iron one's uniform in time, one doesn't end up feeling like a squirming guilty slob fearing that one's teacher would single one out in the assembly for "untidy uniform"; the school has prescribed an easy to use fabric, you see.

a. I wonder if in the times to come whether mothers would have any relevance in this world.

b. I wish I had gone to a school like this.

c. My children go to a new age school; that makes me the enviable new age mom, and how!

d. And thanks again to the do-away-with-these-formalities mantra of the school.

13. The fact that America has not, until now, had a no-first-use policy on nuclear weapons is, like so many elements of its defence policy, an anachronistic holdover from the cold war. Back when the forces of the Warsaw Pact were arrayed against America, iron upon iron and bastion upon bastion, and poised to pour through the Fulda Gap and sweep

across Western Europe, America reserved the option of using nuclear weapons first because the Russkies had an overwhelming superiority in conventional forces.

a. America does not need to threaten retaliatory or preemptive nuclear strikes against nations that do not possess nuclear weapons.

b. Today there is no conceivable opponent or array of opponents who could pose a substantial threat to America's territory or population.

c. America today, for better or worse, spends more on military forces than the rest of the world combined.

d. Russia has a no-first-use policy on nuclear weapons.

14. It is remarkable that for most human beings any color can be reproduced by mixing together just three fixed wavelengths of light at certain intensities. This property of human vision, called trichromacy, arises because the retina - the layer of nerve cells in the eye that captures light and transmits visual information to the brain - uses only three types of light-absorbing pigments for color vision. Although trichromacy is common among primates, it is not universal in the animal kingdom. Almost all nonprimate mammals are dichromats, with color vision based on just two kinds of visual pigments. A few nocturnal mammals have only one pigment.

a. Although trichromacy in Old and New World primates is based on three visual pigments, the underlying genetic mechanisms differ.

b. The best color vision exists in diurnal species which is not surprising.

c. It seems, then, that primate trichromacy is unusual.

d. It is generally assumed that the ancestors of all monkeys were prosimians who were monochromatic or dichromatic.

15. Media violence poses a threat to public health inasmuch as it leads to an increase in real-world violence and aggression. Research shows that fictional violence in films contributes to both a short-term and a long-term increase in aggression and violence in young viewers. Television news violence also contributes to increased violence, principally in the form of imitative suicides and acts of aggression.

a. The degree to which a child has learned aggressive patterns of behavior through imitation becomes most evident when the child is instigated to aggression later on.

b. The relationship between media violence and real-world violence and aggression is moderated by the nature of the media content

c. Video games are clearly capable of producing an increase in aggression and violence in the short term, although no long-term studies have been conducted.

d. Still, the average overall size of the effect is large enough to place it in the category of known threats to public health.

Scoring table

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15					

Practice Test 7

Directions for questions 1 to 15: In the questions given below, a paragraph is given from which the last sentence has been deleted. From the given options, choose the one that completes the paragraph in the most appropriate way.

1. The state of relations between our country and France prior to World War II is a matter of speculation. One might, nevertheless, conjecture that given the general status of France as a major European power, it was not overly concerned over the growing strength of the United States as competitor. We assume, consequently, that Americans as individuals and the United States as a nation were accepted and tolerated but were not the objects of envy or resentment on the part of the major European powers. Relations were friendly, although there is some evidence that the United States shared to some extent the persistent anti-British sentiment that the French are said to feel.

a. Not since the Suez crisis in 1956 have relations between the United States and France been so strained.

b. There's a great deal of anti-British feeling still in France and a feeling of friendliness, in general, for the Americans.

c. With growing anti-American feeling in France, today it behooves us to prepare ourselves to anticipate likely French behavior in future dealings.

d. While conducting official business with the French can be troublesome, our American diplomats have great praise for the skill of their French colleagues.

2. Roseau is the island's center of government, commerce, health services, education, and communications. The largest French settlement, it was named after the reeds that grow along the nearby Roseau River. French houses grew up haphazardly around a central market square; when the British came to power, they planned the remaining streets and house lots on an orderly grid system. Most buildings are small-scale, ranging from Victorian wood and stone townhouses with large verandas and fretwork to newer, more hurricane-resistant concrete structures. The city is dwarfed by the multi-story cruise ships that call at its newly rebuilt port.

a. The population is predominantly of African descent.

b. A large black and white crucifix and shrine on Morne Bruce overlooks the city.

c. Many rural villages have a school, health center, post office, one or more churches, and rum shops.

d. People socialize at shops, community centers, churches, or on the street.

3. In linguistics, a distinction is usually made between classifying adjectives and characterizing adjectives. Examples of classifying adjectives are *orthographic* `referring to orthography' as in *orthographic reform* and *physical* `referring to physics' as in *physical experiment*. Characterizing adjectives, on the other hand, include *doughy* `being like dough' and *blackguardly* `being like a blackguard'.

a. *Idealisk* is used by Nobel to mean `referring to an ideal.'

b. It has been asked how it may be determined whether one kind of literature is more ideal than another.

c. Once the idea has been formed, it is up to the reader to decide how each type of adjective would meet his criterion.

d. Both of these types can be used to great effect in linguistics.

4. The junta has at least succeeded in cobbling together ceasefire agreements with most of the two dozen armed insurgencies lining its borders. But the price has been lawless zones where banditry and illegal-drug production are rife. Myanmar's slice of the "Golden Triangle" on its Thai and Lao borders was for a while in the 1990s the world's dominant heroin producer. It has been largely priced out of that market by Afghan competition. But it has successfully diversified into methamphetamines.

a. The business relies on precursor chemicals coming from China.

b. Nobody expects any transition to democracy to be trouble-free.

c. China must also be wondering nervously how all this will affect economic trade.

d. However, the generals' economic mismanagement has helped reduce the country to crippling poverty.

5. It is time for the traditional morning-after-the-Budget review of your investment portfolio. Sure, the pundits of Dalal Street are yet to make up their mind about the future course of the equity market, but their counterparts in the debt market have bad news for you. They fear that the government's huge money requirements to bridge the fiscal deficit will have a negative impact on the debt market.

a. If that is true, you better review your debt investment portfolio.

b. Some financial advisors say they are still waiting for some government announcement which would help them with details of government plans.

c. But anyone who has invested in income funds with an investment horizon of five years should not get worried.

d. As for equity investment, nobody is ready to stick their necks out just yet.

6. The growth rate of India's industrial output picked up for the second month running, giving both government officials and independent analysts hope that the long awaited recovery may have begun. However, they agree that the monsoon may play a crucial role in determining which way the situation moves. Official data on the index of industrial production released on Friday showed that industry grew by 2.7 % in May on a year-on-year basis.

a. The finance secretary conceded that the monsoon is a matter of concern and if it remains below par, that could have an impact on various segments.

b. The trend of growth would continue and sectors which were still showing negative growth would improve in the coming few months.

c. The finance secretary said that he felt industry growth was back on track.

d. The finance secretary said this was a confirmation of the government's expectation that the stimulus packages would start having an effect.

7. The level of personal unsecured debt in London is close to the national average. But the incidence of problem debt is higher. Since 2002, mortgage repossessions as a proportion of mortgage holders have been higher in London than the average for the rest of England. In 2009, the rate of mortgage repossessions in London was higher than any other English region apart from the North East. The proportion of landlord repossessions is higher in London than elsewhere. There is, though, no consistent pattern within London with mortgage repossessions being slightly higher in Inner London.

a. London faces particular challenges and opportunities.

b. There are similar patterns being observed in France and Spain.

c. The rate of unemployment is still highest in the Inner East and South boroughs.

d. By contrast in Outer London, landlord repossessions are much higher.

8. The G8 summit wound up with a wry acknowledgement of its growing irrelevance as the world's premier power bloc. Phoenix-like, the G 14 is rising from its ashes, much more inclusive, with developed and developing countries together on an equal footing. The intimation of G8's impending demise came from the host of the summit, Italian Premier Silvio Berlusconi.

a. Berlusconi echoed growing realization among G8 countries that the rich club has been rendered irrelevant.

b. The deliberations of G8 and G5 saw even French President Nicholas Sarkozy making a strong case for G14.

c. He said that the G8 is no longer a suitable format for a global economics.

d. The G14 is the best solution to make debates which will bring unique results.

9. Here was a tiny group of people with, yes, smaller salaries but an inordinate number of enviable perks-fruit juices, leased cars, larger office cubicles, video games, Ping Pong, their own basketball court and free massages! Here they were looking down their noses at the people who brought in the money that allowed them to have all of those goodies.

a. They were given free holiday packages across Europe.

b. All they wanted were higher salary packages.

c. It was a prescription for internal chaos.

d. And then there was another group of people with exorbitant salary packages but much lesser perks.

10. At the broader end of the belief spectrum are researchers who deem the paranormal to encompass not only parapsychological claims but all manner of magical, superstitious, religious, supernatural, occult, and other notions such as UFOs, astrology, deja vu, the Loch Ness monster, angels, the unluckiness of walking under a ladder, haunted houses, communication with plants, witches, levitation, palmistry, voodoo, graphology, and reincarnation. It is debatable whether each of these beliefs falls within the purview of the

paranormal as I have defined it above, but researchers interpret or apply the concept of paranormality in somewhat different ways.

a. By way of illustration, responses to the 26 items of Tobacyk's PBS are made on a 7-point Likert scale ranging from strongly disagree through uncertain to strongly agree; scores then are derived for the full scale and for seven separate subscales that Tobacyk names traditional religious belief, psi belief, witchcraft, superstition, spiritualism, extraordinary life forms, and precognition.

b. By use of these diverse measures, it has been possible to investigate empirically the bases of paranormal belief. This issue is of substantial interest, both to parapsychologists and to skeptics.

c. An understanding of the bases of these beliefs might help to account for the experience encountered by many parapsychologists of mental conflict over the evidence they obtain in support of the existence of paranormal processes.

d. Additionally, research on belief, and thence disbelief, in the paranormal may throw some light on the belligerence of the response of many critics to parapsychology.

11. The evidence that humans are causing global warming is strong, but the question of what to do about it remains controversial. Economics, sociology, and politics are all important factors in planning for the future. Even if we stopped emitting greenhouse gases (GHGs) today, the Earth would still warm by another degree Fahrenheit or so. But what we do from today forward makes a big difference. Depending on our choices, scientists predict that the Earth could eventually warm by as little as 2.5 degrees or as much as 10 degrees Fahrenheit. A commonly cited goal is to stabilize GHG concentrations around 450-550 parts per million (ppm), or about twice pre-industrial levels. This is the point at which many believe the most
damaging impacts of climate change can be avoided. Current concentrations are about 380 ppm, which means there isn't much time to lose. According to the IPCC, we'd have to reduce GHG emissions by 50% to 80% of what they're on track to be in the next century to reach this level. Is this possible?

a. Researchers Stephen Pacala and Robert Socolow at Princeton University have suggested one approach that they call "stabilization wedges." This means reducing GHG emissions from a variety of sources with technologies available in the next few decades, rather than relying on an enormous change in a single area.

b. There are many possible wedges, including improvements to energy efficiency and vehicle fuel economy (so less energy has to be produced), and increases in wind and solar power, hydrogen produced from renewable sources, biofuels (produced from crops), natural gas, and nuclear power.

c. Many people and governments are already working hard to cut greenhouse gases, and everyone can help.

d. There is also the potential to capture the carbon dioxide emitted from fossil fuels and store it underground—a process called "carbon sequestration."

12. It's there on a monitor: the forest is breathing. Late summer sunlight filters through a canopy of green as Steven Wofsy unlocks a shed in a Massachusetts woodland and enters

a room stuffed with equipment and tangled with wires and hoses. The machinery monitors the vital functions of a small section of Harvard Forest in the center of the state. Bright red numbers dance on a gauge, flickering up and down several times a second. The reading reveals the carbon dioxide concentration just above the treetops near the shed, where instruments on a hundred-foot (30-meter) tower of steel lattice sniff the air. The numbers are running surprisingly low for the beginning of the 21st century: around 360 parts per million, ten less than the global average. That's the trees' doing. Basking in the sunshine, they inhale carbon dioxide and turn it into leaves and wood.

a. Start the car, turn on a light, adjust the thermostat, or do just about anything, and you add carbon dioxide to the atmosphere.

b. In nourishing itself, this patch of pine, oak, and maple is also undoing a tiny bit of a great global change driven by humanity.

c. Carbon dioxide is foremost in an array of gases from human activity that increase the atmosphere's ability to trap heat.

d. Melting glaciers, earlier springs, and a steady rise in global average temperature are just some of its harbingers.

13. As the dinner wound down and waiters served profiteroles complemented with silver pitchers of chocolate sauce, Watson noted that he is now writing his first scientific paper in nearly 40 years. We can cure a major disease with the resources we have now, he said. The manuscript has been rejected once, but he's trying again.

a. And he will keep trying and trying till the end of time.

b. Fear of failure has never stopped Watson.

c. This is because he knows it will certainly be a hit.

d. Success and failure are part and parcel of the game.

14. Technology is all around us, expanding the limits of what is possible but every once in a while, some invention or insight has an outsize effect; it creates a large discontinuity, dividing history into "before" and "after." The steam engine, the transistor, the World Wide Web—each of these ideas seemed to emerge from nowhere to change our world in fundamental ways. Which key technology will arise from today's vast cauldron of innovation to become tomorrow's world changing idea?

a. Which idea of today will rule the world tomorrow?

b. And that world changing idea may in turn give rise to another world changing idea.

c. It's impossible to know, of course, but we know it will come.

d. And that world changing idea might change the complete outlook of mankind.

15. To argue for controls over the internet may not be cool. But the internet was surely not meant to be this way. The geniuses who created the modern web and made it so exciting did not do so in order to have a global email system weighed down by spam, to encourage hostile hacking into national security secrets, to embolden sectarian bigots to violent

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15. To argue for controls over the internet may not be cool. But the internet was surely not meant to be this way. The geniuses who created the modern web and made it so exciting did not do so in order to have a global email system weighed down by spam, to encourage hostile hacking into national security secrets, to embolden sectarian bigots to violent threats or mere gossipers to say ill-considered things under the protection of pseudonymity. Of course governments must not be heavy-handed in the way they undo these things.

a. But this does not mean that a democratic discussion about the internet's proper place in modern life is off limits.

b. The internet continues to pose unanswered questions about the way that privacy, family life, markets and government can be well conducted in the modern world.

c. But all revolutions generate unintended consequences that need to be put right and the internet is no different, except that it is a global revolution.

d. But the fact that the internet has spawned an ecology of deregulation and start-up innovation shows its awesome and still-spiraling potency.

Scoring table

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Commonly Confused Words

There are good reasons to focus on English usage when preparing for the Management Entrance Exams.

First, it's the least time-consuming portion of the Verbal Ability section. Second, if you are willing to put in the effort, you can drastically improve your scores in this area. In the past few years, management entrance exams have focused on some specific type of questions. One of these questions is Common Confusables.

The next two tests are designed to give you adequate practice and a large data bank for attempting these questions.

Practice Test 1

Directions for questions 1 to 25: Each question given below has five sentences. Each sentence has a pair of words that are written in bold. From these words, select the most appropriate words (A or B) to form correct sentences. The sentences are followed by options that indicate the words, which may be selected to correctly complete the set of sentences. From the options given, choose the most appropriate one.

1. (a) They awakened; they sat up; and then the **enormity(A)/ enormousness (B)** of their situation burst upon them.

(b) To what lengths have they searched for the **extant(A)/ extent (B)** manuscripts of the Gettysburg Address?

(c) The choirboys **exulted (A)/ exalted (B)** when they discovered they were to sing before such an audience.

(d) The manager despised them all, **especially (A)/ specially(B)** Nandita.

(e) Rain was forecast to continue through the week, slowing **aid (A)/ aide (B)** and rescue efforts.

a. BBAAB b. AAAAA c. ABBAA d. BABAB

2. (a) The general found it advantageous to blame his lieutenants for the **expeditious (A)/ expedient (B)** progress of the enemy.

(b) It is the same story every year, politicians going to every house to **canvas (A) /canvass (B)** voters.

(c) Aristocracy is not an institution: aristocracy is a sin; generally a very **venal (A) /venial (B)** one.

(d) As the child lay asleep in the lap of his mother, she could not **forbear (A)/ forebear (B)** giving it a hearty kiss.

(e) At this **juncture(A) / junction (B)**, I would like to make an important announcement.

a. ABAAA b. BBBAB c. BAABB d. ABBAA

3. (a) The old hunter told a **grisly (A)/ gristly (B)** tale of being mauled by bears.

(b) Food can be called beneficial if it helps us lead **healthful (A)/ healthy(B)** lives.

(c) Boris **emigrated (A)/ immigrated (B)** from Russia and came as an immigrant to the United States.

(d) He was doubtful that his brother could perform such **incredible(A)/ incredulous (B)** feats on the parallel bars.

(e) I try to be patient with Charles, but his loud laugh **aggravates (A)/ irritates (B)** me.

a. ABAAB b. BBAAA c. AABAB d. ABBBA

4. (a) The scientists produced a vague study concerning the **indeterminate (A)/ indeterminable(B)** number of stars in the universe.

(b) The frequency of **incidence (A)/ incidents(B)** involving racist slurs has become intolerable.

(c) The witness was asked to list the reasons he thought the grand jury should **indict(A)/ indite (B)** his boss for extortion.

(d) They **inflicted (A)/ afflicted (B)** a humiliating defeat on the host team.

(e) He knows that motorists are **eager (A)/ anxious (B)** to save on suspension parts and will give generously.

a. ABAAA b. ABBBB c. BBAAA d. BAABB

5. (a) Her naive mother expressed amazement that her daughter could create such an **ingenuous (A)/ ingenious(B)** demonstration for the science fair.

(b) He's in the **insidious (A)/ invidious (B)** position of having to break the bad news.

(c) In the burning heat, the team of scientists did an **intense (A)/ intensive(B)** study of the crop damage.

(d) She made a commendatory speech concerning the students' **laudable(A)/ laudatory (B)** accomplishments.

(e) The sensor does not need a battery or a **chord (A)/ cord (B)** and can run for decades without being changed or checked.

a. ABABA b. BBBAB c. AAABA d. BBBBB

6. (a) I am reluctant to associate with people who **loath (A)/ loathe (B)** me.

(b) He hawked his baskets of flowers as he **pedaled(A)/ peddled (B)** his bike around town.

(c) To carry out one's legal responsibilities is a fine thing; to **persecute(A)/ prosecute (B)** a fellow citizen is not.

(d) The staff office had a great deal of **personnel(A)/ personal(B)** information in its files.

(e) We were previously told that, due to the Mayan calendar, the world would end in the year 2012. **Subsequently (A)/ Consequently (B)**, we can expect climate change to cause another ice age and lead to our extinction.

a. ABBAB b. BABBA c. BAABA d. AABAB

7. (a) He was **poring(A)/ pouring (B)** over his books when he accidentally spilled coffee all over his papers.

(b) The water streams through **faucets (A)/ facets (B)** in the face of a wall of ancient masonry which stands removed from the houses of the village.

(c) At that time I was **ignorant (A)/ ignoring (B)** of the events going on elsewhere.

(d) The hyenas seem to **pray(A)/ prey (B)** over their kill before devouring it.

(e) The **prognosis (A)/ diagnosis (B)** for continued and sustainable improvements in human well-being on our planet is, at best, guarded.

a. BAAAB b. BBAAA c. AABBB d. AAAAA

8. (a) The lawyer's memory of **precedence(A) /precedents(B)** seemed to take priority over his memory of other matters.

(b) Jeremiah would **prophecy (A)/ prophesy(B)** whenever he felt the people needed to hear a prophecy.

(c) The troops moved with determination toward their doom, relying on the false information their leaders had **purposely(A)/ purposefully (B)** given them.

(d) The absent-minded professor called the **roll(A)/ role (B)** of the wrong class.

(e) The senator's speech carried a **distinct (A)/ distinctive (B)** odor of hypocrisy.

a. BABAB b. BAABB c. BBAAA d. ABAAA

9. (a) His explanations were not elaborate but not to the point of being **simple(A)/ simplistic (B)**.

(b) One study shows that people who **scrimp (A)/ skimp(B)** on sleep seem to have higher blood cholesterol than people who sleep more.

(c) We **racked(A)/ wrecked (B)** our brains trying to remember the author of "The Stranger".

(d) She had never aspired to be a Hollywood star, but like a **trooper (A)/ trouper (B)** she took the work that came her way and worked her way to the top.

(e) An **epigraph(A)/ epigram(B)**, it's said, is a "dwarfish whole—its body brevity, and wit its soul."

a. BBAAB b. AAABB c. AABAA d. ABBBA

10. (a) The wine of youth does not always clear with advancing years; sometimes it grows **turgid (A)/ turbid (B)**.

(b) They endured a **torturous(A)/ tortuous (B)** journey up the long and winding tributary of the Amazon.

(c) The police used a water cannon to **disperse (A)/ disburse (B)** the crowd.

(d) His personality was so bland that he was regarded as an **unexceptionable (A) / unexceptional(B)** candidate for congress.

(e) The taste of baked apples and the smell of a bonfire **invoke (A)/ evoke (B)** the pleasures of autumn.

a. BAABB b. ABBAA c. BBABB d. AABAA

11. (a) The report submitted by the committee does not quite **jibe (A)** / **gibe (B)** with the commissioner's observations.

(b) This nationwide statement was issued because of the numerous **waver (A)**/ **waiver (B)** requests the agency was receiving from local governments.

(c) The **imperious (A)**/ **impervious (B)** nature of your manner led me to dislike you at once.

(d) To call it **dribble (A)**/ **drivel (B)** would be like me ignoring your comment by assuming that it is ignorant.

(e) Gus tried to **flesh (A)**/ **flush (B)** out his novel with incidents borrowed from other writers.

a. BABAA b. BBBBB c. BBABB d. ABABA

12. (a) Catabolism is a **destructive (A)**/ **destroying (B)** metabolism which involves the breakdown of molecules and release of energy.

(b) She must feel **foolish (A)**/ **foolhardy (B)** wearing those flashy clothes.

(c) A company that was fined for its **discriminating (A)**/ **discriminatory (B)** practices in the hiring of women recently filed for bankruptcy.

(d) I never lifted another brush, stretched another canvas, prepared another **pallet (A)**/ **palette (B)**, or arranged another still life.

(e) A **felicitous (A)**/ **fortuitous (B)** encounter with a former schoolmate led to a new and successful career for the artist.

a. AABBB (b) BAABB c. AABAA d. BBAAA

13. (a) The guerrillas are **fermenting (A)** / **fomenting (B)** revolution all over Latin America.

(b) The **vile (A)** / **bile (B)** development of slavery in these modern times appalled them to the core.

(c) In view of the nation-wide protests, the Congress may **emend (A)**/ **amend (B)** the proposed tax bill.

(d) At last I tore my eyes from the ground for a moment and saw that the sky was **lightening (A)** / **lightning (B)** with the promise of the Sun.

(e) Batteries are difficult to dispose of and contain harmful heavy-metal compounds that may **leach (A)**/ **leech (B)** into the soil.

a. AABBA b. BABAA c. BABBB d. AAABA

14. (a) When one is uncomfortable with people from their being excessively **amenable (A)**/ **amendable (B)**, one is soon to find things intolerable from their irritability.

(b) This may sound trivial, but I can **assure (A)/ ensure (B)** you it's important!

(c) To **restrain (A)/ refrain (B)** from attacking an army drawn up in calm and confident array is the art of studying circumstances.

(d) Federal courts have a certain **cachet (A)/ cache (B)** which state courts lack.

(e) While growing teens need extra calories, they should get them from **nutritional (A)/ nutritious (B)** sources—not from high-fat, high-calorie, high-sugar foods.

a. BAABB b. BAAAB c. AABAB d. ABBBA

15. (a) Anger is not a great human accomplishment, even when it is a **condign** (A)/ **condescend** (B) response to events.

(b) The child will only eat the **yolk (A)** / **yoke (B)** of an egg _ she won't eat the white.

(c) All the customs, all the laws, all the details, pertaining to the student duel are quaint and **(A)** / **knave (B)**.

(d) If it had been possible to build the Tower of **Babel (A)/ Babble (B)** without climbing it, it would have been permitted.

(e) On *The Office*, Steve Carell plays a confident, articulate buffoon with a serious attitude and an **officious (A)/ official (B)** air.

a. BAABB b. BAABB c. AAAAA d. ABAAA

16. (a) Cigarette smoking used to be commoner among **effluent (A)/ affluent (B)** people.

(b) The emcee promises an evening with a host of comic talent which will have you rolling in the **aisles (A)/ isles (B)**.

(c) It was only when the spray from the ship's **bow (A)/ bough (B)** hit his face did he realize that he was on a cruise.

(d) The corporation had many fresh college **complaisant (A)/ complacent (B)** graduates waiting to launch their careers.

(e) Studying history can help put the problems of our own time in **prospective(A)/ perspective (B)**.

a. BAAAB b. BAABA c. ABABB d. ABBAB

17. (a) Whenever he started to feel the pang of desire he would ask the landlord to **broach (A)/ brooch (B)** a new barrel of wine.

(b) He is much too **perspicuous (A)/ perspicacious (B)** to be taken in by such a spurious argument.

(c) The rehabilitated timber deck of the **quay (A)/ key (B)** is a generous public gathering place throughout the year.

(d) The monks took to **abrogation (A)/ abnegation (B)** and scourging as expiation for the sins of the world.

(e) Everybody hates a **prodigy (A)/ protégé (B)**, detests an old head on young shoulders.

a. AABBB b. BABAB c. BBAAA d. ABABA

18. (a) The soldier took a break from digging trenches and rested against the **boulevard** (A)/ **bulwark** (B).

(b) She considered not being invited for the wedding an unforgivable **sleight (A)/ slight (B)**.

(c) His arms closed like a **vise (A)/ vice (B)** round his son, and without a word he began to sob like a child.

(d) To this day people always speak of that Reform Bill as if it had been a **vile (A)/ wile (B)**.

(e) The government launched an offensive to **quench (A)/ quell (B)** a turf war between rival cartels.

a. BABAA b. BBABB c. ABAAB d. ABBBB

19. (a) Violent storms **wreaked (A)/ wrecked (B)** havoc on the coast in the form of loss of human life and destruction of property.

(b) Among the president's **perquisites (A)/ prerequisites (B)** were free use of a company car and paid membership in a country club.

(c) This is a country that accepts the case for tough choices on economic policy but one that recoils from much of the **peremptory (A)/ preemptory (B)** toughness of the coalition's solutions.

(d) Despite being a safe driver he **wracked (A)/ racked (B)** his car up on the river road.

(e) Floods, droughts, and severe storms are likely to **ravage (A)/ ravish (B)** North America more frequently as emissions of planet-warming gases rise.

a. AAABA b. BBBAB c. BBBBB d. AAAAA

20. (a) This story was published by the poet Nekrassov in his **review (A)/ revue (B)** and was received with acclamations.

(b) The team is hoping to sign a **marquee (A)/ marquis (B)** player to turn their fortunes after a disastrous start to the season.

(c) If you don't wear a jacket and tie, you won't pass **muster (A)/ mustard (B)** at that fancy restaurant.

(d) It's pitch black, they are disoriented, and the only sound is a low rumble and **creak (A)/ creek (B)** from the belly of the ship.

(e) Employee **attrition(A) /detrition (B)** is a critical problem faced by an *HR* manager during these days.

a. BAABA b. ABBAB c. BBBBB d. AAAAA

21. (a) Their four-hour match on Center Court was an **epoch (A)/ epic (B).**

(b) New Orleans, which always prided itself on being **carefree (A)/ careless (B)**, is now full of headaches and heartaches.

(c) A dozen people volunteered for the annual fundraising event, but **a few (A)/ the few (B)** have shown up.

(d) In spite of his injuries, he was a very **effective (A)/ efficient (B)** worker.

(e) My **restive(A)/ restless (B)** roaming spirit would not allow me to remain at home very long.

a. BAAAA b. BAABB c. ABAAA d. ABBBB

22. (a) Despite the downpour, the deafening thunder and the lightning that seemed ready to **sear (A)/ sere (B)** one's eyes, he stepped out of the house.

(b) We drilled a hundred feet through **shear (A)/ sheer (B)** rock before we finally struck oil.

(c) Accompanying the darkness, a stillness **envelops (A)/ envelopes (B)** the city.

(d) The president is **foundering (A)/ floundering (B)**, trying to jump-start his campaign, will he be able to pull through in the end is anybody's guess.

(e) She apologized for the **regrettable (A)/ regretful (B)** combination of errors.

a. AABBB b. BABAA c. BBAAB d. ABABA

23. (a) The development of the Communist revolution involves the most radical **rupture (A)/ rapture (B)** with traditional ideas.

(b) They dipped across beds of light snow and snow-powdered **shoal (A)/ shale (B)**, where they took refuge from a gale in a camp of Tibetans.

(c) She considered her suitor **deft (A)/ daft (B)** for making such an abrupt proposal.

(d) After completing the marathon, Erin sank to the ground, too **weary (A)/ wary (B)** to walk another step.

(e) After the massacre, the normally vociferous media were unusually **reluctant (A)/ reticent (B)**.

a. BAABB b. ABBAB c. BBBBA d. AAAAA

24. (a) The chaste banality of his prose **mitigates (A)/ militates (B)** against the stories becoming literature.

(b) They decided to **titivate (A)/ titillate (B)** their restaurant to attract back the clientele they had lost over the past year.

(c) So cunningly did Frodo twine and **wreathe (A)/ wreath (B)** his body about his captor's that the deathblow could not be struck.

(d) I counted on my ability to **illude (A)/ elude (B)** the predators amongst the many coverts which the mountains afforded.

(e) I don't want to get involved in all his **machinations (A)/ machines (B)**.

a. BAAAB b. BAABA c. ABABA d. ABBAB

25. (a) In spite of the initial hostilities, the meeting ended on reasonably **amicable (A)/ amiable (B)** terms.

(b) The panel began considering the issue last year after a prominent **better (A)/ bettor (B)** sought to prove that it was possible to cheat the wagering system.

(c) The Jewish vote, insofar as it can be thought of as a **bloc (A)/ block (B)**, is important only in New York.

(d) **Continuous (A)/ Continual (B)** effort is the key to unlocking our potential because without it we would never be successful.

(e) A national effort to encourage businesses to employ workers with disabilities is taking a lighthearted **tact (A)/ tack (B)** rather than a sober or earnest approach.

a. BABAB b. BAABA c. ABAAB d. ABBBA

Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
25					

Practice Test 2

Directions for questions 1 to 25: Each question given below has five sentences. Each sentence has a pair of words that are written in bold. From these words, select the most appropriate words (A or B) to form correct sentences. The sentences are followed by options that indicate the words, which may be selected to correctly complete the set of sentences. From the options given, choose the most appropriate one.

1. (a) The Ministers of the Cabinet held the meeting in the **capitol (A)**/ **capital (B)** of the State Legislature.

(b) You should try to put a **bridle (A)** / **bridal (B)** on your undue expenses.

(c) The travelers had to **break (A)** / **brake (B)** suddenly when the truck took the wrong turn.

(d) Her career took a remarkable **ascent (A)** / **assent (B)** after the publication of her debut novel.

(e) The obstinate ministers decided to **annual (A)** / **annul (B)** the decisions of the king of the colossal empire because of his feeble condition.

a. BABAB b. AABAB c. AAAAB d. AABBB

2. (a) Nobody in the team liked the **boor (A)** / **boar (B)** yokel from the countryside.

(b) **Beside (A)** / **Besides (B)** the regular students, the alumni were also invited to the annual meet.

(c) With the affectionate lilt in her voice, she said, "**It's (A)** / **Its (B)** a great pleasure to have you here".

(d) His prior and **discrete (A)** / **discreet (B)** analysis of the situation helped save him from the irredeemable loss.

(e) Though the emperor was aware of the **eminent (A)** / **imminent (B)** danger, he fought back with the absolute valor of a knight to save his people.

a. BABBB b. ABAAA c. ABABB d. ABBAA

3. (a) The **continual (A)** / **continuous (B)** metro departures were a great convenience to the people coming from distant areas of the city.

(b) The tourists liked strolling through the **pier (A)** / **pyre (B)** in the pleasant evening.

(c) Will somebody **mete (A)** / **meet (B)** out justice to those responsible for the despicable condition of such impoverished children?

(d) The **elicit (A)** / **illicit (B)** act of the delinquent ruined his entire childhood.

(e) The **liable (A)** / **libel (B)** published in the today's newspaper was followed by the legal action taken by the chairman of the organization against the newspaper.

a. BAABA b. AABAA c. BABBB d. AAABB

4. (a) She was a maverick who shunned the **practise (A)** / **practice (B)** of wearing `burka' in public.

(b) The students sneaked out of the school **premise (A)** / **premises (B)** to go for a movie during school hours.

(c) In a fit of **pique (A)** / **peek (B)**, he slapped the bully.

(d) As he suffered from motion sickness, he **retched (A)** / **wretched (B)** the food he had consumed before starting on the journey.

(e) The cyclone **razed (A)** / **raised (B)** the dwellings and millions of the inhabitants were left homeless.

a. BBAAA b. ABBAB c. ABBAA d. ABAAA

5. (a) Using the wedding **stationery (A)** / **stationary (B)** software, you can very easily design a wedding invitation card of your choice on the internet.

(b) The leper prince of the kingdom suffered in the **throes (A)** / **throws (B)** of his physical and mental illness.

(c) When he heard about his selection in the Indian team, his jubilation was **palatable (A)/ palpable (B)**.

(d) When it came to decision-making, it was the cardinal **tenet (A)** / **tenant(B)** of their functioning to involve every member of the team.

(e) That is the **stature (A)** / **statute (B)** law; how can they go against it and do such a reprehensible act.

a. BAABA b. AABAB c. AAAAB d. AABAA

6. (a) The **economic (A)** / **economical (B)** downturn during recession causes a sharp decline in the consumption and investment.

(b) The wild **gristly (A)** / **grizzly (B)** bear caused utter mayhem in the village.

(c) The jury was known to be perceptive, insightful and **uninterested (A)** / **disinterested (B)** in its approach.

(d) Her **childlike (A)** / **childish (B)** charm was a major fascination for her admirers.

(e) Every day sends to their graves obscure men whose **temerity (A)** / **timidity (B)** prevented them from making a valiant effort.

a. BBBAB b. ABBAB c. BBBBB d. AAAAB

7. (a) By the end of the session, the **demur (A)** / **demure (B)**, reticent kid transformed into an outgoing and gregarious personality.

(b) Neil Armstrong's **creditable (A)** / **credible (B)** achievement of landing on the moon has made history.

(c) His **forbidding (A)** / **foreboding (B)** premonition caused him many a sleepless night.

(d) The famous psychologist **floundered (A)** / **foundered (B)** for a great time to get the recommendation for his atypical psychological theories and therapies.

(e) The disease was controlled by the simple **expedient (A)**/ **expedition (B)** of not allowing anyone to leave the city.

a. ABABB b. AAABB c. BAAAA d. BAABB

8. (a) Lady Arabella stood a little on one side, and the African, accepting the movement as an invitation, entered in an **obsequious (A)**/ **obsequies (B)** way.

(b) His **immoral (A)** / **amoral (B)**, iniquitous and unscrupulous activities increased with his age and ultimately led him to terrible predicaments.

(c) The entire nation **exulted (A)** / **exalted (B)** in one spirit at the team's glorious and historic win.

(d) The king **adjured (A)** / **abjured (B)** the worldly pleasures and became a recluse in the search of God and the purpose of his existence.

(e) He started **griping (A)** / **gripping (B)** about the prices they were charging.

a. BBBAB b. BBBBB c. BABAA d. AAABA

9. (a) The **climactic (A)** / **climatic (B)** changes in the recent past were caused by global warming.

(b) He was devastated when he was betrayed by his only friend and **confidant (A)** / **confident (B)**.

(c) The nationalized banks follow very stringent **criteria (A)** / **criterion (B)** for the grant of education loan.

(d) He was **conscious (A)** / **conscience (B)** of his uncle's prejudice against him, but he never complained.

(e) B. C. Forbes said, "Work is the meat of life, pleasure the **desert (A)** / **dessert (B)**."

a. BABAB b. BBAAB c. AABBB d. BAAAB

10. (a) This kind of pottery work was a dime a dozen there; I got this vase for **quite (A)** / **quiet(B)** a reasonable price.

(b) His **illusion (A)** / **allusion (B)** to Freud's work on psychoanalysis was to express his disregard for Freud's dream theories.

(c) Parents should be wary of the **effects (A)** / **affects (B)** TV programs might have on their children.

(d) There are notable differences between the main **principals (A)** / **principles (B)** of two different sects of the same religion.

(e) Out of **apathy (A)** / **empathy (B)**, the crippled boy chose the limping dog from the pet shop.

a. ABABA b. BBBBA c. ABABB d. ABBBA

11. (a) Ambulances raced by with sirens **wailing (A) / waling (B)**.

(b) In the International Business Conference, hundreds of **vantage (A) / vintage (B)** cars were displayed.

(c) She said, "With that **taut (A) / tout (B)** expression on your face, you are going to spoil your interview. Just keep your cool, dear."

(d) **Sulking (A) / Skulking (B)** will serve no purpose; we need to sit and talk about it.

(e) Beautifully rising from the ground, the **stalagmites (A) / stalactites (B)** looked like a natural piece of art.

a. BBABA b. ABBBA c. ABABA d. ABAAA

12. (a) Subscription in fitness centres is the **vague (A) / vogue (B)** these days.

(b) The **tortuous (A) / torturous (B)** road to their destination seemed never-ending to the travellers.

(c) The **risqué (A) / risk (B)** narration of the tale was not welcomed by his friends who found it improper.

(d) Beware of that **rogue (A) / rouge (B)** for he will not hesitate to take unfair advantage of your goodness.

(e) The toyshop had a variety of toys, **especially (A) / specially (B)** for kids less than three years of age.

a. BBAAB b. BAABA c. BAAAA d. BAAAB

13. (a) The **rampart (A) / rampant (B)** corruption in the country has incited the citizens to take an action against it.

(b) Well-known for his controversial novels, he is considered to be a writer of **premiere (A) / premier (B)** rank worldwide.

(c) The **precipitous (A) / precipitate (B)** decision of the chairperson caused the company to incur huge losses.

(d) The decision was supported by the large proportion of the **populous (A) / populace (B)**.

(e) Not convinced by the closure report submitted by the police, he felt **impaled (A)/ impelled (B)** to investigate the matter further.

a. AAABB b. BBABB c. ABABB d. BBAAA

14. (a) Zainab is a **veracious (A) / voracious (B)** reader and maintains a rich library at her place.

(b) The **sensuous (A) / sensual (B)** note of the sitar was so mesmerizing that the crowd was lost in its spell.

(c) It is **ironical (A)** / **satirical (B)** that the most affluent people are the most disconcerted in life.

(d) With the improper functioning of the **mucus (A)** / **mucous (B)** membrane, his asthma got more severe.

(e) The old man narrated a sad tale, **redolent (A)**/ **indolent (B)** of regret, anger and misery.

a. BAABA b. BBAAA c. BBABA d. BBAAB

15. (a) "Don't **meddle (A)** / **mettle (B)** in everybody's personal life; your unsolicited advices are not welcome at all."

(b) The **luxuriant (A)** / **luxurious (B)** orchard was known for its wide range of voluptuous fruits.

(c) I **loathe (A)** / **loath (B)** anyone who adopts a façade of respectability to get what he wants.

(d) His tone **inferred (A)**/ **implied (B)** that he disapproved of my work.

(e) Robin had put on his coat, and he stood before her and asked if his **corvette (A)** / **cravat (B)** was plumb.

a. AABBB b. AAABB c. ABBBB d. AABBA

16. (a) The word `politics' **comprises (A)** / **composes (B)**, in itself, a difficult study of no inconsiderable magnitude

(b) The **enormousness (A)** / **enormity (B)** of the palatial building was breathtaking.

(c) In the end, the **duel (A)** / **dual (B)** got so intense that it was difficult to control it.

(d) He is so **adapt (A)** / **adept (B)** in handicrafts that his works have got international acclaim.

(e) Your **latter (A)** / **later (B)** answer was more convincing to me than the former.

a. ABABA b. ABAAA c. AAABA d. ABABB

17. (a) This was not a **fortuitous (A)** / **fortunate (B)** win; it happened because of his incessant efforts and his unalterable focus.

(b) His **exceptional (A)** / **exceptionable (B)** propensity for music made him approach the best artist in the city for formal training.

(c) The heavy downpour **exasperated (A)** / **exacerbated (B)** the drainage problems in the city.

(d) The young enthusiastic Indians **expounded (A)** / **espoused (B)** the revolutionary extremist movement to fight against the British.

(e) His personal animosity came out as **gratis (A)** / **gratuitous (B)** criticism against her.

a. ABBAB b. ABBBB c. AABAB d. AABBB

18. (a) According to the writer's volition, his famous poem was carved as his **epitaph (A) / epithet (B)** on the headstone of his grave.

(b) The **epigraph (A) / epigram (B)** to this book is quoted from the writer's recently published essay.

(c) I have a **callous (A) / callus (B)** on my left toe and now it is extending to my ankle.

(d) Her writings were good but so **obtuse (A) / abstruse (B)** that she got little acclaim for them.

(e) The study mentions the **addicting (A) / addictive (B)** behavior patterns of many individuals towards drugs.

a. BABBA b. BBABA c. BBBBB d. AABBB

19. (a) You can use this **augur (A) / auger (B)** to drill rectangular marks into the plank.

(b) This footwear **complements (A) / compliments (B)** your beautiful dress.

(c) The Minister took the formal oath wearing the **mantle (A) / mantel (B).**

(d) The museum's **eclectic (A)/ exotic (B)** collection has everything from a faded giraffe skeleton to rustic medieval musical instruments.

(e) The **oriental (A) / occidental (B)** traditions and practices are eventually being embraced by the West.

a. ABAAB b. BAAAA c. AAAAB d. BAAAB

20. (a) She was such a revered figure, that the news of her death cast a **pall (A)/ pawl (B)** over the event.

(b) He had no **palate (A) / palette (B)** for alcoholic beverages.

(c) She adorned herself with a **wreath (A) / wrath (B)** of flowers for the performance.

(d) A **hoard (A) / horde (B)** of tourists is seen in every part of Himachal Pradesh from May to August.

(e) Raman **flaunted (A) / flouted (B)** his knowledge whenever he was with his classmates.

a. ABAAA b. BBABB c. AAABA d. ABAAA

21. (a) The minister entreated his wayward congregation to **abjure (A) / adjure(B)** the sins of the flesh.

(b) She was confused, displaying mixed feelings about the **ambiguous(A)/ ambivalent (B)** situation they'd gotten into.

(c) After we have the jeweler evaluate the diamond, we will **apprise(A)/ appraise(B)** you of its value.

(d) Sometimes it seems more shocking to be lacking moral sensibility than to be **amoral (A)/ immoral(B)**.

(e) A **classic (A)/ classical (B)** is a book that doesn't have to be written again.

a. BAABA (b) AAABB c. AABAB d. ABAAA

22. (a) In mock debates, we used to interchange sides, taking **alternate (A) /alternative(B)** positions.

(b) Government agencies tried to assuage the effects of the depression. They attempted to **ameliorate(A) / alleviate(B)** the job-seeking process.

(c) There are various reasons that **compel (A) / impel (B)** me to that conclusion.

(d) He told a funny account about mixing up his soda with the snakebite **antidote(A)/ anecdote(B)**.

(e) Obama is compelled to jump into **unchartered (A) / uncharted (B)** territory.

a. BAABA b. BABAA c. BABAB d. ABAAB

23. (a) The lower part of the gun slammed into his shoulder as he fired into the **breach(A)/ breech(B)** of the wall.

(b) **Cavalry(A)/ Calvary (B)**, which describes an army component, usually on horseback, is often confused with the place where Jesus was crucified.

(c) Some people thought he was sweet and innocent, but I always thought he was boorish and **childlike (A)/ childish(B)**.

(d) The crowning moment of a lightning storm, nature's most dramatic **climatic(A) / climactic (B)** event, is a deafening roll of thunder.

(e) Kwame made a strong case for an extension of his curfew, but his mother **repudiated (A)/ refuted (B)** it with a few biting words.

a. AABAA b. AAAAB c. BBBAB d. AABBA

24. (a) Bewildered by the instructor's ambiguous instructions, the students' problems were **compounded(A)/ confounded (B)** by a lack of time to do the exam.

(b) Loutish tourists who are **contemptuous (A) /contemptible(B)** of the ways and traditions of their host countries should be barred.

(c) It didn't seem **credible(A)/ credulous(B)** that such an honorable person would say such a horrible thing.

(d) If you wish to seem coy, you will have to **demure (A)/ demur(B)** less vociferously.

(e) A boy of twelve is in intensive care in a hospital after a group of teenagers doused him in **inflammatory (A)/ inflammable (B)** liquid and then threw a lighted match at him.

a. AAABB b. BBBBA c. BABAA d. ABABB

(c) Some people thought he was sweet and innocent, but I always thought he was boorish and **childlike (A)/ childish(B)**.

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(e) A boy of twelve is in intensive care in a hospital after a group of teenagers doused him in **inflammatory (A)/ inflammable (B)** liquid and then threw a lighted match at him.

a. AAABB b. BBBBA c. BABAA d. ABABB

25. (a) The word *guts* means one's viscera, one's intestines, but it also **denotes (A) /connotes (B)** determination, fortitude, persistence, and courage.

(b) He **frittered(A)/ fettered (B)** away the millions his father had left him and died a poor man.

(c) When asked to take apart his old jalopy, Charles agreed, seeming to **dissemble(A)/ disassemble (B)**.

(d) The story of a chairman of the library committee who spent his lunch hours reading children's comics was unfortunately not **apocryphal (A)/ apothecary (B).**

(e) Let us **propound (A)/ propose (B)** the question whether mercy killing should ever be an option.

a. BAABA b. BAAAA c. AABBB d. ABBAB

Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
25					

Word Usage Questions

10

Word Usage questions have become quite common in entrance tests in the recent years.

In order to prepare for these questions, it is necessary that you have an understanding of Idioms and Phrasal verbs. Phrasal verbs are combination of verbs with adverbial or prepositional particles. Regular reading is the best way to get acquainted with these.

Practice Test 1

Directions for questions 1 to 15: The word given below had been used in sentences in four different ways. Choose the option corresponding to the sentence in which the usage of the word is *incorrect or inappropriate*.

1. **Air**

a. The maid was asked to clean and air the room.

b. The commercial was taken off air as it was considered offensive.

c. Their plans to travel to Greece are still up in air.

d. He wanted to clear the air by talking to his mentor.

2. **Pluck**

a. The child continued to pluck at the mother's dress till she got annoyed.

b. When asked how much money he had, he would just pluck a figure out of the air.

c. The team showed pluck even after losing the first two matches of the series.

d. The shy youngster finally managed to pluck the courage to speak to his father.

3. **Game**

a. The author spent a number of years in Africa hunting big game.

b. Although he wanted to hide the good news, his smile gave the game up.

c. For the summer trainee, the entire project was just a game.

d. Having won the last set, he was still in the game.

4. **Draw**

a. Where do you draw up the line between courage and foolishness?

b. The children decided to draw straws for the chance to ride first.

c. As winter looms, the days will continue to draw in.

d. An unexpected medical emergency can draw down your savings.

5. **Ear**

a. The lawyer had the ear of his client.

b. The student was engrossed in his own thoughts and was listening to the lecture with half an ear.

c. She turned a deaf ear to her mother's pleas.

d. He remembered the difficult piece and played it by the ear.

6. **Line**

a. The pay hike will be in line with inflation.

b. They wanted the new member to toe to the line.

c. You'll never achieve anything significant in life if you follow the line of least resistance.

d. The company has launched a new line of bath products.

7. **Colour**

a. When he stepped off the train his face lost all colour.

b. The medieval festival added colour to the historical town.

c. She refused to let the accident colour her life.

d. On Independence Day, you can see the national colour on every flagpole.

8. **Lead**

a. The workers decided that they will no longer allow the management to lead them through the nose.

b. His explanation was meant to lead us down the garden path.

c. She was excited to be working on the lead story for the August issue of the magazine.

d. The candidate narrated an interesting anecdote as a lead-in to his speech.

9. **Make**

a. I don't know what to make of the new manager.

b. He makes like he is the greatest actor of all time.

c. We were in a hurry so we had to make do with a quick snack.

d. I could hear voices but I couldn't make what they were saying.

10. **Press**

a. She is still pressing on her claim for compensation.

b. There is a pressing need for equity at an international level.

c. She kept pressing cake on us.

d. If pressed, he will admit that he knew about the affair.

11. **Gather**

a. He gathered her to him.

b. From what I can gather, there has been some kind of problem.

c. She gathered up her skirt and ran.

d. Fortunately, the short delay gave him time to gather himself up.

12. **Blend**

a. Blend the flour with the milk to make a smooth paste.

b. Choose curtains that blend in with your decor.

c. He blended into the crowd.

d. Their music blends out traditional with modern styles.

13. **Live**

a. Heath Ledger died young but his legacy will live on.

b. The reality TV star started to live it up from the day she became an instant celebrity.

c. The wizened old man decided to live out his days in his adopted country.

d. After she was announced the winner, the actress could barely live down her excitement.

14. **Mark**

a. The salesman marked down the price of the equipment when he experienced low demand.

b. The teacher had no qualms in marking off assignments that were poorly done.

c. The battalion commander marked out the areas of the operation for his troops on the map.

d. The mark up on the goods of the retail giants has led to an inadvertent advantage for their competitors.

15. **Pass**

a. When someone is in need of money, well-wishers usually pass the hat around.

b. This recipe for Christmas pudding has been passed down in her family for generations.

c. As she was known for her negative attitude, great opportunities passed away from her.

d. Overcome with emotion and anger she passed out at the stakeholders meet.

Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
15					

Practice Test 2

Directions for questions 1 to 15: The word given below had been used in sentences in four different ways. Choose the option corresponding to the sentence in which the usage of the word is *incorrect or inappropriate*.

1. **PULL**

a. In politics you have no friends: people pull you down behind your back.

b. Every one of his policies was pulled to pieces in both the press and Parliament.

c. The official video pulls no punches, showing chilling pictures of the crime scene.

d. It is common practice in India for senior officers to pull the rank and get their work done.

2. **RUN**

a. All the problems in the company have run her down.

b. He managed to run through his fortune in a few years.

c. The play ran on for twenty years.

d. The colours in this fabric are guaranteed not to run in washing.

3. **COME**

a. He had a stroke and is expected to come round within a fortnight.

b. He is against the plan but I hope he will come round to our views.

c. How did you come into the news?

d. My expenditure comes to a large sum.

4. **HOLD**

a. The soldiers held up for a month in enemy territory.

b. They were unharmed despite being held up by bandits.

c. The decision was held over to the next meeting.

d. They were doubtful as to how far they would be able to hold back all their units.

5. **BEAR**

a. The President successfully bore down all opposition to the health care bill.

b. The bench is very strong and can bear up an elephant

c. She did not bear well under pressure of work.

d. None of his plans seem to bear fruit.

6. **COLOUR**

a. Roger Federer looked off colour in the match against Nadal today.

b. I thought he was a friend, but he showed his colours during the crisis.

c. She came through the examination with flying colours.

d. He was the first to take up the colours for his friend.

7. **DEAD**

a. I was dead beat even before the day began.

b. She's a deadbeat- you can say goodbye to the money you lent her.

c. The winner won by a mile: the race was a dead heat.

d. This point of law is a dead letter since the Court's ruling on this matter last month.

8. **BLUE**

a. His girl friend is a bluestocking- I don't know how she agreed to marry a bumpkin like him.

b. Jack is full of life but his brother is a blue blanket.

c. They want the control of the company remain in true-blue British hands.

d. His resignation came as a bolt out of the blue.

9. **SIT**

a. She just sits back and expects me to do everything.

b. I was new to the job, so I sat in on the meetings to learn the procedures.

c. He had to sit most of the matches because of injury.

d. He sat on various committees dealing with global warming and climate change.

10. **THROW**

a. When I bought my new car, they promised to throw in free insurance.

b. He loves his new project and has thrown himself into it with great gusto.

c. He has not been able to throw away his worries.

d. I'll just throw on my coat and be with you in a moment.

11. **PACK**

a. She packed away the clothes until they would be needed again.

b. They have managed to pack in a lot of information into a very small book.

c. The music concert is still packing them away.

d. The stadium was packed out for the game.

12. **ROOT**

a. We need to root away corruption at all levels.

b. She rooted about in her purse trying to find her passport.

c. Everyone was rooting for Juventas to win the Euro Cup.

d. The gardener rooted up the plants and placed them in a new bed.

13. **DRAW**

a. He drew back as soon as he was challenged.

b. The government is being pressurized to draw down troop numbers in conflict zones.

c. He maintained a distance because he did not want to be drawn in their argument.

d. The police car drew up alongside his car and he was asked to pull over.

14. **WALK**

a. Her perseverance paid off and she walked away with the first prize.

b. He walked in to find them planning a surprise birthday party for him.

c. The lead guitarist walked out on the band last year.

d. She walked up to the policeman to ask for directions.

15. **ROLL**

a. The stock market is on a roll.

b. Banks are several businesses rolled onto one.

c. He rolled down his car window and started shouting at them.

d. The bank refused to roll over the debt..

Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
15					

Practice Test 3

Directions for questions 1 to 15: The word given below had been used in sentences in four different ways. Choose the option corresponding to the sentence in which the usage of the word is *incorrect or inappropriate*.

1. **LET**

a. When the music concert was cancelled, the fans felt let down.

b. Since it was his first offence, the judge let him off with a severe reprimand.

c. The secret was let go and news of his being fired soon made the rounds.

d. The doorman did not let him in because he was not appropriately dressed.

2. **FALL**

a. The political supporters of the President fell apart when they learned that the opposition had the popular vote.

b. The army fell back after losing the battle.

c. The prolonged illness caused him to fall behind in his work.

d. They have had a falling out and are now not on talking terms.

3. **CAST**

a. The actor cast back to his previous work to validate his current fee.

b. The editor cast about for an inspiration for the next month's issue.

c. She cast away the stitches as she finished knitting the garment.

d. The director cast out the non-performers from his theatre group.

4. **BRING**

a. Innovations in technology have brought down the prices of laptops in recent months.

b. The prosecution was asked to bring forth more evidence in order to strengthen their case.

c. The MNREGA scheme has helped bring about greater focus on the right to work.

d. He was able to bring down his opinion at the meeting.

5. **KNOCK**

a. A large number of buildings of the Pruitt-Igoe scheme were knocked down 16 years after they were first built.

b. The blow of the mugger was such that Ram was knocked cold for four hours.

c. In his hurry he knocked over the tables placed in the verandah.

d. The heavyweight champion won by a knockup in the third round itself.

6. **WAIT**

a. He kept me waiting about the library for a full hour.

b. He watches TV all day and expects me to wait on him.

c. She gets some additional income waiting on tables at a nearby restaurant.

d. I will be back late; please don't wait on for me.

7. **TURN**

a. The press is stunned by the surprising turnabout in the Government's stand on the project.

b. He broke down when everyone, including his brother, turned in him.

c. You will not succeed in business if you turn your back on problems.

d. The turn-over of staff is very high in the BPO industry.

8. **STEP**

a. A local businessman stepped in with a large donation for the school.

b. We are learning to step back from ourselves and identify our strengths and weaknesses.

c. I'm just going to step out for a few minutes.

d. The chairman offered to step over in the face of serious differences with the directors.

9. **RUB**

a. He tends to rub people out the wrong way.

b. To be a good team leader, you need to rub along with your team.

c. He rubbed down the old paint before applying distemper on the walls.

d. I know we lost by a large margin; there is no need to rub it in.

10. **READ**

a. Experts warned against reading too much into the Prime Minister's cabinet reshuffle.

b. Read over the reports on your table before going to the meeting.

c. I must read up on current developments; I have to prepare a current affairs quiz.

d. The principal began his speech by reading up the names of the selected candidates.

11. **PUT**

a. The news of the bombings in Mumbai put the wind up people all over the world.

b. She put his back up with her insensitive questions about his private life.

c. She displayed remarkable courage when put to the test.

d. Sheela took great pains to put the candidates at ease before interviewing them.

12. **WASH**

a. She washed down the distasteful medicine with a glass of juice.

b. After their team lost the match, the heartbroken supporters went to the pub to wash away their sorrows.

c. After dinner, he always volunteers to wash up.

d. The much awaited music concert was a washout.

13. **FLY**

a. You had better not fly into the teeth of the committee.

b. If she keeps flying off the handle for every small thing, she'll have a stroke.

c. His decision to resign at this stage in his career, flies in the face of good judgement.

d. When my boss saw the report, he flew into a rage.

14. **AGREE**

a. The two sides could not agree on an end to hostilities.

b. First let us try to agree upon a date for the wedding.

c. I love strawberries, but they don't agree with me.

d. I find it difficult to agree with your terms and conditions.

15. **CUT**

a. Emergency generators cut in as soon as the main supply got disrupted.

b. She kept cutting in on our conversation.

c. He's not cut off for teaching.

d. He cut himself off from all human contact.

Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
15					

Practice Test 4

Directions for quetions 1 to 15: The word given below had been used in sentences in five different ways. Choose the option corresponding to the sentence in which the usage of the word is *incorrect or inappropriate*.

1. **CUT**

a. The new law cuts across party lines.

b. The actor cut a colourful swath in our small town.

c. She is a cut above the rest.

d. If he doesn't cut the mustard, we have to find someone else to do the job.

2. **DEAL**

a. The store at the corner deals in a lot of items besides groceries and stationery.

b. The "khap" panchayats deal out justice of a primitive kind.

c. I am very busy _ so please deal me out of the project.

d. The subject is not well dealt in his latest book.

3. **FALL**

a. All our well laid plans fell about our ears when the government collapsed.

b. The Film Institute has fallen into hard times.

c. I have some savings that I can fall back on if I lose my job.

d. The crowd fell back to let her through.

4. **HANG**

a. The detective spent several weeks hanging around the place.

b. The actor said he was a loner as a child and hung back from people.

c. I am hanging on to the oil company's shares- I think there will be a big gain after the Budget.

d. The threat of bankruptcy was hanging on the company.

5. **NOSE**

a. She held her nose up while helping out in the slum.

b. The teacher nosed around for someone with a grudge against her student.

c. The English team nosed out India in the rankings after the test series.

d. Her sense of direction is very good and she found the house by following her nose.

6. **KEEP**

a. We have managed to keep our heads above water thanks to a reviving market.

b. The police kept after the terrorists and finally killed them in an encounter.

c. If you don't keep up to the times, you will be left behind.

d. Nobody knows him well; he keeps to himself most of the time.

7. **KICK**

a. He realised rather late in the day that it was futile to kick against fate.

b. The review was a kick in the teeth for the young artist.

c. When he turned major, he kicked over the traces and ran away to Australia.

d. The actor was invited to kick in the new show on television.

8. **KNOCK**

a. I don't know where my son is- He has been knocking over the country since his vacation began last month.

b. The schedule has suffered a knockback.

c. The old lady was knocked down by a speeding bus.

d. Tighter rules for benefit entitlement have knocked many people off the unemployment register.

9. **LASH**

a. She left him because he lashed out at her in public.

b. I dislike lashing out for expensive gifts.

c. He lashed out at the child and hurt her pretty badly.

d. The rain lashed down fiercely for three days paralysing normal life.

10. **MARK**

a. They marked down the prices.

b. She marked down the number.

c. The teacher will mark you down for bad spelling.

d. That phase of his life was marked down by the death of his father.

11. **NAIL**

a. We nailed the flap back against the wall.

b. Can you nail the idea down more precisely?

c. Tomorrow, we will nail off the agreement.

d. The "For Sale" sign was nailed up on the door.

12. **OPEN**

a. The intruders opened fire on us from a window on the first floor.

b. She is thinking of opening up her own boutique next fall.

c. The shy boy opened down a good deal while he was with smaller children.

d. The government is opening up opportunities for the rural poor.

13. **PASS**

a. I can assure you that no mails or letters have passed between us.

b. There were a number of paintings and sketches that passed for art.

c. The high standards of craftsmanship have been passed over many generations.

d. The whole business passed him by.

14. **RAKE**

a. The cops raked around the house for clues.

b. The agent raked over a million rupees in the deal.

c. The young manager was raked over the coals by his boss for turning up late for work.

d. Why do you rake up all these old unpleasant issues?

15. **SCRAPE**

a. I managed to scrape along an acquaintance with one of my neighbors.

b. My Dad often speaks of his college days when he scraped along on a meager stipend from the government.

c. He got into the civil services, but he scraped in by the barest of margins.

d. I barely scraped through in mathematics in my final term.

Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
15					

Practice Test 5

Directions for questions 1 to 15: The word given below had been used in sentences in five different ways. Choose the option corresponding to the sentence in which the usage of the word is *incorrect or inappropriate*.

1. **TALK**

a. Their wedding is the most talked about event in the country today.

b. He always talks around the subject of his marriage.

c. The philosopher talked at his students and listened carefully to their replies.

d. The salesman talked me into buying a smart phone.

2. **VOTE**

a. He voted against the women's reservation bill following his party's directive.

b. The no-confidence motion was voted down in parliament.

c. Jayalalitha was voted into power by a thumping margin.

d. The committee is now voting in a motion to adjourn the meeting.

3. **WRITE**

a. The editor had written many amendments into the text.

b. The bank has written off loans to farmers.

c. Critics had written him off as an opening batsman before he played that match winning innings.

d. I did not have cash on me, so I wrote up a cheque.

4. **ANSWER**

a. The teacher punished the child for answering back.

b. I will answer only for my mistakes.

c. The headmaster answered for the boy, stating that he was innocent.

d. People who sell drugs have a lot to answer to.

5. **BREAK**

a. I don't know how I managed to break away from the kidnappers.

b. She was so frightened she broke out with a cold sweat.

c. She could not handle the media glare and broke down in public.

d. My job is to break in new employees.

6. **COUNT**

a. His reputation as a loner counted against him.

b. We are proud to count her among our friends.

c. A cheerful disposition counts to a lot in interviews.

d. Of course I want to participate in the event. Count me in.

7. **DRIVE**

a. Whenever he is driven up a corner, he loses his temper

b. I couldn't figure out what he was driving at.

c. The Kashmir issue has driven a wedge between the two governments.

d. His constant nagging is driving me round the bend.

8. **GET**

a. Word got around that the Prime Minister was thinking of resigning.

b. The young actor is getting above himself. He's acted in only one movie and already he has started throwing tantrums on the sets.

c. He hasn't yet got around the long hours involved in studying a course and working part-time.

d. Harbhajan bowls googlies at will. He has got carpentry to a fine art.

9. **HIT**

a. The truth hit him with a ton of bricks.

b. In his speech, the Prime Minister hit back at the opposition for criticizing the government's policy on Kashmir.

c. We hit it off beautifully- we liked each other a lot.

d. The Minister hit out at the opposition for politicizing the issue.

10. **JOIN**

a. The Congress joined forces with the Trinamool Congress to defeat the Left Front in West Bengal.

b. The audience was invited to join in the dance.

c. Thanks to the recession, thousands of youngsters will join the rank of the unemployed.

d. He joined up as a soldier and worked his way up.

11. **WEAR**

a. There is no tree cover in the area and wind and rain have worn away the top soil.

b. The stress of the new job is wearing him down. I think he should take a break.

c. The hot and humid weather wore me down and I slept in my room while the others went sightseeing.

d. The effects of the drug wore out soon.

12. **USE**

a. He used up all his savings and is now borrowing money from friends.

b. I have no use in these books.

c. You will soon get used to the heat and the dust of India

d. He was badly injured in the accident and has lost the use of one arm.

13. **ACROSS**

a. I came across an interesting article in the newspaper today.

b. He comes across as a decent and modest young man.

c. He was not articulate enough to get his message across.

d. If we are united I am sure we can tide across the crisis.

14. **STAY**

a. Stay put at the airport. I will come and get you.

b. She promised to stay the course and finish the work.

c. Today I am planning to stay on at school and finish my assignment.

d. Her sincere apology stayed off his anger.

15. **TIE**

a. The police are trying to tie Rajan to the bomb blasts.

b. He could take up the overseas project as he was not tied down by a wife and family.

c. I was tied up in a meeting all morning.

d. Tying the movie promotion up with the book sales was a smart move.

Scoring table

Total questions	Total attempted	Total correct	Total wrong	Score	Time taken
15					

Answer key

Chapter - 1

Para Jumbles: Four-sentence Type

Practice Exercise - 1

1	b	2	b	3	b	4	a	5	d	6	e	7	b	8	d	9	c	10	d
11	a	12	b	13	c	14	e	15	c										

Practice Exercise - 2

1	b	2	d	3	c	4	e	5	d	6	e	7	b	8	d	9	c	10	a
11	d	12	e	13	b	14	c	15	d										

Practice Exercise - 3

1	a	2	d	3	c	4	d	5	c	6	d	7	e	8	c	9	c	10	a
11	b	12	a	13	c	14	b	15	b										

Practice Exercise - 4

1	e	2	e	3	d	4	c	5	d	6	d	7	c	8	b	9	c	10	c
11	b	12	d	13	a	14	c	15	b										

Para Jumbles: Five-sentence Type

Practice Exercise - 1

1	a	2	a	3	d	4	c	5	a	6	a	7	b	8	c	9	d	10	d
11	a	12	e	13	d	14	d	15	e										

Practice Exercise - 2

1	a	2	c	3	e	4	a	5	a	6	b	7	a	8	c	9	a	10	e
11	a	12	d	13	c	14	d	15	a										

Practice Exercise - 3

1	b	2	e	3	b	4	a	5	a	6	b	7	c	8	a	9	e	10	b
11	a	12	e	13	d	14	d	15	e										

Practice Exercise - 4

1	a	2	b	3	d	4	a	5	b	6	c	7	b	8	c	9	a	10	e
11	b	12	a	13	b	14	c	15	e										

Para Jumbles: Six-sentence Type

Practice Exercise - 1

1	b	2	a	3	a	4	c	5	d	6	b	7	e	8	e	9	c	10	a
11	b	12	e	13	b	14	b	15	d										

Para Jumbles: Five-sentence Type

Practice Exercise - 1

1	a	2	a	3	d	4	c	5	a	6	a	7	b	8	c	9	d	10	d
11	a	12	e	13	d	14	d	15	e										

Practice Exercise - 2

1	a	2	c	3	e	4	a	5	a	6	b	7	a	8	c	9	a	10	e
11	a	12	d	13	c	14	d	15	a										

Practice Exercise - 3

1	b	2	e	3	b	4	a	5	a	6	b	7	c	8	a	9	e	10	b
11	a	12	e	13	d	14	d	15	e										

Practice Exercise - 4

1	a	2	b	3	d	4	a	5	b	6	c	7	b	8	c	9	a	10	e
11	b	12	a	13	b	14	c	15	e										

Para Jumbles: Six-sentence Type

Practice Exercise - 1

1	b	2	a	3	a	4	c	5	d	6	b	7	e	8	e	9	c	10	a
11	b	12	e	13	b	14	b	15	d										

Practice Exercise - 2

1	b	2	b	3	b	4	a	5	e	6	e	7	a	8	d	9	a	10	a
11	b	12	d	13	c	14	a	15	a										

Practice Exercise - 3

1	e	2	b	3	d	4	d	5	a	6	c	7	d	8	a	9	e	10	a
11	d	12	a	13	c	14	c	15	a										

Practice Exercise - 4

1	d	2	c	3	c	4	b	5	a	6	d	7	b	8	e	9	a	10	b
11	b	12	d	13	c	14	d	15	a										

Para Jumbles: Odd Sentence Type

Practice Exercise - 1

1	b	2	d	3	b	4	b	5	d	6	d	7	b	8	b	9	c	10	a
11	d	12	b	13	a	14	b	15	d										

Practice Exercise - 2

1	b	2	c	3	d	4	d	5	b	6	b	7	a	8	c	9	b	10	d
11	c	12	a	13	a	14	a	15	d										

Chapter - 2

Deductive Logic - Type A

Practice Exercise - 1

1	c	2	b	3	c	4	a	5	d	6	d	7	b	8	b	9	a	10	b
11	a	12	d	13	b	14	a												

Practice Exercise - 2

1	b	2	b	3	d	4	a	5	a	6	d	7	b	8	a	9	c	10	b
11	c	12	d	13	b	14	a	15	d										

Practice Exercise - 3

1	d	2	b	3	d	4	d	5	b	6	a	7	d	8	b	9	b	10	d
11	b	12	b	13	a	14	d												

Deductive Logic - Type B

Practice Exercise - 1

1	a	2	d	3	c	4	c	5	d	6	d	7	a	8	c	9	d	10	a
11	d	12	b	13	d	14	c	15	d										

Practice Exercise - 2

1	d	2	c	3	c	4	b	5	c	6	c	7	a	8	b	9	b	10	a
11	c	12	d	13	b	14	c												

Chapter - 3

Logical Consistency

Practice Exercise - 1

1	c	2	c	3	c	4	d	5	c	6	a	7	d	8	d	9	b	10	b
11	d	12	a	13	b	14	a	15	a	16	d	17	b	18	d	19	a	20	b
21	d	22	d																

Chapter - 4

Inferential Reasoning

Practice Exercise - 1

1	b	2	d	3	b	4	b	5	d	6	d	7	c	8	d	9	d	10	a

Practice Exercise - 2

1	b	2	c	3	d	4	d	5	c	6	c	7	a	8	d	9	b	10	b

Practice Exercise - 3

1	a	2	c	3	d	4	c	5	c	6	c	7	a	8	b	9	d	10	a

Practice Exercise - 4

1	b	2	d	3	c	4	c	5	d	6	c	7	c	8	d	9	c	10	b

Chapter - 5

Odd word out

1	a	2	d	3	b	4	b	5	d	6	d	7	c	8	d	9	b	10	c
11	c	12	d	13	c	14	b	15	c	16	d	17	d	18	b	19	d	20	d
21	a	22	b	23	d	24	a	25	d	26	d	27	a	28	d	29	d	30	d

Chapter - 6

Degree of Truth and Falsity

1	a	2	a	3	c	4	c	5	c	6	b	7	b	8	e	9	c	10	c
11	b	12	c	13	e	14	e	15	e	16	a	17	b	18	e	19	c	20	c
21	b	22	c	23	c	24	b	25	a	26	c	27	c	28	e	29	a	30	c
31	e	32	a	33	c	34	b	35	c	36	a	37	a	38	d	39	d	40	a
41	c	42	a	43	b	44	c	45	e	46	e	47	b	48	c	49	c	50	c

Chapter - 7

Fact, Inference, Judgement

1	e	2	d	3	c	4	d	5	d	6	e	7	a	8	b	9	c	10	d
11	a	12	d	13	c	14	c	15	c										

Chapter - 8

Paracompletion and Summary type Questions

Paracompletion

1	b	2	b	3	b	4	a	5	a

Summary Paras

1	c	2	a	3	b	4	c	5	d

Practice Test - 1

1	b	2	e	3	d	4	a	5	a	6	b	7	c	8	a	9	b	10	c
11	a	12	c	13	d	14	e	15	b	16	c	17	c	18	d	19	a	20	c

Practice Test - 2

1	c	2	d	3	b	4	c	5	c	6	a	7	b	8	c	9	b	10	d

Practice Test - 3

1	b	2	a	3	c	4	d	5	b	6	a	7	c	8	b	9	d	10	b
11	b	12	a	13	c	14	b	15	d										

Practice Test - 4

1	c	2	d	3	a	4	c	5	a	6	b	7	a	8	a	9	a	10	c
11	b	12	d	13	a	14	a	15	c										

Practice Test - 5

1	a	2	c	3	b	4	a	5	b	6	a	7	d	8	d	9	c	10	b
11	a	12	c	13	b	14	a	15	c										

Practice Test - 6

1	a	2	d	3	c	4	a	5	c	6	d	7	a	8	b	9	d	10	b
11	c	12	d	13	b	14	c	15	c										

Practice Test - 7

1	b	2	b	3	d	4	a	5	a	6	d	7	d	8	c	9	c	10	a
11	c	12	b	13	b	14	c	15	c										

Chapter - 9

Practice Test - 1

1	b	2	d	3	a	4	c	5	b	6	c	7	d	8	c	9	a	10	a
11	d	12	a	13	b	14	c	15	c	16	a	17	d	18	b	19	d	20	d
21	b	22	d	23	b	24	b	25	c										

Practice Test - 2

1	b	2	c	3	d	4	a	5	b	6	b	7	c	8	d	9	d	10	c
11	d	12	c	13	b	14	a	15	b	16	c	17	d	18	d	19	b	20	c
21	d	22	c	23	d	24	a	25	b										

Chapter - 10

Practice Test - 1

1	c	2	d	3	b	4	a	5	d	6	b	7	d	8	a	9	d	10	a
11	d	12	d	13	d	14	b	15	c										

Practice Test - 2

1	d	2	c	3	c	4	a	5	c	6	d	7	c	8	b	9	c	10	c
11	c	12	a	13	c	14	b	15	b										

Practice Test - 3

1	c	2	a	3	c	4	d	5	d	6	d	7	b	8	d	9	a	10	d
11	d	12	b	13	a	14	d	15	c										

Practice Test - 4

1	b	2	d	3	b	4	d	5	a	6	c	7	d	8	a	9	b	10	d
11	c	12	c	13	c	14	b	15	a										

Practice Test - 5

1	c	2	d	3	d	4	d	5	b	6	c	7	a	8	d	9	a	10	c
11	d	12	b	13	d	14	d	15	d										

Explanations: Fundamentals of Verbal Logic

Chapter - 1

Para Jumbles: Four-sentence Type

Practice Exercise - 1

1. b Sentence B starts with a proper noun; and is followed by D as the `company` refers to Piaggio & company. AC forms a mandatory pair.

2. b Sentence D starts with a proper noun, the key word is the tie up, which links D and B. C logically follows.

3. b Starts with B as it is a general statement. Continue with sentence C as it shows `India's rating' in terms of efficiency. DA is a mandatory pair giving the reason for the inefficiency.

4. a Starts with A as it starts with a proper noun. Followed by sentence `C' as `he' refers to Mr Sudarshan. B comes after C because it explains the point given in B.

5. d Monsanto is a proper noun, these start with B, C will follow as it talks of the acquisition mentioned in B. A follows as it gives information (valuation) on the stock deal.

6. e Starts with C, a proper noun. It will be followed by sentence D as the `it' refers to the Cruise Liner. Then May and the break.

7. b Lathger.com is a proper noun. Thus, the paragraph starts with A. The `it' in sentence B refers to Lathger.com of sentence A. Sentence C continues from B with information on the connectivity.

8. d Starts with B a general statement. DA does the comparison.

9. c Starts with B a general statement, it talks of no consensus. It has to be followed by A; as it describes the non-consensus. `Nor' of C indicates that it would follow A. `All this' of D concludes the paragraph.

10. d Can start with B or A; but A and B or vice versa cannot follow each other. Thus, the second option is out. So we start with option (a). Sentence A will be followed by C as it talks about who did the valuation.

11. a Starts with B, a general sentence. It says that biotech stocks are rising. It has to be followed by D which says why the prices are rising. C follows D as it states an example of the rise.

12. b Starts with A proper noun. A talks of a restaurant portal and sentence B talks of what a restaurant portal is. Thus, B follows A.

13. c B is the opener since it introduces the subject. D and A follow B since they talk about the fallout of the government's actions. C is the concluding sentence as the 'crisis' in C is refering to the death toll and human rights violation mentioned in sentences D and A respectively.

14. e D is the opening sentence since it provides information about Microsoft's new operationg system, which is the topic of discussion. D and A form a mandatory pair since a provides the name for the operating system mentioned in D. C and A also form a mandatory pair because C describes the new features talked about in A. B carries forward the discussion; clue is in the word 'also'.

15. c D is the opening sentence since it introduces the topic. D and B form a mandatory pair since 'it' in B is refering to lake Poyang. C will follow B as it iscarrying forward the discussion. A is the concluding sentence because it mentions the fallout of the drying up of lake Poyang.

Practice Exercise - 2

1. b Statement C talks about a certain `diagnosis' which is completed by `prescription' in the second statement. Similarly, statement B talks about `this' which specifically refers to his career not being regarded as a success.

2. d Because the person (Menon) has been referred to only in statement B. Also B should be followed by C, D because they illustrate Menon's remarkable presence.

3. c `A man of paradoxes' is logically continued by `repelled' and `attracted'. Subsequently, `the' debacle refers to China's flopped military operation and hence choice (c).

4. e The answer is (e), because although the name Usha is in fourth, the revolution that is talked about is mentioned in statement (C) and hence the answer. The `chain reaction' of B is explained in C. Thus, C follows B.

5. d The statement B cannot initiate because of the word `was'. This is because the other three statements talk about the nightmare and meltdown and thus B should come in the end. ACD is the logical sequence.

6. e Statement A is the answer to question in statement B, and statement D says `all this spread' refers to the things mentioned in (e). Hence, CD.

7. b Sentence B cannot be the initiating statement because it is a continuation of statement C, i.e. CB. Similarly, `AD' forms a logical pair.

8. d Sentence AB forms a pair as B talks about EPS and same for A. BC too forms a pair talking about how the high EPSs are a craze.

9. c Sentence BC forms a logical pair wherein MNC's is being extended by statement C as all having branches abroad. DA too forms a logical pair. Hence, choice (c) is the answer.

10. a Sentence AD forms a logical pair. However, it is present in all the choices `BC' too form a logical pair. However, BC should precede administration and hence answer is choice (a).

11. d Sentence CD forms a logical pair and so does BA. The choice is between options (a) and (d). But proper understanding would reveal that `BA' needs to be first because as in choice (a), B cannot follow D, whereas CD can follow BA. CD is the inference from the illustrations in BA.

12. e The right answer, because AB forms a logical pair and similarly C starts by naming the places for which BPL holds cellular licences, and D has to be in the end as the use of pronoun `it' refers to BPL.

13. b C is the opening sentence since it introduces the subject. B will follow C since B mentions the full name of the designer of the phone in question. D will follow B since it only uses Scott's last name, which means that he has already been introduced. D also carries forward the discussion as it talks about why Scott went about developing the phone.

14. c B is the opening sentence since it introduces the topic. D will follow B because it elaborates what is mentioned in B. C will follow D because it talks about the findings of the reseach first mentioned in D. A is the concluding sentence since it makes a comment on future missions based on the findings of the research.

15. d D is the opening sentence since it mentions the topic i.e. education in India. D and B form a mandatory pair as B gives the reason why education has been the prime focus in recent years. C will follow B since it conitnues with the reasoning. A is the concluding sentence since it talks about the actions taken by the government to tackle the problem.

Practice Exercise - 3

1. a C is the topic sentence followed by A in which the speaker quotes a similar experience. B precedes D which has the conclusion `yet'.

2. d A comes after D as it reveals the time the computer took for the `work'. `This' in C refers to the time the computer took in A, hence follows A.

3. c C logically follows D as it further describes the writer mentioned in D. A follows B as it concludes `Nonetheless' despite everything mentioned in B.

4. d B follows C as `they' in B refers to `the Indian groups' in C. Thus, BC is a mandatory pair. D follows B as it gives more information about the construction (shape) mentioned in B.

5. c C logically follows D as it reveals the effect of the competition (mentioned in D) on Americans. Time is another clue _ D _ 1957, C, A _ 1958, B _ 1961.

6. d D logically follows B as it mentions the mode of transport used by immigrants mentioned in B. A concludes by summing up the effect of lack of rations in C.

7. e A cannot head the passage as it poses a question and the rest of the statements are neither a part of the question nor form the answer. C follows D as it mentions the soar in sales after the launch in D. A poses a question in the end after B.

8. c B is a general statement starting the para. D follows B as it describes the various aspects of `science' mentioned in B. `these aspects' in C refers to the aspects mentioned in D and hence should immediately follow D.

9. c A comes after D as it follows the story beginning in D. C follows D — the time factors mentioned in the statement is indicative of this. B concludes the process and reveals the mistake.

10. a A follows B as it further describes the story of the bullying giant. C concludes with the moral.

11. b B follows D as it discloses the point of discussion of the seminar mentioned in D. C concludes by revealing how the suggestion is valid.

12. a D follows A as it mentions IBM as an exception to what business feels in A. B concludes with `also' in the string of sufferings.

13. c B follows C which mentions that the efficiency mentioned in C is attained through a particular mode. D describes this efficiency. A concludes by explaning the difference.

14. b D is the introductory statement. C concludes the paragraph with the illustration of the observation made in A about growth and further investment.

15. b 'This' in A requires an antecedent which is statement C, hence CA is a mandatory pair. 'their' in D refers to Skororbogatiy and his colleagues, so AD is also a mandatory pair. 'These' in B refers to the materials mentioned in D, so DB is also a mandatory pair. Therefore, the correct sequence is CADB.

Practice Exercise - 4

1. e BD forms a mandatory pair here. B is general statement. Thus, we can start with B. D talks of `this thinking culture' which is a continuation of the `western thinking culture' mentioned in B.

2. e Since all options begin with D, D is the opening statement. BC also forms a mandatory pair as `it' in C refers to the telephone mentioned in statement B.

3. d Paragraph has to start with C as it introduces the story. D has to follow C as the other options seem illogical after C.

4. c Has to start with C as it is the only general statement. C is to be followed by B as it is a contrasting statement. D has to precede A as D makes a statement and A questions that very statement.

5. d Has to start with C as we do not know what `these' stands for in `D'. C has to be followed by B as it is the most logical continuation from C. Furthermore, DA forms a mandatory pair because `the moments' spoken of in A refers to moments of truth mentioned earlier in D.

6. d Should start with D as it is a general and informative statement. Then CA is a mandatory pair as A has to follow C.

7. c Has to open with B as it is the only general statement. B must be followed by D as `they' in D refers to `senior executives' mentioned in B.

8. b A opens the sequence `when I got', C talks about how naive the author was, B follows C as it provides more information about the speaker in A. Thus, AB is a mandatory pair.

9. c Has to start with D as it is a general statement, which is describing an event. This has to be followed by A as `this event' refers to the reception mentioned in D.

10. c D is a general statement. Thus, it can be the opening statement. D has to be followed by A as `Atlantis' is the island referred to in D. C has to follow A because `its inhabitants' refer to inhabitants of Atlantis mentioned in A.

11. b B follows C as it confirms the information of the statement in C. Logically, more the advertisement, more the expenses. In (d) the expenditure mentioned in advertising on food products is further elaborated. A sums up the thought.

12. d D follows C as it strengthens the weakness mentioned in opposition to the demand in C. B further elaborates on the lacuna in the belief of sanctity of life, hence after D.

13. a Sentence B introduces the subject VSNL and hence heads the passage. `Its' in D refers to VSNL in B. Hence, D follows B.

14. c B is an inference. Thus, it should have a statement coming before it. C talks of spending more time at home and B concludes that the influence of parents cannot be ignored. Home and parents are directly related, hence B follows C. There is only one choice (c) with this option.

15. b D introduces the subject `Hannibal' and thus heads the passage. `That' in B refers to the fact mentioned in C — `Hannibal's troops . . . army'. Hence, B logically follows C.

Para Jumbles: Five-sentence Type

Practice Exercise - 1

1. a This paragraph is about performing employees and how to make them perform better. B followed by D is the right sequence. People mentioned in C refered to performing employees. Hence C should follow D. Statement E is an extension of A. Hence AE is mandatory pair.

2. a E is in continuation of the `feelings' factor talked about in A. B is about the research method mentioned in E. BD is the experiment and result, therefore must follow AE.

3. d Although any of the sentences can begin this paragraph, only A complements B and thus forms a logical sequence.

4. c The paragraph has to begin with A, and it is E (not B) which explains the purpose of banking. B qualifies it further.

5. a As the paragraph is about South Korea, it should begin with A. At the same time, C explains the statement made in A.

6. a This is the only completely logical sequence. EC must follow D as it explains the `records' of D.

7. b As it is an individual explaining his perceptions, it should begin with A. DE makes a mandatory pair.

8. c B is a statement of fact and the other sentences are explanatory.

9. d This is about wills becoming legally effective, so it must begin with B. D further qualifies the statement.

10. d This is the correct sequence as it explains why these children can not be saved and what their future might be like otherwise.

11. a This is about how capital markets operate, so it should begin with C. It is about the role of the trader in the capital markets. Therefore, C.

12. e The paragraph must begin with A. E follows B and not the other way round because E begins with `or'. C is the answer to ABE. Therefore, follows it.

13. d The opening statement explains the term being talked about, C continues by explaining how most negotiators avoid irritating behaviour.

14. d The paragraph is about how to stimulate the economy, which is explained in C. Therefore, it is the opening sentence. A explains it further and E explains the underlying principle.

15. e The paragraph talks about digestive diseases, particularly one of them. So `D' followed by `E' is the correct sequence.

Practice Exercise - 2

1. a C asks a rhetorical question, E makes a statement and B is in continuation of E. D follows A as D carries on with the point made in A.

2. c A is an introductory statement, E explains it and C further clarifies it. B corresponds to the statement made in D.

3. e B is the opening statement since it mentions a hypothesis. E states what that hypothesis is and A explains it further.

4. a A makes a statement, E qualifies it further and B provides the continuity. Statement C explains the change mentioned in B.

5. a The paragraph is about brand personality, and how it is related to people's personalities. Since brand is the main topic, D should appear first.

6. b This paragraph is about mergers in medical firms. B explains about the nature of the market. C gives the reason for mergers. E extends that. This makes CE a mandatory pair.

7. a A is clearly the opening statement and E is the closing statement. D explains A.

8. c Since the paragarph is about the desire to know future, it should appropriately begin with C and end with E.

9. a This paragraph is about cash transactions vis-à-vis electronic commerce. The observation on cash transaction have to precide e-com. Therefore, the paragraph must start with B.

10. e `Geodesist-he' links CB. D has to come before E.

11. a You can link BEDC logically.

12. d BE and DA are mandatory pairs with focus on `capitalism' and `developed-US'.

13. c EBD forms a logical sequence.

14. d B starts the paragraph, then D follows as `controversy-questions'.

15. a BAC is a sequence, so is DE.

Practice Exercise - 3

1. b A and D have to be together as the idea that the five- year term is not ideal is stated and reconfirmed in A and D.

2. e This paragraph explains about Semiotics. It is introduced in C and then explained in E.

3. b A is an introductory statement while D and E are explanatory.

4. a A, D, E have to follow one another. Reason for demotivation in D is elaborated in E.

5. a B is a complementary sentence to C. So it should follow C. C continues on the theme of A. Therefore, it should follow A.

6. b Sentence C is the opening sentence introducing the Duchess of York and giving the reason for the extradition. A follows C as it gives more details. This makes CA a mandatory pair. EB is also a mandatory pair. The 'they' of B has its antecedents in the Turkish ministers of E. This makes option B the best option.

7. c Sentence C is the opening sentence. The question asked in C is answered in A. The " he's just a ..... " in E comes after A because the "he" of E refers to Tebow. BD is a mandatory pair. This makes option C the correct option.

8. a Sentence A is the opening sentence. E starts the joke and D carries it forward. This makes AED a mandatory trio. Hence option A is the correct option.

9. e The paragraph is about the importance of the social media in Russia's protest movement. Sentence B is introducing this concept. This narrows down our options to C and E. Sentences DC are a mandatory pair. The ' and so there were' of D carries on in Sentence C. This makes option E correct.

10. b B is the opening sentence. AD is a mandatory pair. The 'why?' of D is carried on in C and finally answered in E. This makes option B the correct choice.

11. a The 'positive signals' in Sentence D have their antecedents in sentence A making AD a mandatory pair. CE is also a mandatory pair because E carries on what Carlos Rodriguez is saying in C. Hence option A is the correct option.

12. e DB is a mandatory pair. The "have lost their love to ....." has its antecedents in D. D is also the opening sentence. E will follow B because the, " none of that....." is explained in B. C is the closing sentence. Hence option E is the correct option.

13. d C is the opening sentence telling us that the paragraph is about the dance, 'hustle'. D is the closing sentence - bringing in the fact that the name of the dance needs correction. CA is a mandatory pair as the '..... dance with partners' of C is carried on in A-" Dancing with a partner is ...." This makes option D the correct choice.

14.d A is the opener since it initiates the discussion about the rejection by the European voters of the austerity policies. D and E follow A since they substantiate A by giving

information about the recent developments that have taken place in France and Greece. D precedes E because of the word 'meanwhile' in E. C and B form a mandatory pair as 'This is not bad news' in B refers to the 'result' being talked about in C.

15.e D is the opening sentence since it talks about the concerns of the environmentalists over the opening up of Myanmar's economy, and sets up the topic for discussion. B follows D since it talks about the situation that existed in Myanmar and the reason why the no development took place in the past. B and C form a mandatory pair because C brings into perspective the current scenario in contrast to the earlier one. A continues the discussion by mentioning the apprehension of the Pro-democracy reformers and conservationists over the growing interest of Asian countries in Myanmar. E follows A because it gives the reason as to why there is no US or European presence in Myanmar as compared to that of the Asian countries.

Practice Exercise - 4

1. a AB is a mandatory pair with `agencies-their'. CD follows with the negative impact.

2. b The paragraph starts with the habit, i.e. B.

3. d D is the opening sentence followed by E. DE is a mandatory pair since 'this' in E refers to Institute for Enzyme Research mentioned in D. AC is also a mandatory pair as in A 'khurana confirmed....' and in C 'khurana added details'. B is the closing sentence.

4. a E is the opening sentence and it starts the paragraph by asking a question. The 'coronation day' discloses the theme. EA is a mandatory pair since A is a response to the question in statement E. AC is also a mandatory pair as the ' members of the grand old party' of A is echoed in the 'Congress fantasy' of C. D is very clearly the closing sentence. This makes option A correct.

5. b CA is a mandatory pair. The 'hustle and bustle' in A is the 'tinkle of glass' and the 'clang and sliding drawer of the cash register' in sentence C. D is the opening sentence telling us about the Kifissia Hotel. This narrows our options down to A and B. A is the concluding sentence as we move from the general to the specific. This makes b the correct option.

6. c E is the opening sentence narrowing the options to option b and option d. BD is a mandatory pair as the' then' in - 'and then I pulled to the -----' needs an antecedent which is in sentence B. AC is also a mandatory pair as the 'that did it' follows " the white house wants you to resign". Only option C has both the mandatory pairs making it the correct choice.

7. b The paragraph moves from the general to the specific. The opening sentence is D. It introduces the cousin. In sentence B we get to know the name of the cousin - Louis. This makes DB a mandatory pair. Only options b and d have DB as a mandatory pair. EC is also a mandatory pair as we get to know in sentence C why the author is interested in knowing Louis's opinion of Brooke Astor. Sentence A is the concluding sentence. This makes choice B correct.

8. c BD is a mandatory pair. The 'rustic location' of D follows the 'narrow Parisian style cobbled street' of sentence B. AE is another mandatory pair as 'Both albums' of E has an

antecedent in sentence A's 'albums'. Only option C has the mandatory pairs and the correct opening sentence B, making it the right choice.

9. a DC is a mandatory pair. 'The latter' of sentence C is Secretary of State Hillary Clinton of D. The 'they' in sentence E has its antecedent in the Pakistani Generals of sentence B. A is the closing sentence. This makes option a the correct choice.

10. e C is the opening sentence introducing the Finance minister and giving his background. DB is a mandatory pair as sentence B explains how Mukherjee has emerged better in the face off with Chidambaram. BE is also a mandatory pair and A is the closing sentence. This makes option e the correct choice.

11. b A is the opening sentence. EC is a mandatory pair because E mentions that Shoaib Akhtar is in Delhi and C goes on to describe him. This narrows the options to b and c. Sentence A has to be followed by D because the Pakistani train of A is given a name, 'Rawalpindi Express' in D. This makes option b the correct choice.

12. a The parajumble moves from General-a part of Thailand in sentence A- to specific, Krabi, in sentence D making AD a mandatory pair. DC is also a mandatory pair as the 'all this at costs' in C is explained in D. BE is a mandatory pair as sentence E carries on from B. This makes option a the best choice.

13. b C is the opener since it states the opinion of the author about the Windows 8 logo which sets up the rest of the discussion. C and D form a mandatory pair since D brings in a comparison of the earlier Microsoft logos with the new one being talked about in C. E follows D because E mentions why the author wasn't impressed with the earlier campaigns. Option b is the only option that starts with C and has the CDE combination.

14. c C is the opener since it introduces the topic of Facebook's public offer. D will follow C since it states the sense of apprehension on part of the analysts about the possible benefits for small time investors, a contrast from the things mentioned in C. E will follow D since it explains the reason for the analysts' skepticism. A counters D by saying that Facebook is not going in for a public issue for capital but to comply to regulations. E forms the conclusion.

15. e E and C form a mandatory pair since B states that the path pursued by Khader Adnan was different from the one mentioned in E. C will also come before statements D, A and B because it mentions the full name of Khader Adnan. D will follow C since it goes on to explain the 'different path'. Statements A and B form the rest of the discussion.

Para Jumbles: Six-sentence Type

Practice Exercise - 1

1. b A and B are building up on 1. In that order C has to follow D and it logically precedes 6.

2. a Sentence C follows the main sentence as it talks of the varieties. CD forms a pair because of `Pulp-free juice'.

3. a Both sentences A and B have the word `this' and hence could be the first sentence. However, B cannot follow A because of the use of `This' in both the sentences. Hence,

options (b) and (d) are wrong.

4. c The keyword in B is `The company', it implies C talks of what battle the company won'. `He' in the sixth sentence refer to the chairman in A.

5. d Has to end with B: Keyword is vegetarian: you have to start with D. A follows D because of the use of `But'.

6. b Has to begin with either A or B. B is not the correct choice because some reference of C++ has to be given earlier. BD is mandatory.

7. e Start with A. CD is a mandatory pair. D leads to 6 with reference to Macdonald.

8. e `Past' of B links it to 1 and leads on to `returns of the past' in A. `In addition to using the past return' of D follows. 6 is preceded logically by `Author approach used' stated in C.

9. c Choices B and D are ruled out, because D and B cannot come at the beginning. A and C speak about two different solutions, so A has to be followed by C.

10. a The initial statement has to be followed by B; A is a logical extension to B.

11. b Has to begin with B after the main statement. BC mandatory. `Theirs' of B makes it to follow sentence 1.

12. e BC are mandatory because of the word `But' in sentence C. A has to come after C because of the word `His' in sentence A which refers to Patel, mentioned in sentence C.

13. b The initial statement requires that something which fits has to come into picture. B is again a statement made, A speaks about what Java is thought of as, and D says what it is.

14. b D should be the ending sentence because D talks of various places and the last sentence gives his final destination.

15. d AC pair is mandatory because C says `that is why' which is a continuation or action in response to the reason mentioned in point A. So is DB.

Practice Exercise - 2

1. b After the main statement D is a logical continuation, C has to come before the last statement.

2. b `Independent India' of A and `since independence' of 1 make for a natural pair. `On the other hand . . . should not be tarred' of 6 supports `criticism' of B to naturally precede it.

3. b Starts with B as B in a way defines `decentralization' given in sentence 1. C and 6 form a mandatory pair as both speak of the advantages of decentralization.

4. a The main statement speaks about prison and C about jail so begin with C and the date gives a hint too.

5. e `Thus' of C is an explanation on 1; `for instance' of D an example' `Indeed' of A has to make it one following a sentence which is the `open portion' talked about in B.

6. e `Never was' in the main statement, and `never had in statement C go together. After statement C, A should follow with `why' of C.

7. a `Appeal against such action' of D links it to 1. `On the whole' of B and `But neither . . .' of A form a natural pair. `Rarely achieved' of C and `appearance of government control' of 6 are another natural pair.

8. d The main statement speaks about `leaders'. A logical continuation would be their names which came in statement B. D talks about the theory and 6 extends this idea.

9. a We should begin with B, as it speaks about who would be required to do the activity that is mentioned in the main statement. The `balancing act' of B which is the task mentioned in 1 makes B been the paragraph. Paragraph cannot end with D because `company-forward' cannot be repeated before 6.

10. a 1 has to begin with statement A because it is the most logical extension to the main statement. It should be follow by B as B also talks about the initial stage of his life.

11. b `Deliver' of C links it with 1. `In a stratified society' of B precedes' a stratified society' of A. `Gifts' of D and `capacity' of 6 link each other.

12. d `This was followed' of B continues with 1. A and C follow naturally. The establishment of cotton textile industry in D links it to the setting up of a mill in 6.

13. c `There had been' of C follows 1, A following close behind. `Strengthened this approach' of 6 links it to D.

14. a A, B and D cannot be the starting statements, the starting statement has to say something about who
Dr S. Radhakrishnan was. C should be the starting statement, which is there in one choice only.

15. a The `TV switch boxes' in the main statement are consumer devices. So the first statement should be B, statement A says `these consumer devices'. So it has to follow statement B.

Practice Exercise - 3

1. e It starts with D because Stern has studied `it', i.e. attunement. A continues D; `He' being stern. The `Or' of B has to make C the preceding sentence.

2. b `The problem' of D is directly connected to 1. `Description such as . . . have led to treating the problem', connects B to D. `The causal explanation' of C continues on B. `yet' of A sums up the author's comments leading to 6.

3. d D follows sentence 1 became of `continuing with reservation'. C follows D as C continues with the anomalies of the policy. Hence, option (d).

4. d The main statement speaks about front office applications. The next statement has to speak about a similar thing which B does. A has to be prior to the concluding statement.

5. a `The Tribunal gave' of D continues from 1. `. . . in 1983' of C leads in on the development. `The settlement' of B follows up the promise of C and `however' of A provides the exclusion hinted at in B.

6. c First sentence has some information (about Yahoo and Ebay); B has the words `this information', followed by C provider of information.

7. d `A' insights expands on the `mentality' of 1; C expands it further. `As yet' of D logically precedes 6; `B' fits in before D.

8. a `In the first' of C and `latter' of A make CA the pair to follow 1. B precedes 6 logically.

9. e `This competitive flow' of D carries on the `drive down' indicated in 1. `Not tolerate below this rate' links C to D, `B' moving to `higher rates'. `The strength of the competitive forces' of A logically precedes 6.

10. a `This is a significant fact . . .' of A carries on from 1. D and B give examples that follow A. `This is easier said than done' of 6 comments on the `ways to better synchronise supply and demand' promised in C.

11. d `Is true, perhaps more strongly' of A carries on 1. `Both' of D encompassing 1 and A. `By this we mean' of B indicates something preceding it which is C.

12. a `It has' of B follows 1. `The importance of this market' of D carries on from B. `Free system' of A is the link between A and 6.

13. c `he found' of A follows 1 and logically B follows C. `it' of B refers to `Indian corporate sector' of C.

14. c `not too welcome' of B expands on `political' of 1. `The French, in particular,' of C goes on to give the name of a particular `Worried' country. A carries on with the thread of C. D logically precedes 6.

15. a `Seemingly at odd', in the main statement. So `contradiction' in statement A follows.

Practice Exercise - 4

1. d E must follow D, as `that time' in E refers to the `12 years' mentioned in D. Hence, option (d). The result and the trend follows.

2. c ED makes a mandatory pair as they are linked with the word `too'. This pair is present only in option (c).

3. c D follows B as `that' in D refers to `. . . changing the world' in B. E logically `adds to that fact' in A. Hence, option (c).

4. b C follows A, as C illustrates the observation made in A; AC pair is in option (b). We begin with D, the question.

5. a B follows D as B names the priority sector mentioned in D. Hence, option (a).

6. d A and B form a pair as they are linked with `also'; `But' in D makes it to follow C. Hence, option (d).

7. b D most appropriately begins the paragraph as it introduces the topic with a proper noun.

8. e D most appropriately begins the topic of cyber cafes. `But' in F links it to D. Hence, option (d).

9. a The paragraph must begin with the question asked in C as the rest of the sentences provide the answer. The answer to this question is given by statement F. Hence F should follow C.

10. b D begins the paragraph more appropriately than A. F follows D because of `this' in F which refers to `Internet usage' in D. E is a continuation of F and hence follows it. Thus, option (b).

11. b The `image' is illustrated in C, hence C follows E.

12. d F begins the paragraph more appropriately than A or C. E follows F more appropriately than any other sentence, hence option (d).

13. c `But' in E, links it to C, hence E follows C; `It was also. . .' in D makes it to follow A. CE and AD are present only in option (c).

14. d F begins the paragraph more appropriately than A. D follows F more appropriate than any other sentence. Hence, option (d).

15. a D follows B as `decision' in D refers to `investment decision' in B. Hence, option (a).

Para Jumbles: Odd Sentence Type

Practice Exercise - 1

1. b The odd one out in this case is sentence (b). Deregulation of electricity markets has not been dealt with in the rest of the sentences. The rest of the sentences talk about the AEP merger and provide a timeline. (a) and (d) form a mandatory pair. (a) talks about the announcement of the merger in 1997. (d) follows by talking about the completion of the merger in 2000. (c) follows (a) and (d) by talking about Morris in 2004.

2. d Sentence (d) is not related to the conflict between animal-rights and animal-welfare advocates described in sentences (a), (b) and (c). (a) introduces the conflict between animal-rights and animal-welfare advocates. (b) and (c) form a mandatory pair. (b) introduces the stance taken by animal-rights groups. (c) contrasts this stance with that of animal-welfare groups.

3. b Sentence (b), which makes a general statement about the 'Third Industrial Revolution', is not in line with the rest of the sentences. Sentences (a), (d) and (c)-in that order- talk about "The Technology Pioneers 2012." (a) introduces the topic of "The Technology Pioneers 2012." (d) elaborates on the diverse activities of these Technology Pioneers. (c) concentrates on one specific aspect-a social one.

4. b Sentence B is not in line with the rest of the sentences all of which talk about sustainable development and presuppose that human intervention can impact nature. Additionally, sentence B talks about climate change, something which has not been dealt with in the rest of the sentences.

5. d The fourth sentence, which talks about austerity, does not have any link to the rest of the sentences. (a) and (c) form a mandatory pair. these forces in (c) refer to the creditors and debtors mentioned in (a). (b) follows (a) and (c) by talking about the consequence of the battle between creditors and debtors.

6. d The fourth sentence does not have any link to the rest of the sentences. Sentences (a), (b) and (c) talk about vacuum tube technology and the limitations of such technology. (a) introduces the topic of vacuum tube technology. (b) and (c) form a mandatory pair. (b) states that despite being a dominant technology for some time the vacuum tube had inherent limitations. (c) enumerates these limitations.

7. b Statement (b) is not in line with the rest of the sentences that talk about rural electrification. Statement (a) introduces the topic of decentralized energy technologies. (c) and (d) form a mandatory pair. (c) talks about an agricultural application viz. pumping of water from groundwater. (d) provides statistics to demonstrate just how widespread this application is.

8. b Statement (b) is not aligned with the rest of the sentences. Sentences (d), (c) and (a), in that order, talk about the role of serendipity in scientific discoveries and also how computer scientists have tried to design the systems that encourage serendipity. (d) and (c) form a mandatory pair. (d) introduces the role played by serendipity in science history. (c) describes how computer scientists have valued this role played by serendipity in science history. (c) and (a) form another mandatory pair. these systems in (a) refers back to the computer scientists' systems in (c). (b) on the other hand talks about lateral thinking.

9. c Sentence (d) and sentence (a) form a mandatory pair- it is possible to have informal markets without much institutional infrastructure, but the markets in a modern capitalist economy needs substantial infrastructure to support them. Sentence (b) follows sentence (a) by talking about how these essential market institutions are underdeveloped in certain cases. Sentence (c) is the odd one out.

10. a Sentence (c) and sentence (b) form a mandatory pair. In (c) marketing is identified as a trigger for 'mass culture.' (b) follows by talking about advertising. Sentences (b) and (d) form another mandatory pair. While sentence (b) talks about advertising being everywhere, sentence (d) gives another example of this phenomenon. Sentence (a) talks about inequality and consumption standards- an issue not dealt with in the other sentences.

11. d (b) is the opener since it introduces the topic of the oldest living organisms. (c) follows (b) since it mentions the name of the species being talked about and also gives its age. (a) carries forward the discussion by supplying details of the organism earlier assumed to be the oldest living organism. (d) is the odd one out since we don't have information as to whether the organism under consideration is on the decline or not. Also it breaks the flow since the discussion only focuses on the discovery of the oldest living organism.

12. b (a) is the opener since it talks about the recipient of the Hatchet Job of the Year Award. (c) follows (a) since it mentions the name of the recipient and details of the prize awarded. (d) carries forward the discussion by giving us more information about the Hatchet award. (b) is the odd one out since it shifts the focus to the actual review rather than the award, also instead of naming the novel being reviewed, it incorrectly gives the indication that the novel has already been mentioned in the preceding lines by using the words 'the novel'.

13. a (b) is the only sentence which mentions the details of the content producers that are affected by piracy so it should precede the other sentences; also it is the only sentence that talks about their actions. (d) follows (b) as it mentions the reason why the producers of content failed in their efforts to curb piracy; also 'they' in (d) is linked to the content producers mentioned in (b). (c) follows (d) because it brings in a opposing but valid point, that even though the bill would have curtailed freedom of expression on the web something needs to be done in order to tackle the negative effects of piracy on the economics of creative industries. We are not talking about the effects of piracy on the economy as a whole and that's the reason why we reject (a).

14. b Sentences (a), (c) and (d) deal exclusively with Germany's success story while (b) points out a potential problem in its economy.

15. d Sentences (a), (b) and (c) focus on how Universal Studios is encouraging planet-saving activities through a careful selection of partnerships. Sentence (a) gives a specific example of one such partner. (d) shifts the focus to a particular movie not mentioned elsewhere in the paragraph.

Practice Exercise - 2

1. b The paragraph presents a review of a book by Simon Hoggart about the political culture and politicians. The tone of the author is critical and scathing (as evident by the words dying days, shadow-filled days, utterly bewildering days, faux-pas, mistakes etc) and the book talks about the political reasons of our plight and the mistakes of the big politicians. Sentence (b) fails to match with the theme and the idea and stands out as heroes and tradition represent positive ideas that are contradictory to the rest of the sentences. (a), (d), (c) is the correct sequence and option (b) is the correct choice.

2. c (b) is the opening sentence as it states the method employed by Socrates. (a) summarizes the consequences of the method in terms of his increased influence over the youth as well as his execution because of those methods. (d) states that the book (in question) never mentions Socrates directly but the parallelism between the protagonist (of the book) and Socrates is obvious. The paragraph is actually from a book review and the first lines form the background. The later lines that will follow will try to explain this parallelism by bringing out the character sketch of the protagonist. (c) does not match with these lines because of the tense inconsistency between it and the other lines. (a), (b) and (d) are in the past tense whereas (c) is in present tense. Moreover (c) is a repetition of the idea already mentioned in (a). Thus, (c) is the correct choice.

3. d The paragraph talks about the BBC's adaptation of *Great Expectations*. The author appreciates *Great Expectations* but criticizes the BBC's adaptation. (b) introduces the subject. It elaborates the virtues of Great Expectations. C introduces a contrast by presenting a comparison of the book with its BBC's adaptation. So, BC is a pair. (a) states the shortcoming of the adaptation. Thus, (c) presents a statement and (a) presents the reason behind it making (c) & (a) a mandatory pair. (d) talks about guessing but cannot come after (c) because first person personal pronoun "we" cannot come immediately after a second person personal pronoun "you". Hence, option (d) is the correct choice.

4. d The author is talking about money and its true value. He discusses two cases; first when increase in money means increase in wealth and second when increase in money

does not mean anything. The idea implied by the author's statements is that money loses its value if it increases without a comparable increase in real output. Thus, (b), (a) & (c) form a sequence. (b) introduces the idea of the author i.e. what happens when he gets more money. (a) is an add on as the author wants to explain what all is considered as money. (c) talks about the second scenario when everybody gets money (becomes rich). (d) is not linked to all these lines. A link is missing. The link should be that increase in money does not increase the wealth of the nation i.e. money does not represent the wealth of the nation. Thus the `it' in (d) does not have an antecedent. Hence, (d) is the correct choice.

5. b Option (c) introduces the concept of Being and states that it is human beings alone who can associate themselves with the question of what it means to be. Option (a) further elaborates the same. 'More specifically' in (a) hints at the specific detail of what is mentioned in (c). So, (c) and (a) form a mandatory pair. 'This' in option (d) refers to the concept of Being which has been explained in the mandatory pair. Thus (c), (a) and (d) form a passage. Option (b) seems to follow the sequence, but is logically incorrect because it talks about capitalization which has not been introduced in the previous lines. Nothing has been mentioned about the theory of capitalization that can help in understanding that why it is incorrect to think of Being in this way. It is logically incorrect to talk about the concept that a theory discards before introducing the theory itself.

6. b Options (a) and (c) form a mandatory pair. (a) talks about a situation in the past and (c) compares the situation to the present scenario. 'They' in (c) refers to 'people who settled abroad' in (a). Option (d) further supports (c) by citing examples of various fields which value international concepts and theories. Hence, (a), (c) and (d) form a coherent paragraph. Option (b) talks about a different point of view. It states that we are only aware of Indians who are doing well in foreign countries and not the ones engaged in low end jobs. This statement doe not follow the logical order. Hence, the answer is (b).

7. a Options (b) and (d) entail the points of 'contradiction' mentioned in option (c). Thus (b), (d) and (c) form a logical sequence. Option (a) begins with 'At other times', but none of the other options begins with 'At times'. So there is no scope of comparison. In addition, (a) talks about variability of the names which has not been talked about in any of the options. Option (d) only states that the names are distinctive. For (a) to follow, there should be a line in the jumble which states that variability of the names make them less distinctive. Hence, option (a) does not follow.

8. c The sentence in option (c) does not fit the sequence (d-a-c) formed by the rest of the sentences. (d) talks about how in research the aim "is to discover what is known in advance." (a) and (b) follow (d) by comparing this aspect of research with solving a puzzle. (c) is not in line with the rest as it talks about research as an extrapolation and is not in sync with the characterization of research as essentially a process of discovering what is known in advance.

9. b The sentence in option (b) is not in keeping with the rest which describe death as a great void which we cannot directly perceive (though we try to "live out of faiths in relation to this void"). Sentence (b) talks vaguely about our inherent limitedness without connecting such "limitedness" with death or mortality.

10. d The sentence in option (d) does not contribute to the discussion on the "tortured artist" and how far this characterization is justified.

11. c Statements (b) and (d) form a mandatory pair. The strange experience mentioned in (b) is referred to by "It" in the statement (d) and it further explains the labeling to which the libertarians have been subjected. The statement (a) is a general explanation of the image in relation with the one that the libertarians have been labeled with. As the three statements are not describing party members, statement (c) is not relevant to the context.

12. a Statements (b) and (d) are mandatory pairs because the authoritarian attitudes and behaviour mentioned in statement (b) are referred to in statement (d). The phenomenon mentioned in statement (d) is being referred to in statement (c). Statement (a) is not relevant to the context because the authoritarian attitude and authoritarian behaviour being discussed in the other statements does not correlate with the measures of authoritarianism and the measures of maladjustment mentioned in statement (a).

13. a Statement (d) and c are mandatory pairs because the question asked in statement (d) is answered in statement (c). Statement (b) can only come after statement (c) because the boundary talked about in statement (c) is referred to in the statement (b). Statement (a) is not relevant to this context because it is concerned with India's interest in Myanamar and it's presence in Myanamar whereas other statements are concerned with Myanamar's importance to India.

14. a Statement (b) elaborates the 'new paradigm for living', mentioned in statement (c), by explaining the Kabbalic emphasis on the interconnectivity of the various 'branches of our lives.' Thus statements (c) and (b) form a mandatory pair. Statement (d) follows from statement (b) in further elaborating the Kabbalist viewpoint. While statement (a) also talks about Kabbalah, the emphasis on a subjective, personal meaning of what the faith says, sets the statement apart from the context.

15. d Statements (b) and (c) are a mandatory pair as statement (c) explains the assertion in (a) that 'terrorism is never easy to understand.' Statements (c) and (a) form another mandatory pair since the (a) details the pitfalls of not going in for the 'rational analysis' mentioned in (c). Statement (d) makes a general statement about terrorism rather than an explaining why it is difficult to understand the phenomenon of terrorism. Thus, (d) is out of context.

Chapter 2 - Deductive Logic

Type A

Practice Exercise - 1

1. c Green is a subset of black which, in turn, is a subset of white. All A is B does not mean all B is A. It however means some B is A.

2. b Sentence F has the word may, which makes this option correct.

3. c Copper is a subset of metal and metal is not related to bronze. Hence copper is also not related to bronze.

4. a Because of the use of `may be' in sentence A.

5. d `Actor' is a subset of English and `he' is a subset of actor. Therefore, `he' should know English.

6. d Option (c) is wrong, because if buildings have rain and forests have rain, it is not necessary that forests have buildings. Option (d) however is probabilistic deduction.

7. b At least one teacher does both cheat and beat.

8. b If rigging is happening now, the election should follow next, option (a), is inductive and hence not necessarily valid. Option (b) however is more appropriate.

9. a `He' is a subset of `power' and `power' is a subset of `corruption'. Hence, `he' is `corrupt'.

10. b Straight deduction.

11. a If sentence E was `some' in stead of `all', then CED would not be correct. However, if some S are L and all L are C, then some S are C and hence some C are S.

12. d Straight deduction.

13. b Moon may fall in the planet-satellite intersection.

14. a At least one student studies history and biology.

Practice Exercise - 2

1. b Cows are a subset of goats which are a subset of dogs. Hence, cows are a subset of dogs.

2. b The set of hooks occur at the intersection of lids and nibs. Hence, some lids are nibs.

3. d The set of men is a subset of rational. Sudhir is an element of men and therefore he is rational.

4. a Option (a) is most consistent. If the examination is competitive and tough to pass, then very few students will get through it.

5. a Pens are a subset of knives which are a subset of spoons. Hence, pens are a subset of spoons.

6. d Each A is also an element of B which is definitely good. Hence, As are good.

7. b Students are a subset of poor. Poor and wise are disjoint sets. Hence, no student is wise.

8. a There is a common factor between rings and bangles, i.e. crowns. Hence, some rings are bangles.

9. c Cooks are a subset of smart which in turn is a subset of wise. Hence, a portion of the set of wise is cooks.

10. b At least one nail polish, i.e. Lakme contains oil.

Hence, some nail polishes contain oil.

11. c Krishnan is a subset of singer which is a subset of actors.

12. d There could be an overlap in the magazine-humour set.

13. b Men is a subset of mortal, A is a subset of men.

14. a Santosh is a subset of intelligent, which is a subset of bold. Hence, Santosh is bold.

15. d Ants are subset of animals which are a subset of mad. Hence, ants are mad.

Practice Exercise - 3

1. d Bees is a subset of ants; ants is a subset of black.

2. b At least one human, i.e. Ramu is not dumb. Therefore, some humans are not dumb.

3. d `This flower' is a subset of violet. Since `this flower is blue', blue flower is a subset of violet.

4. d Some clips are bolts and bolts is a subset of pins. Hence, some clips are pins.

5. b Counsellors is a subset of women, no woman is proud. Hence, no counsellor is proud.

6. a Bats is a subset of mats, mats is a subset of cats.

7. d Smoking causes ill will which causes pollution. Hence, smoking causes pollution.

8. b It follows logically that 1 is a subset of 10, 10 is a subset of 100.

9. b Paper is a subset of rubber, rubber is a subset of acacia.

10. d As each element of the main set is hanged. Hence dipa is also hanged. Thus d is the answer.

11. b Suns is a subset of white dwarfs; White dwarfs is a subset of red giants. Hence, some red giants are white dwarfs. If all A is B, then some B is definitely A.

12. b Men is a subset of creative. William is an element of men and hence he is definitely creative.

13. a Races is a subset of daces, daces is a subset of paces. Hence, races is a subset of paces.

14. d `Goats are pigs' does not mean `all pigs are goats'. The relationship between pigs and men cannot be definitely defined. Hence, `may be' is correct.

Type B

Practice Exercise - 1

1. a A. Only some stars are moon.

B. Being a thinker is not equal to being a poet.

C. Both are seasonal fruits, not common fruits.

2. d A. Not necessarily true.

C. Not clear whether the remaining flower are stems.

D. No clue given in condition as to where Shyam would go when he does not attend college.

3. c A. The set of oranges which are mangoes may not be those which are apples.

B. The set of healthy who are women may need not necessarily be sportsperson.

D. Car and cycle could still be exclusive.

4. c A. Not necessarily

C. The full world of Security Members not covered.

D. Y could be a son.

5. d A. Both being good does not necessarily ensure their liking each other.

B. Only some scientists can be emotional.

C. The fools who are intelligent and the intelligent who are great need not be the same group.

6. d A. Is `H' in India?

B. No clue is given on the entire world of wise persons.

C. The cups which are pins may not be those which are locks.

7. a B. No clue is given on the world of superstitious persons.

C. Both `A' and `B' may not necessarily converge.

D. Status of magazines other than not being monkey is not known.

8. c A. Status of Radha is not definitely known.

D. Not necessarily

9. d A. Logically incorrect

B. Not necessarily

C. Not necessarily

10. a B. Logically incorrect

C. Intelligence not linked to attendance

11. d A. May or may not be true.

B. Playing difficult games is not excluded.

C. Only some may not be polite.

12. b A. Cardiac problem is not excluded.

D. Cannot definitely be said that all kits are heavy.

13. d A. Twelve-sided may also have another name.

B. The pearls which are not peacocks may or may not be beautiful.

C. Pastries and fruits are not linked although both may have the same characteristics — salty.

14. c A. Cannot be both

B. The world of people having impeccable manners is not included.

D. Rats could be diseased.

15. d A. The world of people who serve the country is not given.

B. Same logic as above.

Practice Exercise - 2

1. d A. Art is learnt.

B. Conclusion contradicts premises.

C. We cannot conclude this definitely.

2. c A. The reciprocity may not necessarily be true.

B. If A is C and B is C does not mean A is B.

3. c A. Films are plump is definitely true but the reverse not necessarily.

4. b A. It is not a necessity.

D. Relation not valid

5. c A. No relationship on colour established

B. We cannot say that all men are vile.

D. Conclusion contradicts premises.

6. c C. Conclusion contradicts premises.

D. No linkage

7. a C. No reason to conclude this.

A. There can be no reasonable conclusion.

D. Not necessarily

8. b A. `her' is vague — it may refer to Prerna also.

9. b A. Same as above (world: unable to pay interest)

B. The third statement of B follows the preceeding two statements. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

C. We do not know what else fish bite.

D. Last two are contradicting sentences.

10. a Choice (a) is the answer in (B) and (C), the conclusions can be logically derived from the given premises.

In (A), the premises talk about the failure of one girl but gives no clue to the total number of girls in the class. Similarly, (D) is not a deductive argument as three people (who killed them, Blue line?) being killed cannot be a parameter to ban Blue Lines. Moreover, it is not clear whether it is the Blue Line which is responsible for the killings.

11. c Choice (c) is the answer because in A and D no way is the third statement deduced logically.

12. d Choice (d) is the answer because a person, (in this case Susan) who speaks only the truth can never say `she lied' and Susan = Shobha. A is wrong because laughter is not exclusive to Akbar. In C and D, conclusion cannot be derived from the given premises.

13. b Only choices (c) and (d) logically deduce the third statement. Hence, the conclusion is correct. (A) is wrong because sleep is not exclusive to animals. (B) Dog and men do not overlap each other.

14. c (A) Some can mean all. Therefore, if oranges are not sour, fruits cannot be sour. (B) The conclusion is only a probability and not a necessity. (C) Again the conclusion is only a possibility and not a necessity.

Chapter 3 - Logical Consistency

Practice Exercise - 1

1. c Choices (a), (b) and (d) are not logically consistent. Choice (c) is correct because frogs croaking is a definite indication of it not raining though the reverse may not be necessarily true.

2. c Kamal has to drink atleast one of the given items. If it is not tea, then it is juice. Option (d) is incorrect because statement B - `Kamal drinks tea', does not imply Statement C - `Kamal drinks juice'. Kamal may or may not drink juice.

3. c The reverse logic holds good here, both conditions are negated.

4. d Vinod has to follow atleast one of the mentioned professions. So if he is not a poet, he is definitely a doctor. Hence, option (d) is correct.

5. c The crux of the condition in the statement is X, is not with Y. If X is with Y, then A cannot be with B.

6. a Cold definitely follows play. Hence, no `cold' means `no play'.

7. d Sick definitely follows load. Hence, `not sick' means `no load'.

8. d If he is not a pianist, he has to be a violinist because he has to follow atleast one of the mentioned professions. Hence, option (d) is correct.

9. b India cannot win if Sachin is the captain. Hence, if India won, the captain was someone else.

10. b It has to be atleast one of the two animals but it can be both too. If it is not a cat, then it is definitely a rat. Hence, option (b) is correct. Option (d) is incorrect as it being a rat doesn't mean it cannot be a cat and vice-versa.

11. d This is a case of sufficient condition wherein, 'Ram drinks coffee' is *fact 1* and 'Ram feels unwell' is *fact 2*. If fact 1 is true then fact 2 is definitely true [AD], however, fact 2 can be true even when fact 1 is false [CB]. Hence, option (d) is correct.

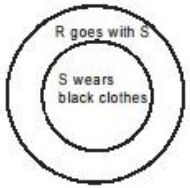
12. a If two actions have to happen together, then the non-occurrence of one action necessarily implies the non-occurrence of the other.

13. b By the concept of straight negation, if N is not drinking Horlicks then T cannot be drinking juice.

14. a In the given case, 'I come first' is *fact 1* and 'I will be very jubilant' is *fact 2*.

If *fact 1* is true then *fact 2* is definitely true. However, non-occurrence of *fact 2* implies that *fact 1* has also not happened i.e. if 'I am not jubilant' then 'I have not come first'. Hence, option (a) is correct.

15. a



It is clear from the venn-diagram that if `R did not go out with S' then `S did not wear black clothes'.

16. d `Either...or' implies atleast one of the two. So, if fishes do not swim in water tanks, they have to swim in river. Hence, option (d) is correct.

17. b `Either...or' implies atleast one of the two. If Rose is not a flower, it is definitely a thorn.

18. d Even BC could be the right choice if AD option was not there. The condition is that A and B cannot be in the room at the same time. A is not in the room does not mean B is in the room, B might be somewhere else also.

19. a This is a case of sufficient condition wherein 'apple is ripe' is *fact 1* and 'it will taste nice' is *fact 2*. If fact 1 is true then fact 2 is definitely true.

20. b Opinder has to do atleast one of the mentioned things. Thus, if `he does not scan', `he has to type'. Option (a) is incorrect because statement B does not imply statement C.

21. d Atleast one of the two people have to be a zombie. Hence, if Paresh is not a zombie, then Ashu is definitely a zombie.

22. d This statement is of the type all A is B where A refers to glitter and B refers to gold. Thus A is a subset of B. If X does not belong to B, i.e. is not gold, it cannot belong to A, i.e. it does not glitter. All that glitters is gold can also be framed as if glitters then gold and one can infer if X is not gold then X does not glitter.

Chapter 4 - Inferential Reasoning

Practice Exercise - 1

1. b The argument here is that "the government will need to do a lot more to turn things around." It is easy to confuse it with the idea presented in the last few sentences that the middle class was hit the hardest.

Option (a) just provides more data to support the idea presented in the paragraph above that family

income has declined and recovery has been sluggish. It doesn't talk about why the government needs to do more. It can be eliminated. Option (c) is just a restatement of the argument and talks about possible solutions. It doesn't talk about why the government should take those measures. Option (b), talks about expert opinion and explicitly states that unless more aid is provided, there will not be quick recovery, making it the correct answer.

2. d The argument here is that though Dads are not present in the media "dads are totally in the mix, at least 50-50, and sometimes dominant "in raising kids today. It is easy to believe that option a) strengthens the argument above. However, dads fretting (worrying about) is not equal to dads participating in raising kids. While the former is passive, the latter is active.

Options (b) and (c) are examples of the efforts dads are doing to parent better. Hence both are correct and option (d) is the best answer.

3. b The argument here is that Obama's decision to help young immigrants to avoid deportation makes good sense. Option I says that this decision provides relief to people 'who should not be deported anyway.'

However, we have no indication from the passage whether these immigrants should or should not be deported. Option II is also incorrect as the passage is limited to the option of work permits for these immigrants and does not talk about higher education etc. Option IV is irrelevant as it talks about Obama's authority to enact such a measure and is beyond the scope of the extract. Option III states that the resources that would otherwise have gone into such a mass deportation can now be put to other smart uses. This strengthens the assertion in the passage. Thus, option b (only III) is the correct answer

4. b The argument here is that New York is one of the safest cities in the America. Option (a) talks about how the city has a slightly lower number of policemen than sanctioned. This doesn't strengthen or weaken the argument because, even if the numbers are lower, the efficiency of the policemen could be more. Option (b) states that the crime rate in New York is higher than the national average crime rate implying that there are cities in the US that have a lower crime rate than New York. Hence New York cannot be among the safest cities in the country.

Option (c), talks about the low salary of the police force and says that because of it recruitment has suffered. This in fact further strengthens the assertion that " Astonishingly, New York is the safest city in the world". Option (d) talks about the relative increase of crime against tourists, which is a subset of total crime. No inference can be drawn about total crime and crime relative to other cities from this statement.

5. d The argument here is that America's fight against obesity will require a broader shift in the culture. It can be inferred from the passage that a narrow approach focused only on population segments or geographical locations will not be effective in battling obesity. Option (a) talks about how obesity is thought of as a personal shortcoming rather than something requiring a cultural shift. It weakens the argument and can be eliminated. Option (b) blames the social and environmental factors (these stem from culture) and hence furthers the claim that to address obesity, a shift in culture is needed. Similarly option (c) says that experts too believe that a macro approach involving the whole nation and attempting to encourage a healthier lifestyle is required. A people's lifestyle is a component of their culture and any changes in lifestyle thus imply a cultural shift. The experts' opinion thus strengthens the author's contention. Therefore option (d), both (b) and (c), is the correct answer.

6. d The argument here is the inadequate number of trains for passengers at New London. Options (a) compares the number of trains from New London with other towns on the network. However, we have no data to judge why these other towns have a greater number of trains. It could be that the mentioned towns are larger and have a heavier passenger flow than New London and thus deserve more trains. Option (b) provide facts about how for New London commuters it is both pricier and has less frequency unlike for other towns. Even if this is true it does not deal with the core issue of the availability of trains. Option (c), does not provide any additional fact in support of the argument, but only presents the outcome of the fact that Shore Line East does not serve New London well. Option (d), points out that due to new and ongoing residential settlements in the area there has been an increase in the population of New London and this has led to greater rush on the trains leading to overcrowding. Thus the number of trains is not enough and office goers have no option but to take the I-95.

7. c The argument here is that the medical marijuana industry should not be encouraged because of its negative impact on the communities where they are located. Option (a) strengthens the argument by providing Marinol as an alternative to medical marijuana (used for pain relief), implying that if alternatives are available then the marijuana dispensaries can be done away with. Option (b) is a mere statement. It does not provide any additional facts, evidence or data to show whether there has been an increase in crime in the communities where marijuana dispensaries have been set up. Hence this option can be eliminated.

Only option (c) weakens the argument since by pointing out that if the author's argument's logic were to be extended we would have to close down many other businesses too, for eg banks (robberies happen in them). Thus, crime surrounding legitimate businesses cannot be used to argue against the legitimate purpose of these businesses. Doing so would not be a good idea.

8. d The argument here is that mandatory voting enhances democracy.

Democracy is a state of society characterized by formal equality of rights and privileges.

Option (a) says that candidates elected with a low voter turnout, even if by a majority are not really the majority's choice. For example if the turnout is 25%, even if all voted for the same candidate and he won, it is not necessary that, had others voted, he would have

been in majority. This logic can be extended to a minimum voter turnout of at least 50%. Hence option (a) is correct.

Special interest groups if elected undermine the concept of democracy, because they vest power in the select few. Option (b) echoes this sentiment and hence is correct.

Political stability or instability has nothing to do with democracy, hence option (c) is irrelevant.

9. d The argument here is that gay couples should be given the same legal rights as heterosexuals in adopting children and they can be equally good parents.

Option (a) says that gender of parents is irrelevant in meeting the needs of children, thereby strengthening the argument.

Option (b), is just a view and does not provide additional data or information in support of the argument.

Option (c), says that research indicates that the traditional family (family of heterosexual parents) model has not been found to be necessarily superior, implying that homosexual parents' families are equally good if not better, thereby strengthening the argument.

10. a The argument here is that wind power should be a major component of 21st century plans to combat global warming.

Option (a) talks about the fact that even in the manufacturing of wind turbines gases which contribute to greenhouse effect are emitted, thereby weakening the argument.

Option (b) doesn't weaken the argument because it says that capacity does not exist today. This doesn't necessarily mean that capacity can't be built in the times to come.

Option (c) talks about the current situation where wind turbines are not viable. However, this situation can be rectified once wind energy is prioritized in the future.

Options (d) is not related to the argument since it talks about issues other than combating global warming.

Practice Exercise - 2

1. b The argument here is that year round schools are better and lead to higher scores, more effective teachers and more balanced calendar.

Option (a) clearly strengthens the argument by pointing out an the negative fallout from the traditional schools' summer breaks.

Option (b) weakens the argument that year round schools are better and lead to higher scores, by saying that the problem is not because of the way the school calendar is organized but is due to other factors. Thus merely changing the organization of the school calendar is not going to be an effective solution.

Option (c) talks about students missing out on studies as they fall sick because of attending classes in summer in buildings that are ill equipped for summer use. However, students can fall ill at any time of the year. The consecutive loss of studies is thus not particular to students who follow the year round calendar.

Option (d), talks about how summer breaks allow for participation in camps etc that contributes towards the overall development of the children. However, children can participate in such activities at anytime throughout the year and do not specifically need a summer break for such activities.

2. c The assertion here is that the development of new vaccines holds the promise of preventing deadly diseases in India and will help protect the children.

Option (c) undermines the assertion by pointing out the fact that even after a vaccine has been developed, it is not necessary that it will be available in a form usable by all.

Option (a) and (b), do not say anything about the potency of the vaccines being developed. They talk about issues related to availability. Lack of availability of the vaccine however does not hamper the efficacy of the vaccine per se.

Option (d) talks about scams and issues in distribution but does not negate the hope that the new vaccines will help.

3. d The premise here is that increasing workdays is a good way to boost economic growth.

Option I, only talks about the steps that Portugal has taken to bolster its ailing economy. The result of which is unknown.

Option II, only talks about the fact that there is concern about the impact of so many holidays.

Option III, talks about countries that have the least vacation days and (by implication) the maximum number of working days and are doing well economically.

Option IV, supports the argument the most because the higher the productivity the higher the GDP.

Thus, option (d), both III and IV, is the correct answer.

4. d The assertion here is that students are not studying because of the stoppage of exams.

Option (a) does not talk about students, it talks about teachers and how they have stopped being sincere, thus making it incorrect as a choice.

Option (c) is an argument against the assertion, which strengthens the argument in favour of abolishing exams in schools.

Option (b) does not give us a complete picture of the situation since it doesn't talk about how were the students in Assam faring compared to the national average, before the implementation of the CCE. So the only conclusion that can be drawn is that ,relative to the national performance, the performance of students in Assam has been bad. There is no mention of the performance relative to the previous years when CCE had not been implemented.

Option (d), talks about the poor performance, in international exams, of students from countries where the CCE has been implemented. This strengthens the assertion that the CCE has led to students not being serious about their studies due to the abolition of exams.

5. c The assertion is that India can become the decade's fastest growing economy provided there are some fundamental economic reforms.

Option (a), seems to imply that even small efforts will lead to big economic outcomes. This is in opposition to the assertion in the passage that there need to be a 'whole bunch of reforms' in India to foster rapid economic growth.

Option (b), is a simple re-statement of the main idea of the passage.

Option (c), points out that the economy grew in the last decade as part of a global boom that had fostered economic growth in all economies of the world. The option then states that in order to continue this growth story significant reforms would be required. Hence it strengthens the argument in the passage.

Option (d), talks about the situation in China and is not relevant in the context of the passage.

6. c The author is trying to assert above that a few non Muslims think that the Muslim community needs time and space to reform itself from within. Option (c) is the only option which provides information contrary to the claim. Option (c) clearly states that the approach, as suggested by the paragraph above, did not prove helpful and hence is correct and weakens the argument that giving time to the community to reform itself will help.

Option (b) talks about how feminists think that changes need to be brought about in the patriarchal bias within the Muslim community, which may or may not be true, but definitely doesn't help in the argument that with time and space alone, reforms will occur.

In Option (a), the author is doubting the intentions of the said set of people and saying that their aim is not reform, and is not talking about whether leaving the community alone will help in reforms

7. a Explanation: Option I talks about a redistribution of funds away from other modes of recreation towards foreign travel. Thus, the depreciation in the rupee has been offset by a larger budget being devoted to foreign travel. Thus it strengthens the premise.

Option II talks about schemes for the "rich" whereas the paragraph is about the middle class Indian, hence it can be eliminated.

Option III strengthens the assertion that the fall in the rupee will not affect foreign travel plans of Indian middle class travellers since most of the tours had been booked before the value of the rupee fell.

Thus, both I and III strengthen the premise. The correct answer is thus option (a).

8. d The author feels that the measures taken so far are inadequate, and the real issue has not been addressed. Keeping that in mind, II, though true does not add to the argument of the main issue not having been addressed, so it can be eliminated.

Option I, simply states the financial implications of the strike and does not touch upon the core issue and can be eliminated..

From option III it can be inferred that the main issue is the continued involvement of the government in the aviation sector. Therefore resolving the pilot issue is only a temporary solution. Hence it supports the assertion in the passage.

In IV the author says that no success was found in the negotiations with the pilots, but does not say anything about what the real issue is and how it can be addressed.

Therefore option (d) is the correct answer.

9. b The premise here is that we live in a humourless and paranoid world.

Option (c) is just an observation and though it goes with the flow of the argument, is irrelevant to the strength of the premise.

Option (b) talks about the fact that in a similar incident, the Delhi Police made an arrest that helped them confiscate equipment which could have caused damage. This suggests that all such tweets etc need to be checked for security purposes and we should not take them lightly. This weakens the author's argument that there is paranoia about security and is therefore the correct answer.

Option (a) just talks about and incidence and does not indicate how it ended. Had it been revealed on further investigation that the Britons were planning something harmful, it would have weakened the premise above.

10. b The author's claim is that if one needs to reduce their "stress" in order to get better, they must explore alternative remedies.

Option (a) is irrelevant in strengthening/ weakening since a form of it has already been mentioned by the author himself in the introduction "Even the most conservative allopathic physician will admit that endocrine disorders-more than other pathologies-respond to mind-body medicine".

Option (b) if true claims that there is no need to look for alternative remedies since 'there exist multiple stress relieving allopathic medicines'. Hence, it weakens the argument that we must look at alternative medicine to relieve stress.

Option (c) does not address the claim of efficacy of alternative medication but talks only about how difficult implementation is. The claim is here is not about the ease of implementation but efficacy of various schools of medicine and hence option (c), is incorrect

Practice Exercise - 3

1. a Eugenics is the science of improving a human population by controlled breeding to increase the occurrence of desirable inheritable characteristics. The author here feels that when practiced, it leads to false claims of superiority and perfection. Thus, the author's contention is that such a process is inherently wrong and goes against humanity.

Option I runs contrary to the author's argument since it finds fault with those practicing eugenics rather than with the practice. Thus it does not strengthen the argument.

Option II, if true, states that by practicing eugenics we are going against nature and letting the state play God, which is not what humans should be doing.

Option III if true, is an example of how people would use the information, to let the best fetus survive and selective breeding.

Thus only II and III strengthen the argument and option a is the correct answer.

2. c The author tries to put across the point that there are many reasons for the death penalty to be abolished as often grave injustices are committed by the system against covicts.

Option I is just a restatement of the facts already mentioned in the paragraph and hence does not strengthen the argument further. Option II weakens the argument by saying that many people use mental illness to escape a befitting death penalty.

Option III states that since the death penalty system regards convicts as 'nonhumans', it often tends to view them as not having basic human rights and denies them basic privileges accorded to others.

In this case it did not take into account the convicts mental instability even though the same had been upheld by three courts of law.

IV takes a very broad perspective, questioning the State's moral authority to kill those it has imprisoned. This is looking at the debate from a different angle and not relevant to the issue at hand.

3. d The argument here is that Australians can benefit from higher Asia literacy and that if there is demand for cultural and social engagement and the language, business and security links will follow.

Option I only talks about the difficulty in mastering an Asian language and doesn't talk about the benefits (which is the author's argument), hence it is unrelated and we can eliminate it.

Option II says that study of Asian language does not lead to new job creation for young Australians, which goes against the author's argument that Asia literacy will help in business links and opportunities.

Option III only talks about Chinese and ignores the rest of Asia. This does not weaken the argument and hence can be eliminated.

Similarly Option IV talks about relative money and promotions, whereas the author is not doing any comparison between various fields in his argument. Thirdly it doesn't provide any additional data or facts to support or weaken the argument, it only talks about what people think. Hence this can be eliminated too.

4. c The argument here is that Wikileaks is laudable for people who value freedom and truth.

Option I just talks about the fact that now is the right time to see the documents and does not talk about whether Wiki leaks is laudable or not. It is unrelated and can be eliminated.

Option II starts by stating that it is easy and nice to think that Wikileaks will lead to a new diplomacy of openness and no deception. It then goes on to say that this may not necessarily be true and the 'old games of statecraft will resume in new ways.' Thus, Wikileaks will not have any long term impact on the way diplomacy works. However, given the fact that it has led to a current (though probably momentary) evaluation of the ways of diplomacy makes Wikileaks a laudable effort. Hence, it strengthens the argument.

Option III talks about the fact that the motivation behind cablegate was not purely the quest for freedom or truth but the voyeuristic pleasure of snooping. This makes Wikileaks not so laudable. Hence this is one of the correct options.

Option IV states that even though Wikileaks may have been motivated by a desire for freedom and truth, its fallout is bad for diplomacy and international cooperation. Thus, given these repercussions it is not entirely a laudable effort. Hence, this option also weakens the argument.

Therefore, option (d), only III and IV, is the correct answer.

5. c The argument here is that the American economy can be strengthened when it lowers barriers to the free flow of information and goods, irrespective of whether its trade partners respond in like manner.

Option I, says that if China switches to a democratic government it would lead to a lowering of trade barriers between America and China, promoting free flow of information and goods and thus strengthen the American economy. However, as per the argument, the American economy would be strengthened irrespective of whether China reciprocated to American efforts to lower trade barriers. Thus, it does not support the assertion.

In Option II it is being said that the trade policy is not responsible for the decreasing employment levels. Hence we are not putting our economy at risk because of free trade. This implies that the economy will not be threatened by the lowering of trade barriers but it says nothing about whether it would actually be strengthened. The argument, however, is that free trade would actually strengthen the economy. Thus this statement also does not strengthen the assertion.

Option III is unrelated because it is talking about the costs being passed on to consumers. This does not relate to the author's argument of our becoming strong as a nation.

Option IV strengthens the argument by stating that it benefits all concerned when countries can freely produce and sell what they produce most efficiently. This can only happen when there are no trade barriers otherwise it would not really be 'free' trade. This supports the author's argument.

6. c The argument here is that the reason for luke-warm feelings of Australians for Indonesia is "the carping, condescending and critical tone of Australian journalistic commentary on Indonesia." Option I talks about how no corruption has been found on detailed investigation whereas the Australian media had been continuously reporting the existence of corruption. This indicates that the media men may be biased. This strengthens the author's arguments that Australian commentary on Indonesia is undeservedly critical.

Option II follows in the same vein as option I and indicates that the Australian press has its set of prejudices (against Indonesia) because of which the reporting was extremely critical. This strengthens the author's argument.

Option III suggests that there is a range (wide variety) of material available in the Australian media about Indonesia and the critics do not see the entire range but draw their conclusions from only a few carping, condescending reports.

Option IV is unrelated to the argument at hand as it talks about how in the future there is likely to be more unruly commentary. It does not provide any data, information or fact to weaken the argument.

7. a The argument here is that military strategy has fashions, and newly proven ideas are tried as strategies by militia until they are proven unsuited to the changed circumstances. COIN may be just a fashion and ill suited for some cases where it is employed. This can be evidenced in "...usually until they prove unsuited to the changed circumstances in which they're next employed."

Option I says nothing about the value of COIN as a set of strategic concepts and whether it is ill suited or not. The discussion is not about the desire of the soldiers but whether it is ill suited or not.

Option IV talks about the fact that COIN is not like other historically ignorant fantasies (author uses this phrase in the negative sense) but is better. This option talks favorably about COIN and hence weakens the argument.

Option II strengthens the argument by saying that COIN was not a primary (important or causative) factor in Iraq but at best a very small factor in the suppression of Al Qaeda. This strengthens the argument that COIN may just be fashionable and ill suited to the current scenario.

Option III does not provide any additional data or information in support of or against the argument that COIN may just be a fashion and ill suited to the current scenario. Though it says that we might be drawing wrong lessons from the last war, it does not provide any argument or fact. Hence it can be eliminated.

8. b The argument here is that it is reasonable to ask for the rationale behind the defense's decision on the quantity of submarines and JSF's to be purchased.

Option I says that the assumptions on the basis of which a decision was taken a decade ago have not been revisited. Thus it strengthens the argument that there is a need to evaluate the decision in current context since a lot of changes could have happened in the last 10 years.

Option II also strengthens the argument by stating that such decisions have not been based on a detailed study of requirements and should, therefore, be examined.

Option III says that the details of the defense's decision making are not publicly available thus it strengthens the argument asking for the rationale behind the decision making process.

Option IV says that it is not possible to mathematically calculate the defense requirements because the defense situation is prone to change over time and has many unknowns. Thus this option weakens the argument.

9. d The argument speaks against branding Islam as the militant religion and holding it responsible for acts of aggression done by terrorists. Statement e suggests that these people have misinterpreted the religion and this misinterpretation is the cause of terrorism and not the religion. Religion hence should not be held accountable .Statement

e strengthens the argument. Statement a, b and c holds militant Islam responsible for the acts of terrorism and hence goes against the argument. These statements categorize the militant groups as representatives of the religion in some form.

10. a Option (a), (b) and (c) weaken the argument by stating the negative effects of implementing the suggestion made by the argument.

Practice Exercise - 4

1. b The premise of the given argument is that euthanasia is against the principles of medical ethics whereby doctors should never harm their patients deliberately. Any option that attacks this line of reasoning of the author best weakens the argument. Option (b) states that medical ethics, apart from doing no harm also dictate that a doctor must alleviate his patient's suffering. Even if physical pain is reduced, the patient still goes through a lot of mental suffering knowing the fact that a slow and lingering death lies ahead. Euthanasia alleviates such sufferings and thus, is not against medical ethics. Option (a) is incorrect as it states that it is more human to kill than to let a person suffer. It is not on the same line of reasoning as the author's which is more related to what a physician is expected to do ethically. Option (c) states that half of the doctors are in favor of euthanasia. However, it doesn't weaken the author's argument. Option (d) is a parallel reason for the argument but does not affect the author's reasoning in any way.

2. d Option (d) helps R1 explain R2 by showing that increasingly more advertisements are placed on hoardings at locations where the drivers find them difficult to see and subsequently recall. Option (a) highlights the fact that promotion of brands through advertisements on roadside hoardings is less effective but does not help R1 explain R2. Option (b) contradicts R2 and hence can be ruled out as the correct option. Option (c) helps to explain R2 by describing a change in driving habits and not by support from R1.

3. c The passage contends that celebrity endorsements are nothing but PR and hence achieve very little. Option (c) directly challenges saying that PR has had 'proven' benefits in raising awareness about relevant issues. The case of the government using Amitabh Bachchan to promote the pulse polio campaign is not an example of a celebrity leveraging a social issue for their own publicity.

4. c The discrepancy in the argument is that the findings of the pediatricians differ from that of the findings of the research agency. Here, the discrepancy in the findings hinges on the different outcome of the experiment for the second group of children hence; the second group would have been doing something different from the first group. Only Option (c) tells us that difference. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

5. d This is a case of generalizing a phenomenon from specific instances.

6. c There is nothing intrinsically different in Eena's and Meena's arguments.

7. c (c) is the best answer from the humanitarian point of view.

8. d (b) is an unexplored option in the literal sense, we do not know how far (a) and (c) helps to relieve the tension.

9. c The numbers are to be deciphered, so we cannot assume anything about them unless we work on the letters.

Option (b) contradicts R2 and hence can be ruled out as the correct option. Option (c) helps to explain R2 by describing a change in driving habits and not by support from R1.

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9. c The numbers are to be deciphered, so we cannot assume anything about them unless we work on the letters.

10. b (a), (c), and (d) are all deterring factors, whereas (b) indirectly helps to reduce cars on the road.

Chapter 5 - Odd word out

1. a 2. d 3. b 4. b 5. d 6. d 7. c 8. d 9. b 10. c 11. c 12. d 13. c

14. b 15. c 16. d 17. d 18. b 19. d 20. d 21. a 22. b 23. d 24. a 25. d 26. d

27. a 28. d 29. d 30. d

Chapter 6 - Degree of Truth and Falsity

1. a Refer to the part *rethink the price-performance relationship*.

2. a Refer to the part *Tiers 2, 3 and 4* and *different type of capability*.

3. c The three mentioned countries have not been compared to the rest of the world in the passage. Hence, the given data is insufficient.

4. c US is not stated in the passage.

5. c Transnational company performance is not discussed in the passage.

6. b There is a link between Karmapa and politics, though it is not clearly established.

7. b There is a specific mention of one search engine, so probably there are more.

8. e Refer to the part *some were not (credible), something like what I have seen in the media.*

9. c Refer to the part *Nothing about the Karmapa is easy*.

10. c The other 16 Karmapas are not mentioned in the passage.

11. b The specific example of USA and Europe can be generalized to all economies.

12. c We do not have enough information in the passage to compare the U.S. to Europe and Japan.

13. e Gross World Production is used interchangeably with manufacturing in the second sentence. So, the answer is definitely false.

14. e Refer to the part *the US still represents the same share*.

15. e As per the passage, the relation between unemployment and the dominance of information and services sector is negative. So, unemployment will not increase but decrease.

16. a Refer to the part *a rarity among those in public life*.

17. b Specific to general — periyar to all leaders.

18. e Refer to the part *disdain for Tamils and contempt for Tamil.*

19. c There is no reference to the attitude of Tamil people towards religion.

20. c We do not know exactly what form of religion Periyar disliked.

21. b ISI was pumping counterfeit notes and traders were not accepting notes from Muslims.

22. c Information pertaining to ISI activities in other countries are not available.

23. c We do not know if ISI pumped counterfeit notes of denominations other than Rs.500 which are yet to be recovered.

24. b It is possible that the womenfolk feared that Rs.100 notes were turning out to be counterfeits. Refer to the part *not even hundred*

25. a If ISI is doing it, producing counterfeit notes is definitely possible.

26. c The sensex value is not mentioned in the passage.

27. c Mutual funds have certain tax benefits; hence, there might be a difference though one cannot say exactly what the difference is.

28. e Refer to the line, "Inflows in the sector...at the sensex." There is definitely a relation between the two.

29. a Refer to the line, "The sector is becoming popular... tax incentives it received...."

30. c We do not have information to compare mutual funds to other non-banking financial institutions.

31. e These states complained, so they must be southern states.

32. a Refer to the part *revision on the basis of population*.

33. c We do not know the exact population figures to justify a comparison.

34. b Refer to the part *Union Cabinet's decision*.

35. c We do not know about the intention of the Northern states.

36. a Refer to the part *great analytical intelligence*.

37. a Refer to the part *no correlation between....*

38. d The author mentions that there is no correlation between intelligence and economic achievement but we can infer from the passage, that intelligence is probably considered as a necessity for economic achievement.

39. d There is a reference to millionaires, who often do not possess great intelligence, taking calculated risks i.e. author states that, there is no correlation between intelligence and economic achievement. It is not only millionaires who take risks, which makes the given statement probably false.

40. a Since it is mentioned in the passage that average millionaire's test scores are not very high and they do not have great analytic intelligence, so it can be inferred that they do not have extra-ordinary analytical intelligence and are like most people.

41. c There is no discussion about the relative importance of each factor to the economic prosperity. Moreover, even though the author states that balance of trade is not an index of national prosperity, but the tone of the passage suggests that it is in reality a criteria. Hence, the given data is inadequate to conclude the given statement.

42. a Yes, England has been taken to be a valid example to draw an inference.

43. b Refer to the part *income of average Englishman*.

44. c We do not know from the passage about the *regular* part.

36. a Refer to the part *great analytical intelligence*.

37. a Refer to the part *no correlation between....*

38. d The author mentions that there is no correlation between intelligence and economic achievement but we can infer from the passage, that intelligence is probably considered as a necessity for economic achievement.

39. d There is a reference to millionaires, who often do not possess great intelligence, taking calculated risks i.e. author states that, there is no correlation between intelligence and economic achievement. It is not only millionaires who take risks, which makes the given statement probably false.

40. a Since it is mentioned in the passage that average millionaire's test scores are not very high and they do not have great analytic intelligence, so it can be inferred that they do not have extra-ordinary analytical intelligence and are like most people.

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42. a Yes, England has been taken to be a valid example to draw an inference.

43. b Refer to the part *income of average Englishman*.

44. c We do not know from the passage about the *regular* part.

45. e As per the passage, the increase in England's prosperity is due to the increase in income of an average Englishman.

46. e She won it for community leadership.

47. b Gandhi and Mao, according to the passage, operated in very large areas.

48. c We have no information on the status of the concerned bill in the parliament.

49. c The age at which Roy resigned from the IAS is uncertain.

50. c The passage does not talk about the founder of the MKSS.

Chapter 7- Fact, Inference, Judgement

1. e Statement 1 looks like something which has been heard. Also it is easily verifiable. Statement 2 is a judgement - an individual opinion as there may exist other definitions of the mind. Statement 3 is an individual opinion as the mind is intangible and opinions about it vary. Statement 4 is an inference - a conclusion on 'the reason for comparison' based on the fact that comparison is present in the scriptures. Thus FJJI is the correct answer which appears in option (e).

2. d Statement 1 is a fact which can be verified. Statement 2 becomes a judgement because it draws an opinionated conclusion. Statement 3 is a judgement. Statement 4 is also a fact because it is a reported event. It can be verified. Thus FJJF is the correct answer which appears in option (d).

3. c Statement 1 is a fact as it can be verified. Statement 2 is an opinion as the statement is difficult to verify and can be easily countered by another opinion. Statement 3 is an inference - a conclusion about the unknown - 'reason for dubbing in English' - based on a fact - 'the dubbing'. Statement 4 is a reported fact. Thus FJIF is the correct answer which appears in option (c).

4. d Statement 1 is obviously a fact. Statements 2 & 3 are inferences as they use 'may' & 'can'...Statement 4 is a judgement as it is an individual opinion about the government's responsibility. This makes option (d) correct.

5. d Statements 1, 2 & 3 are clearly Judgements as they are individual opinions. Statement 4 is again stating something, which is an established fact and open to verification. This makes option (d) correct.

6. e Statements 1, 2 & 3 are facts which can be verified. Statement 4 is an inference - a conclusion about the unknown - 'other dangers' based on the known - 'poaching'.

7. a Statements 1 & 3 are clearly stating facts which are verifiable. Statements 2 & 4 are Judgements, opinions being stated about certain matters. The use of 'only' makes 4 a judgement.

8. b Statement 1 is a judgement as it is an opinion about the requirement for achieving growth over the longer term. Statement 2 is a reported fact. Statement 3 expresses an opinion making it again a judgement. Statement 4 is verifiable and hence it is a fact.

9. c Statements 1 & 2 are clearly Facts as they deal with pieces of information open to verification. Statement 3 conveys an opinion that involves occurrences of the past. Statement 4 is an instance of an inference, as it a conclusion drawn about the unknown on the basis of the known.

10.d Statements 1 & 4 express opinions making them Judgements. Statement 2 is stating a verifiable piece of information making it a Fact. Statement 3 is an inference - a conclusion about the unknown - 'contributors', based on the known - 'that Wikipedia' is the biggest encyclopedia.

11. a All four statements are expressions conveying opinions making option 1 correct.

5. d Statements 1, 2 & 3 are clearly Judgements as they are individual opinions. Statement 4 is again stating something, which is an established fact and open to verification. This makes option (d) correct.

6. e Statements 1, 2 & 3 are facts which can be verified. Statement 4 is an inference - a conclusion about the unknown - 'other dangers' based on the known - 'poaching'.

7. a Statements 1 & 3 are clearly stating facts which are verifiable. Statements 2 & 4 are Judgements, opinions being stated about certain matters. The use of 'only' makes 4 a judgement.

8. b Statement 1 is a judgement as it is an opinion about the requirement for achieving growth over the longer term. Statement 2 is a reported fact. Statement 3 expresses an opinion making it again a judgement. Statement 4 is verifiable and hence it is a fact.

9. c Statements 1 & 2 are clearly Facts as they deal with pieces of information open to verification. Statement 3 conveys an opinion that involves occurrences of the past. Statement 4 is an instance of an inference, as it a conclusion drawn about the unknown on the basis of the known.

10.d Statements 1 & 4 express opinions making them Judgements. Statement 2 is stating a verifiable piece of information making it a Fact. Statement 3 is an inference - a conclusion about the unknown - 'contributors', based on the known - 'that Wikipedia' is the biggest encyclopedia.

11. a All four statements are expressions conveying opinions making option 1 correct.

12. d Statement 1 is clearly a fact. Statement 2 is an opinion and Statements 3 & 4 are facts which can be verified.

13. c Statement 1 is a fact as it can be verified whether Michael stated it. Statement 2 is an inference - a conclusion about the reason for seeking police protection based on the facts - marriage and seeking police protection. Statements 3 and 4 are opinions expressing approval/disapproval - hence judgements.

14. c Statements 1, 2 and 4 are judgements as they are individual opinions. Statement 3 is an inference as it is a conclusion about the unknown-the expected impact of the reduction in the interest rates based on the fact that reduction has occurred.

15. c The first statement in the question talks about a growing trend which has happened in reality. Hence the correct order starts with a factual statement. Therefore Options (b), (d), (e) can be eliminated by determining the nature of the first statement.

The 2nd statement is an inference because it is a conclusion based on the known - the traffic control drive.

The 3rd statement is a fact because it can be proved that the government has taken this decision. The last statement is also a fact because it can be proved that Salman Rushdie has been awarded the Booker prize. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

Chapter 8 - Paracompletion and Summary type Questions

Paracompletion

1. b Only this option continues the idea of the price to be paid. Option (a) is more of a summary, (c) and (d) begin new ideas. (e) is out of scope.

2. b It is in line with the `partisan' and `self-serving' nature of Journalism. Moreover, it continues the idea of the last line. The extract includes both encouraging as well as damning views on Journalism; hence (a) would be too severe. (c) is inconsistent as it does not cite a conclusive reason. (d) is rather remote. (e) is too definitive.

3. b It is an unambiguous answer choice. The clincher is the two opening lines of the paragraph. (c) is ruled out as Mozart's musical talent is not under the scanner, stained or otherwise. (a) is far-fetched, and (d) is an oblique to his dying young. Besides, the point is unsubstantial. (e) is a repetition of the stated facts.

4. a (c) might seem like a considerable option but (a) is the perfect follow up for the argument. (b) and (d) are distinctly irrelevant. (e) is out of scope as it is an abrupt shift in the tone.

5. a The paragraph highlights a new finding and option (a) completes the paragraph best as it compares it to the earlier view of the experts on the tiring of heart muscles. (e) is out of scope of the argument.

Summary Paras

1. c The author mentions that though used interchangeably the two ideas are different and at times opposed to each other. The reason is found in the idea itself and the motives that arise out of that. This makes option (c) correct.

2. a The author writes about a first person account regarding his return and a realization that people have gotten used to something very fast. The second half of the paragraph mentions the mission statements and standardized phone greetings. This makes option (a) correct.

3. b Option (b) takes care of the salient points being discussed in the paragraph. Recognizing the potential of female investors by the finance companies is the theme of this paragraph. Option (c) is incorrect as it talks about banks. (e) is incorrect as there is no mention of preference.

4. c Option (c) is most appropriately discussing the theory of language and its lack of dependence on any set of scientific fundamentals, which is essentially what the passage is addressing.

5. d Option (a) is a close choice but it completely denises the role of social problems in drug addiction, which is incorrect. Hence option (d) is the most accurate summary.

Practice Test - 1

1. b The context here is the way of life of the ancient civilizations- So (b) which talks about ancient people is a good choice.(a) has a reference to the present which seems abdrupt.

The passage nowhere talks of fear of the unknown - in fact trust is mentioned. (e) is better after (b). (d) talks of myths where the para has just made a reference to myth.

2. e We have allowed a false sense of security to envelope us, and when people get killed we would be puzzled- so `amazed' seems an appropriate reaction. Hence choice (e).

3. d The passage is on `Juvenile delinquency' as is clearly specified in the passage itself, making option (d) as the right choice. Option (e) is close but can be eliminated as it's a result of (d).

4. a The paragraph begins with an attempt to explain that heroes come in all shapes and sizes. They could be from various cultures and countries. The theme of the paragraph is 'Heroes'. Here, option (a) is correct because it is the only statement that unifies the essence of all the other lines in the passage and at the same time maintains the tone of the passage.

All the other options introduce different ideas and do not provide a decisive ending to the paragraph.

(b) goes off to another tangent by referring to 'heroism'. (c) mentions 'classification of heroism' whereas the paragraph is about 'multiplicity of heroes'. (d) introduces the idea of heroism as an inherent quality and (e) mentions our personal experience of discovering inspiration. Therefore, none of the other choices match with the paragraph.

5. a Option (a) best continues the theme of the paragraph. (b) and (c) are introducing other ideas. (d) again refers to society and the usage of this technology, which does not provide any link with the paragraph. (e) is far-fetched in the given context.

6. b The paragraph mentions how Australians discovered their new found history but failed to give the due credit to its martyrs. It ends by stating that Australians had already accomplished much more in comparison to their western counter parts. Here, Option (b) is correct because it is the only statement that asserts this accomplishment and provides the best ending.

(a) is vague and does not match with the tone of the paragraph. (c) and (d) introduce other ideas and provide a contrast to the paragraph. (e) is not in conformity with the subject of the last lines of the paragraph.

7. c Option (c) weaves both the civilizations mentioned in the paragraph and formulates a single question which draws from the background mentioned in the paragraph. Thus option (c) completes the passage most logically.

8. a Only statement (a) completes the description of the centre. Option (e) may also be an answer but it neither preserves the logical continuation nor the writing style of the paragraph. The other options can be safely ruled out.

9. b Option (b) talks about space technology which links cosmology mentioned in the passage. It also elaborates on the nature of progress that has been made in cosmology.

10. c The paragraph talks of expense. This seems to go well with 'lack' and 'extreme' in choice (c)

The other options can be safely ruled out.

11. a The last sentence in the paragraph talks about what is acceptable while using genetic techniques. Option (a) takes it forward while following the notion introduced in the first line.

12. c It is the only option that continues the comparison between management and leadership, the other options talk of management only.

13. d The paragraph is discussing about the certainties that exist on the radio program `Today'. Option (d) is a logical extension of the last line, "We all care about language.", which pinpoints the one common thing that stirs all of us. Hence option (d) is correct.

14. e The paragraph discusses how working on your face reverses without you realizing it, the author goes on to emphasize that she has also gone back to her pre-lift status.

15. b The paragraph while discussing the various philosophers goes on to involve Kant's philosophy in option (b) and option (a) establishes the place of aesthetics in philosophy. Options (c) & (d) follow.

16. c The paragraph is a discussion on naming planets, option (c) is a logical extension of the same.

17. c The passage ends on a discussion on rating submissions, option (c) continues the thread making it the correct option.

18. d The passage talks about Rain's imminent trip to the US, option (d) takes this further.

19. a The option deals with the consequence of the finite having no true being, the other options deal with varied aspects of the theory. Option (b) which comes close has `condemned' - which is extremely negative in its tone - hence inappropriate.

20. c Grass had been hiding his past all along. Refer to the line - "he has carefully incubated his...;" Option (c) is a logical extention of the given paragraph as it talks about his revelation. Option (b), which comes close, talks about `silences' - whereas the paragraph is about a singular element - `particular shame'. Hence, option (c) is correct.

Practice Test - 2

1. c The author mentions the role of the older people in the workforce and how they will be accommodated. The different working options beyond a full-time one will arise and the older people with benefit the most. All of this will create a unique set of problems to reckon with. This makes option (c) correct.

2. d One will realize that the above statements emphasize the importance of `family'. As the last sentence concludes, there are other requirements in one's social life, but the harmony and unity of one's family is what gives man his identity.

3. b The author mentions that sensation is far superior to any attempt at recalling or visualization of an object. This is best described in option (b).

4. c The author mentions how in the present age criticism is vital. Religion and legislation often do not come under this category but that actually makes them inferior as they have

not come out superior from the test but have escaped its scrutiny. This makes option (c) correct.

5. c As the words `make for' mean `maintain', one can appreciate that Plato identified with which sorts of experiences worked to `promote the development' of true humanity.

6. a This option explains the actual reason of Chinese oppression.

7. b This option takes into consideration all the important points mentioned in the paragraph.

8. c Option (a) is not implied in the given passage. Options (b) and (d) are contrary to what the author is saying. Option (e) is talking about individuality and the beehive. Option (c) which talks about humans and individuality is the best summary of the paragraph.

9. b Option (a) is absurd; Option (c) is out of context. Option d illustrates an example and cannot serve as a satisfactory summary. Option (e) is beyond the scope of the passage. Option (b) conveys the main idea of the passage and serves as an appropriate summary.

10. d Options (a) and (b) differ in terms of the theme from the paragraph. The paragraph is talking about "Language" and not - "active speech" or "verbal communication". Option (c) is incomplete. Option (e) is too narrow. Option (d) hits the crux of the paragraph and is a satisfactory summary.

Practice Test - 3

1. b The central theme of the paragraph is the applause given at the closing ceremony of the Festival. It mentions the opinion of the Best Actress awardee and also comments on the diplomacy of the Jury. Logically it follows that the paragraph will discuss more on the events related to the closing ceremony. And since the paragraph has discussed the causes behind the applause received by the best actress, it follows that information on the Best Actor will come next. Option (a) does not logically follow as the information in the paragraph is about the closing ceremony _ the introduction of a Jury member should have taken place at the start of the Festival and not at the end. Also, the passage talks about the awards and so applause is for the awardees and not for the Jury members. Option (c) could have followed the paragraph had there been more information on Dujardin _ the ambiguous nature of the option does not make it a good fit as an ending. Option (d) is out of context, as the passage does not concern itself with French diplomacy. Also, we can't really assume that the jury members were French.

2. a The paragraph discusses the opinions of current and former French diplomats of France's diplomatic influence. The passage also has a negative tone. The `this' in (a) refers to the developments in and around France that are the basis of the paragraph. Option (a) also matches with the tone of the paragraph and is the correct choice.

3. c The central theme of the paragraph is the problem of translation. Option (d) sums up the passage very well but it does not do the job of completing it. A more specific option is needed here because the author has moved on to a specific instance. Option (b) can be ruled out because it does not link with the book by Alain Mabanckou. Options (a) and (c) are choices that can be considered. Of the two, option (c) fits in best because it elaborates on the last sentence of the paragraph, whereas option (a) goes on to another aspect.

4. d The last sentence of the paragraph leads to the correct answer. Since it is stated, at the end of the paragraph, that JJB has to work hard in order to recover, an option that logically takes this statement ahead would be the best answer. Option (d) is the correct answer because it discusses what JJB is doing to recover. Option (c) does not add much value to the last sentence of the paragraph and is largely a rephrasing of this sentence. Option (b) has a negative tone and the paragraph has moved onto a more positive outlook. Option (a) does not follow the last sentence of the paragraph and could have come in much later once the steps taken by JJB on the path to recovery have been discussed.

5. b The paragraph starts with mentioning that Ferre is an angry young woman and ends by saying that writing for her is a destructive as well as a constructive process. The paragraph establishes a link between Ferre's anger and her writing and option (b) is a logical conclusion to this passage. Option (a) can be ruled out as it discusses Ferre's need to rewrite history _ something which is not discussed in the rest of the paragraph. Option (c) can be negated as nothing in the paragraph suggests that Ferre wrote about issues related to women. Option (d) is out of the scope of the passage as there is no reference to a specific book written by Ferre.

6. a The paragraph brings out a comparison between Indira Gandhi and Jayalalitha. The author also brings out elements of difference from the third sentence itself when he writes that Jayalalitha goes a step further from Indira Gandhi. The paragraph also ends with the reason for why no one resisted Indira Gandhi's power. It follows logically that the next sentence should be about Jayalalitha's power or something that comes close to discussing it. Option (a) is the best answer as it discusses that Jayalalitha achieved everything of her own accord _ in contrast, the previous sentence indicates that the path for Indira Gandhi was made easy due to her lineage. Option (b) does not logically follow the last sentence and so it can be ruled out. Option (c) discusses the circumstances that Jayalalitha grew up in and is not linked to the last sentence of the paragraph. Option (d) briefly mentions Jayalalitha's path to politics but it does not bring out a comparison with the last sentence of the paragraph.

7. c The paragraph discusses the path that the author took to becoming a cartoonist. The last sentence before the blank indicates that the author has gone through a realization of being in the wrong profession. The next sentence should ideally mention what he thinks is a better profession (or the characteristics of the best profession) for him. Option (c) presents this information and therefore is the answer. Option (a) brings in the action the author would have taken after realizing that he was in the wrong profession and then realizing the next best profession for him. Option (b) does not logically complete the passage since the author is going through a process of realization. Option (d) is also not the answer as it should come in only once it has been ascertained that the author took up the profession of a cartoonist.

8. b The paragraph mentions the effect that the launch of Sputnik 1 had on the Americans. It ends by stating that there was a difference between Sputnik 1 and the intended satellite to be launched in Project Vanguard. Option (b) is the best answer as it goes on to comment on this disparity. Option (a) would not follow because it moves on to talk about another launch. Option (c) is too specific and discusses the concerns of a few individuals. Option (d) can be ruled out because the paragraph does not discuss the launch of another spacecraft.

9. d The paragraph discusses the increased productivity of farmlands and the technology behind this. Option (a) has a negative tone, whereas the paragraph has a positive tone, and goes against the logical completion of the given flow of thought. Option (b) will be disjointed if it is placed to complete the paragraph. Option (c) is beyond the scope of the paragraph as there is no discussion on the consumption of food _ the content deals with production capacity of farmland. Option (d) ends the paragraph in a logical fashion.

10. b The paragraph ends by saying that no proof of the ark has ever been found. It logically follows that the next sentence either discusses why this is so or mentions how someone is making efforts to find proof of the ark's existence. Option (b) fits into this. Option (a) should have appeared before the paragraph as it introduces the location of Mount Ararat. Option (c) is an abstract sentence, open to interpretation, and should not be used to complete the paragraph. Option (d) is out of the scope of the paragraph.

11. b The correct answer option should be the one which goes on to explain as to why the victim dies (because of the machine). As per this, option (b) is the best fit. Option (a) should come later in the passage as it discusses other aspects that can be used to execute a subject. Option (c) talks about intellectual feebleness which is nowhere mentioned in the paragraph, hence it is rejected. Option (d) is contradictory to the paragraph, since it talks about the machine getting destroyed instead of how the machine executes the victim.

12. a Option (b) is rejected because it is irrelevant to the theme of the paragraph. It talks about the decline of Hollywood that is not related to the paragraph in any way whatsoever. Option (c) is contradictory to what is mentioned in the paragraph; film societies have become irrelevant because people now prefer to watch movies alone, not because they have lost interest in movies. Option (d) is irrelevant to the paragraph; we are not concerned with the decline of church groups. Option (a) is the correct option as it sums up what is being discussed in the paragraph. It is in continuation with the talk of people choosing the comfort of their own homes.

13. c Option (a) does not link with the passage in any way. It's not clear what "This" refers to. Option (c) comes closest to the paragraph in terms of style and content. The paragraph talks about one of the things needed for the formation of water droplets. (c) continues in the same vein stating another prerequisite for the formation of water droplets. Options (b) and (d) talk about hailstones or hail specifically. They dont describe the the precipitation process in general.

14. b Option (a) is rejected, as it does not explain the reason why courts haven't undertaken a forensic debate, also the question of treatment being futile hasn't come into the picture till now. Option (c) is rejected for the same reason as for option (a). Option (d) also does not explain why the debate on ANH hasn't taken place; it only mentions what the withholding of ANH avoids. Option (b) is the best answer option, as it specifies why the debate has not taken place; the courts believe persisting with ANH is futile.

15. d Option (a) is rejected because there is no mention of God or a special unexplained presence in the paragraph. Option (b) makes assumptions which have no basis and are not linked to what is discussed in the paragraph. Option (c) compares theory of mind with philosophy of mind, something which is not relevant to the paragraph. Option (d) is the

most appropriate choice since it carries forward the discussion; the second last line in the paragraph mentions the questions that are being referred to.

Practice Test - 4

1. c (c) follows the last line "the idyllic situation cannot be arrived at or held on to eternally" and states that it is in the search for this idyllic situation, that one finds ecstasy. (a) is incorrect since the passage given does not suggest any kind of `depression' that the author might be in. (b) is incorrect since the "grandness" does not fit in. In the context of the given passage, (d) appears to be irrelevant.

2. d (a) & (b) are incorrect since they deal with seeking answers/knowledge and this is not indicated anywhere in the passage. (c) is incorrect because it talks about the `art of living a good life' which has not been dealt with in the given passage and therefore is inappropriate. (d) is the correct answer since it talks about how the author feels about/deals with the situation of losing a friend/relative.

3. a (a) mentions the solution to the problem referred to in the last line and hence, is appropriate. (b) is irrelevant. (c) is incorrect since the passage talks about desires and not relationships. (d) is incorrect since there is no mention / suggestion of any kind of disparity in the passage.

4. c The first sentence tells us that `important things happen by accident'. The paragraph goes on to tell us that one could do a lot of planning, etc. but the tone of the paragraph suggests that something opposite to or unexpected, is bound to happen. The paragraph ends with "And then ....." The correct option is the one that states the unexpected happening. This makes option `c' correct. Options `a', `b' and `d' are only giving more examples of how one can plan.

5. a The paragraph starts by talking about the image of the burning elk. It moves on to why `he' thinks it has some meaning. The next sentence says that his father has never believed in superstitions. The paragraph ends with his mother, who believes in superstitions and omens. Option (a) is the correct option because it explains where she got her belief in omens from. Option (b) can come after (a) as an example of her belief in superstitions. (c) is a shift back to the elk whereas there is no keyword to tell us that there should be a move back to the elk. (d) is also a move back to the elk. (d) is also out as it is telling us more about the mother, whereas the paragraph is talking about her belief in omens and superstitions. Hence (a).

6. b The paragraph is describing an office. It is clear that the office belongs to two or more people because of the pronoun `we'. It is also clear that it is not an ostentatious office. Hence, option (b) is correct because it incorporates both the above factors. (d) drifts too far from the description of the office. (c) is talking about the façade of the street which is irrelevant to the description of the office. (a) can come after (b) because (a) is talking about, the work done and not the office.

7. a The passage talks about Germany not fearing foreign competition as a general idea later moving to specific details of Germany's foreign policy (like low import duties). The last line states that the neighbouring economies were inefficient due to their lack of internal competition. Hence, option (a) which talks about the results of the laissez-faire policy adopted by Germany (at the beginning of the paragraph) in contrast to the

ineffective neighbouring countries is the best match. Since the statement is more general in nature and the quality of the products is not the immediate matter of concern in the passage, option (b) can be eliminated. Option (c) is irrelevant because "rights of workers" is not even remotely associated with the idea presented. Option (d) is irrelevant as there is nothing to suggest in the paragraph that there was an excess demand for certain products.

8. a Refer to the tone & structure of the passage. It is pessimistic & general in nature. Option (b) and (c) can easily be eliminated as they are out of scope of the passage. Option (d) can be eliminated as it goes against the tone of the paragraph (Nehru is said to have "great intention but little common sense", it is unlikely that his `socialist pattern' would be praised by the author). Option (a) is more relevant as it matches the tone and idea in the way the which the last line of the paragraph mentions "the socialist pattern of society".

9. a Clearly the main theme of the passage is wealth concentration and hence the process explained will finally yield the conclusion about wealth concentration. Thus option (a) is correct. Options (b), (c) and (d) are out of scope.

10. c The author has been discussing the effects of guns or gunfire on the stage. After citing the example of an actor who was accidentally shot, option (c) seems logical. (a) and (d) are irrelevant. The passage states `to be nervous of guns is a survival instinct'. Option (b) does not reflect the author's phobia/nervousness mentioned in the paragraph. The tone in option (b) is one of resignation. Thus, (b) is negated.

11. b Option (b) begins to explain what the `tragedy' exactly is and builds on the argument presented by the author.

12. d The passage talks about the challenge Yosemite sets up for climbers. There are clues throughout the paragraph `... forges heroes', `...measure themselves against its giants' or `...an invitation to the boldest climbers'. Only option (d) continues this idea. `Rite of passage' means a ceremony or an event that marks an important stage in somebody's life. All the other options veer into different directions. Option (a) talks about the variety of climbers you find. Option (b) talks about one specific climbing route. Also El Capitan has already been talked about, so this seems out of place. Option (c) seems to begin a new idea, that of the different routes that climbers like to take on.

13. a Option (a) is the best fit, both in terms of ideas as well as language. The paragraph ends with a mention of "... the script". Option (a) continues with "... another ending". All the other options can be eliminated. Option (b) is inappropriate as the paragraph does not mention what this `example' can be. Option (c) brings in a new idea of adapting to climate change. Option (d) also cannot be the answer as the paragraph ends on a positive note whereas option (d) begins with. `Yet precisely because Bangladesh has so many problems'

14. a The answer can be found in the last line of the paragraph. It talks about affirming conformity. This is brought out in option (a) as it describes how this happens."... a set of values is illustrated..". All the other options talk about unrelated aspects of scandals.

15. c Option (c) completes the author's argument on how appreciation of spin bowling separates the cerebral from the bloodthirsty. The descriptions for spin bowling are wily

and mysterious (related to more to the mind) whereas for fast bowling, words like snarling or fearsome (closer to bloodthirsty) are used.

Practice Test - 5

1. a Only (a) extends the idea of the "cultural insight' about people in the beginning of the twentieth century. (b) will come after (a) in the passage. (c) and (d) are irrelevant.

2. c Option (a) is incorrect. The author praises Chesterton and his easy natural humor-- nothing in the passage suggests a negative element like bitterness. A positive statement has to follow. (c) is the correct answer as it goes with the tone and content of the paragraph. (d) introduces irrelevant elements-- Chesterton would not require someone to write his speeches and the passage talks of his wit and natural humor-- there is no mention of speech writers.

3. b The paragraph talks about how a breathalyzer works and how it's not "failsafe." Option (b) continues in the same vein and provides an example. For example, if a person uses mouthwash before a breathalyzer test, the breathalyzer would give a falsely high reading. Option (a) is not in line with the paragraph. Option (d) is not related to falsely high breathalyzer readings. If mouth alcohol levels drop off quickly there is less chance of such a thing happening. Option (c) is too vague a statement and has no strong link to the paragraph.

4. a Option (b) is incorrect. The passage is about the obsession of the French with food and about Monsieur Bognols the floor cleaner. The last line talks about how he did not trifle with matters concerning his stomach-- so the next line logically should be about what he does to take care of his stomach. (b) is unlikely because the entire passage is in the third person- there is a shift to first person in the option. (c) is obviously incorrect. A man who does not trifle with his stomach is unlikely to be at the laughter club at noon. (d) is incorrect- why would the author be surprised if a man who loves food accepts his invitation to eat at a gourmet restaurant. (a) is the correct option-- a man like Bognols would spend two hours at a local restaurant during lunch break.

5. b The tone of the passage is positive- the author obviously thinks highly of the Opera of the future lab and Tod Machover. Also Machover's excitement is contrasted with the ordinary appearance of the cello. Option (b) is the only one that goes with the tone of the passage.

6. a Option (a) elaborates on 'how it took on a life of its own' and thus completes the paragraph.

7. d The passage starts by describing how technology has made travel books obsolete and the last sentence questions the use of travelogues. The logical extension of this would be another question continuing the theme of how or why travel books are not necessary or answer the question as to how they are still necessary. (a) does not continue the thought of the last line, it restates the first line of the passage. (b)- the last line of the passage questions the use of a travel book when travel has been hijacked by technology--the question in the option does not fit in.

(d) is the correct option. It continues the theme - what is the use of a travel book when everything on travel has been covered by people and one has easy access to this information. (c) follows option (d).

8. d The passage quotes Kissinger. Kissinger states that he wouldn't answer some question. The next line would most likely be about the question itself-- or a remark about Kissinger's response.

(a) is unlikely-"the milder" question has no reference in the paragraph. (b) is also unlikely - there is no reference to any controversial topic. (c) is unlikely as well. Kissinger's statement is not a disavowal. He does not deny any connection with or knowledge of the subject at hand. (d) is the correct option. The author wonders which question would evoke such an evasive reaction from Kissinger.

9. c The passage states that globalization of B-schools is not only important in its own right but also important for another reason-- the option should fill in the other way in which it is useful and important-- only option (c) does that. Options (a), (b) and (d) are redundant.

10. b The last line of the given paragraph talks about the response time (taken to analyze Celanthropy) and presents a possibility that the reader may take less time than the narrator and understand and analyze it faster. Option (b) completes the idea by providing the other possibility that the reader may not be fast and may take a longer time, just as the narrator himself took. The pronoun 'it' refers to 'celanthropy'. The style, person (of pronoun) and subject in (b) matches with the rest of the paragraph and justifies it as a paragraph completing sentence.

11. a The passage ends with some questions that Obama asks and the next line is likely to be his answer to the questions.

12. c The author is discussing the effect of the global crisis on unemployment. He then goes on to discuss that a large number of export and services related industries have been directly hit by the slowdown. Linking these two themes (unemployment and the effect of the global crisis on certain industries in India), it is clear that the following sentence should be option (c). Option (a) is too narrow in approach as it suggests that everybody will not suffer and thus it goes against the generic approach that the paragraph has (author has talked about workers in general). Option (b) and (d) are irrelevant.

13. b The paragraph starts by discussing how climate change is affecting the borders of two countries - Italy and Switzerland. It goes on to discuss the dramatic shrinking of the surface area of the Alpine glaciers. The next sentence should ideally link this with the climate change issue and option b does this. Option (a) goes against the theme of the paragraph. Option (c) is very general as it applies to all geographical areas. Option (d) is unnecessary, as it has been established in the paragraph that draft legislation is being readied in Rome.

14. a The last line of the paragraph talks about human rights being sacrosanct i.e. they are considered to be vitally important. So 'fake killings either of innocents or of the criminals is not advocated' logically follows.

15. c The paragraph talks about the Sikh community contributing towards reducing global warming. One can infer that this is being done through an entity called EcoSikh. The paragraph also mentions UNDP's director of development policy and his opinions. The paragraph should ideally end with option (c) as this further adds to the content of the paragraph. Option (a) discusses the Sikh community's obligation to the environment -

this content reflects the voluntary nature of the community and not their duties/obligations. Option (b) deviates from the subject matter. Option (d) should have come in before the paragraph as it introduces the entity EcoSikh.

Practice Test - 6

1. a The passage talks of poor time management and the reasons for it. The last line states that time management is not practised because it does not form a measured part of appraisal and performance review-- the second part is likely to talk of why it is still essential-- the tone and content of option (a) fits in perfectly-- Time management is not a measured part of appraisal and performance review but it is intimately connected with things that are a part of it-- which people do not often foresee. Hence (a) is correct.

2. d The passage is about the negative aspects of law in India. So the last line that law in India does not take its course has to be followed by what does it does instead. Option (a) talks about changing the course which might be seen as an extension of law not taking its course but made to change its course-- but it is in positive vein which does not fit in with the tone of the preceding line. (b) does not connect with the last line though it is on the same subject. (c) can be a conclusion of the article but not an extension of the last part of the given passage. (d) is the right option. The law does not take its own course-- instead it stands still-it does nothing.

3. c Option (c) gives a reason for the author's travels. He wanted to move beyond 'theorizing' and gain first-hand knowledge about how believers actually live the religions.

4. a The passage states that the increase in domestic fuel prices is good. The tone of the author is optimistic. The last line mentions that the immediate effects would be negative-- the logical extension would be the positives that would come out of it. Hence option (a), which talks about the long-term benefits, is the correct option.

5. c The passage is about the Sony logo. The author states that initially they used a logo, but wanted the name to be remembered. So they used traditional simple characters that are used even today-the last line would sum it up saying how they used the name itself as the logo. (a) and (b) are close but still do not reflect the continuity in thought about the logo.

6. d The passage states that America had to choose between two countries-"America chooses one of the countries, becoming its benefactor." Then it states what it did over the decades to help this country. So the next part should logically mention the "other" country". Option (d) does that. (a) does not fit in with the tone of this part of the passage-- if India is mentioned as the country not chosen, Pakistan should have been named as the country chosen, instead the author first talks of two countries-- one and "the other". This sentence can be mentioned after (d) is mentioned. There is no reference to a social experiment to justify option (b). There is no reference to Pakistan yet in the passage, so option (c) is rejected.

7. a The passage talks about photography and the last line is about what should be the subject - or what should a photographer shoot. It also answers the question of what should be done to discover and satisfy the needs of editors. Option (a) fits in with both the tone and the content of the passage. Hence, option (a) is correct.

8. b In the last line, the author states that when religion starts to interfere with one's everyday life, it is time to give it up. So the next line is likely to be on giving up religion. (b) is the correct option. The author talks of giving up religion if it interferes with one's life, just like one has to give up an addiction if it interferes with one's everyday life. The analogy between the two and their similar effects on a person are justified and logical. (a) is incorrect-- the quote is relevant to a situation where religion is in sync with one's life but not when religion interferes with one's life. (c) and (d) cannot be inferred as the author does not talk about the uniqueness of religion or the simplicity of practising it.

9. d The last line of the passage says that trying to give degrees to many people at the expense of quality might be counter-productive. The next line should talk about how it will be counterproductive. Option (d) does that.

10. b The passage is about how urban decline is chronicled and small towns' struggles are not mentioned. The next line is likely to mention something about the problems of the two-- why both should get importance or something similar. Option (b) says that though people keep talking of urban decline, even small towns have downturns similar to urban areas. Things are wrong in small towns too.

11. c The paragraph discusses the need to examine the "link between tangible and intangible aspects of this heritage". The last line of the paragraph also states that "the conservation process should integrate rituals". Option (c) correctly sums up the idea that the author has indicated in the paragraph. Option (a) is irrelevant. Option (b) also does not end the paragraph correctly as there is no indication that there is any scope for interaction, in the conservation programme, with the villagers. Option (d) is incorrect as it has a negative tone whereas the paragraph speaks about integration and has a positive tone.

12. d The paragraph is about the easier life for children and their parents with respect to the chores they have to perform to get ready for school. It is also clear in the paragraph that the school has helped in making life easy for the parent and her child. Option (d) fits in well with the general tone of the paragraph. Option (a) is incorrect because it is too generic and has a negative tone. The paragraph only focuses on a particular aspect of motherhood whereas this option is an extrapolation of the same without any sound basis. Option (b) is also incorrect because the aim of the paragraph is not to bring out the more difficult life a child has to go through rather it is to lay emphasis on the role of a new age mother. Option (c) could have helped start the paragraph, not end it.

13. b The passage discusses America's "anachronistic holdover from the cold war"_the absence of a no-first-use policy on nuclear weapons. It then goes on to describe the situation during the Cold War. It was vital for America to reserve the "the option of using nuclear weapons first..." Option (b) contrasts the present situation with the situation during the cold war and gives an explanation as to why America's stance on nuclear weapons is outdated. Option (a) does not follow the line of reasoning in the paragraph. There is a jump from an analysis of the cold war situation to a statement that does not follow from that analysis. Option (c) has no link with America's policy on nuclear weapons. Option (d) does not add to the analysis and merely talks about Russia's present nuclear policy.

14. c The passage talks about how trichromacy is common among primates but not universal in the animal kingdom. Option (c) is in sync with this line of thought and the examples provided in the passage. Option (b) is incorrect. While "diurnal" contrasts with "nocturnal", the moot point is the uncommonness of trichromacy rather than a comparison between nocturnal and diurnal mammals. Hence, option (c) is correct.

15. c According to the paragraph, media violence poses a threat to public health since such violence leads to an increase in real-world violence and aggression. It talks about the impact of violence in films and television news violence. Violence in films is said to have both long-term and short-term consequences. Option (c) proves the best fit. It provides a further example of violence in video games and the long-term and short-term consequences of such violence. Option (d) is eliminated because the paragraph does not indicate that the effect is not significant.

Practice Test - 7

1. b The paragraph is about the friendly relations between America and France and also their shared anti-British feelings. Overall the tone of the author on the relationship between France and Britain can be said to be positive. It is understood then that the paragraph should be completed by an option that maintains the positive tone of this relationship. Option (a) is negative and indicates a rift between the two countries. Option (c) also states an anti-American feeling in France - this is not indicated in the paragraph and hence cannot be inferred. Option (d) brings in the negative and positive sides of French diplomats. However, option (b) goes a step further to complete the paragraph appropriately by stating the continuing anti-British and pro-American feelings in France.

2. b The paragraph introduces the city of Roseau and goes on to discuss mainly the architecture of the place. The best answer option would be one that continues to discuss the architecture of the city. Option (b) does this. Option (a) lets us know about the population of the city - a topic that has not been covered in the paragraph. Option (c) introduces the rural villages and this goes beyond the scope of the content. Option (d) again brings in the social culture; however, this has never been mentioned in the paragraph.

3. d The passage distinguishes between classifying adjectives and characterizing adjectives and gives two examples of each. Option (a) gives another example of a classifying adjective and disrupts the logical flow of the passage. Option (b) is not related to the discussion at hand since it starts talking about literature. Option (c) does not fit into the paragraph because nothing has been mentioned about 'the idea' or 'the reader' in the paragraph. Option (d) follows logically since it talks about the uses of these adjectives in linguistics.

4. a The paragraph is mainly about the drug trade in Myanmar. It also ends by saying that the drug trade in Myanmar has been edged out by competition from Afghanistan. The penultimate sentence says that Myanmar has diversified into another substance. The paragraph should be completed with a link to this substance. Option (a) brings in this link. Option (b) is incorrect as the transition to democracy is not the central idea of the paragraph. Option (c) is also incorrect as there is no mention of previous trade with China. The tentative tone of this option also does not match with the assertive tone of the paragraph. Option (d) is incorrect as there is no reference to the generals in Myanmar. The paragraph also does not discuss the economic condition of Myanmar.

5.a The paragraph is a review of the budget and what it holds for a certain kind of investor. Also, the paragraph has a negative tone and so an option that is negative would be required for completion. Options (b), (c) and (d) do not fit the bill as they do not have a negative tone. Option (a) is the answer as it has a negative tone and also gives advice to the investor based on an analysis of the budget. Further, the another initially talks about equity market and then draws comparison with the debt market. `They' in the last line of the passage refers to `counterparts in the debt market'. Thus, option (a) is an extension of the passage, `You better review your debt investment portfolio'. Hence option (a) is correct.

6. d The paragraph has a positive tone to it and therefore option (a) would not be the correct answer choice. Moreover, the monsoon is not the primary focus of the passage. Option (c) is also not the correct answer because it has a premature conclusion that industry growth is back on track. The paragraph only provides positive information on growth for the last two months. This is also a reason why option (b) does not fit in as the best option. It provides an extrapolation which cannot be based on data of the previous two months. The paragraph also has a tentative tone based on the hope of government officials and independent analysts. Therefore, option (d) is the best answer as it concludes the paragraph and also does not take away from the tentative tone of the sentences.

7. d The paragraph discusses personal debt and links with it the rate of mortgage repossessions. The last line of the paragraph discusses the lack of consistent pattern in the latter. Option (d) substantiates the author's assertion that there is no consistent pattern. Option (a) does not fit in logically with the flow of the paragraph. Option (c) deviates from the content of the paragraph. Option (b) cannot be inferred from the paragraph as it brings in a parallel with other countries.

8. c The paragraph ends by saying that the Italian premier gave intimation of the G8's demise. The paragraph should be completed with what the Italian premier said and with reference to the G8's weakness. Option (c) fits in best here. Option (a) is a comment on what the Italian premier has said so it can at best follow option (c). Option (b) comes in with a parallel statement by the French President however, it fails to complete the paragraph. Option (d) is a reiteration of the point made in the second sentence of the paragraph, however this also fails to complete the paragraph.

9. c The fact that this group was looking down upon people who brought in money for their perks would lead to internal chaos, most logically carries the idea further. And so is the best option.

Since the perks have already been discussed in the beginning, these wouldn't be repeated. Thus, option (a) is negated. Option (b) is out of scope as the passage doesn't talk about their wishes. Option (d) comes across as an abrupt idea and also breaks the flow of argument.

10. a Option (a) is the correct option as the passage talks about the belief of researchers on parapsychology and paranormality. The last line of the passage talks about the interpretation by researchers on concepts of paranormality.

Option (b) talks about some diverse measures which are nowhere mentioned in the passage.

Option (c) does not match with the last line as the last line talks about the interpretation by researchers on concepts of paranormality. The option talks about the after-effect of the beliefs mentioned in the passage and not about the way of interpretation. The passage does not talk about disbelief while the option (d) talks about it. Therefore, option (d) digresses from the theme. Hence, option (a) is correct.

11. c Option (a) does not match with the last line of the passage as the last line poses a question of possibility of reduction of GHG to the desired level. The option just talks about an approach to it.

Option (b) does not categorically talk about the GHG. It talks about possible wedges which may or may not lead to the desired result of reducing GHG emissions.

Option (c) talks about the theme and also matches with the last line as it answers the question of possibility of reduction of GHG to the desired level.

Option (d) does not match with the last line of the passage. The option brings in a new concept of "carbon sequestration" whch has no reference in the passage.

12. b Option (b) is the correct option as the passage is talking about the plants and trees breathing. Also the last line talks about plants inhaling carbon dioxide.

Option (a) does not match either with the theme or with the last line of the passage.

Option (c) does not match with the theme or the last line as the option talks about carbon dioxide being the foremost in the array of gases that allow the heat to trap.

Option (d) drifts away from the theme as the option talks about the effect of global warming.

13. b Option (a) is overly dramatic in the context of the passage. Option (c) does not follow from the passage. There is nothing to indicate that Watson had such a conviction. The passage just stresses that Watson is 'trying again' despite a previous rejection. So option (b) is in sync with the passage. Option (d) makes a general statement that does not fit into the paragraph. Plus, ' the game' is not explained anywhere.

14. c Option (a) just repeats the question at the end of the given paragraph. So it is not the correct option.

Options (b) and (d) do not answer the rhetorical question at the end of the paragraph. In both the options the conjunction 'and' is out of place with the passage as well. Option (c) answers the rhetorical question asked by the author at the end of the paragraph and is the correct option.

15. c The paragraph discusses the need for controls over the internet. It ends by stating that while controls are necessary, it is also important that governments are not heavy-handed in the way they regulate the internet. Option (d) does not express the concerns of the passage, but only discusses some positive aspects of the internet. Option (c) is the only statement that continues in the same vein as the passage, calling for sensible regulations that would put right 'unintended consequences'.

Chapter 9 - Commonly Confused Words

Practice Test - 1

1. b AAAAA

`Enormity' (A) means a quality of momentous importance or impact whereas `enormousness' (B) means marked by extraordinarily great size, number. So (A) will be a better fit for the first sentence. `Extant' (A) means in existence; still existing; not destroyed or lost, whereas `extent' (B) means the space or degree to which a thing extends. So (A) will be a better fit for the second sentence. `Exulted' (A) means to show or feel a lively or triumphant joy, `exalted' (B) means raised or elevated, as in rank or character, so (A) will be a better fit for the third sentence. `Especially' is used to single out one person or thing over all others; to show a great extent whereas `specially' means for a special purpose. There is some overlap in the uses of *especially* and *specially*. In the broadest terms, both words mean `particularly' and the preference for one word over the other is linked with particular conventions of use rather than with any deep difference in meaning. For example, there is little to choose between *written* ***especially*** *for Jonathan*; and *written* ***specially*** *for Jonathan*; and neither is more correct than the other. On the other hand, in sentences such as `The manager despised them all, especially Nandita' substitution of *specially* is found in informal uses but should not be used in written English, while in `the car was ***specially*** made for the occasion'substitution of *especially* is somewhat unusual. `Aid' (A) means help or support; assistance whereas `aide' (B) means an assistant or helper, especially a confidential one. So, (A) will be the correct choice.

2. d ABBAA

`Expeditious' (A) means done or achieved with speed and efficiency whereas `expedient' (B) means conducive to advantage or interest; practical and possible. So (A) will be a better fit for the first sentence. `Canvas' (A) refers to a piece of this or similar material on which a painting is made, whereas `canvass' (B) means to solicit votes, subscriptions, opinions; try to obtain support. So (B) will be a better fit for the second sentence. `Venal' (A) means able to be purchased, as by a bribe, `venial' (B) means excusable; trifling, so (B) will be a better fit for the third sentence. `Forbear' (verb) means to stop yourself from saying or doing something that you could or would like to say or do <He wanted to answer back, but he forbore from doing so>.`Forebear' (B) means a person in your family who lived a long time ago; ancestor. So (A) is apt. `Juncture' means a particular point or stage in an activity or a series of events battle had reached a crucial juncture>. `Junction' means a place where two or more cables, rivers or other things meet or are joined. So (A) is apt.

3. a ABAAB

`Grisly' (A) means causing a shudder or feeling of horror; horrible; gruesome whereas `gristly' (B) means resembling or containing gristle. So (A) will be a better fit for the first sentence. `Healthful' (A) means conducive to health; wholesome or salutary, whereas `healthy' (B) means possessing or enjoying good health or a sound and vigorous mentality. So (B) will be a better fit for the second sentence. `Emigrated' (A) means to leave one country or region to settle in another, `immigrated' (B) means to come to a country of which one is not a native, so (A) will be better fit for the third sentence.

`Incredible' (A) means impossible to believe as opposed to `incredulous' (B) which means of a person or their manner) unwilling or unable to believe. So only (A) can fit here. `Aggravates' (A) means `to make heavier; make (a problem, injury, or offence) worse or more serious. `Irritates' means to excite to impatience or anger; annoy. So, (B) will be a better choice for this sentence.

4. c BBAAA

`Indeterminate' (A) means not determinate; not precisely fixed in extent; indefinite; uncertain whereas `indeterminable' (B) means not determinable; incapable of being ascertained. So (B) will be a better fit for the first sentence. `Incidence' (A) means the extent to which something happens or has an effect < an area with a high incidence of crime> whereas `incidents' (B) means something that happens; a serious or violent event, such as a crime, an accident or an attack. So (B) will be a better fit for the second sentence. `Indict' (A) means to charge with an offense or crime, `indite' (B) means to put down in writing, so (A) will be better fit for the third sentence. `Inflicted' (A) means to make somebody/something suffer something unpleasant casualties were inflicted on the enemy.> whereas `afflicted' (B) means to affect somebody/something in an unpleasant or harmful way drought has afflicted the region>. So only (A) can fit here. `Anxious' (B) means full of mental distress or uneasiness because of fear of danger or misfortune; greatly worried; solicitous. `Eager' (A) means very interested and excited by something that is going to happen or about something that you want to do. `Anxious' (B) should be used only when its subject is worried or uneasy about the anticipated event. So (A) will be the more appropriate choice.

5. b BBBAB

`Ingenuous' (A) means free from reserve, restraint, or dissimulation; candid; sincere whereas `ingenious' (B) means characterized by cleverness or originality of invention or construction. So (B) will be a better fit for the first sentence. `Insidious' (A) means spreading gradually or without being noticed, but causing serious harm <the insidious effects of polluted water supplies> whereas `invidious' (B) means unpleasant and unfair; likely to offend somebody or make them jealous were in the invidious position of having to choose whether to break the law or risk lives>. So (B) will be a better fit for the second sentence. `Intense' (A) means existing or occurring in a high or extreme degree, `intensive' (B) means involving a lot of work or activity done in a short time; complete; comprehensive, so (B) will be a better fit for the third sentence. `Laudable' (A) means deserving praise as opposed to `laudatory' (B) which means containing or expressing praise. So only (A) can fit here. The noun `chord' (A) is a musical term (two or more notes sounded together); `chord' also refers to an emotion or disposition ("a responsive chord"). The noun `cord' (B) refers to a rope or a bond, an insulated electrical cable, or an anatomical structure (vocal cords), also used for trousers/pants of cords>. So (B) will be a better fit here.

6. c BAABA

`Loath' (A) is an adjective which means unwilling; reluctant; disinclined <He was loath to admit his mistake> whereas `loathe' somebody (B) means to hate somebody. So (B) will be a better fit for the first sentence. `Pedaled' (A) refers to work or use the pedals, whereas `peddled' something means to try to sell goods by going from house to house or

from place to place worked as a door-to-door salesman peddling cloths and brushes>; to spread an idea or story in order to get people to accept it peddle malicious gossip>. So (A) will be a better fit for the second sentence. `Persecute' somebody (A) means to treat somebody in a cruel and unfair way, especially because of their race, religion or political beliefs history, people have been persecuted for their religious beliefs> minorities>, `prosecute' (B) means to institute legal proceedings against (a person), so (A) will be a better fit for the third sentence. `Personnel' (A) means a body of persons employed in an organization or place of work as opposed to `personal' (B) which means of, pertaining to, or coming as from a particular person; individual; private. So only (B) can fit here. The adverb `subsequently' (A) means *next*—following in time, order, or place. `Consequently' (B) is a conjunctive adverb that means *as a result*. So (A) will be a better fit here.

7. d AAAAA

`Poring' (A) means to read or study with steady attention or application whereas `pouring' (B) means to send (a liquid, fluid, or anything in loose particles) flowing or falling. So (A) will be a better fit for the first sentence. `Faucet' (A) is a device that controls the flow of water from a pipe, `facet' (B) is a particular part or aspect of something, so (A) will be a better fit for the second sentence. `Ignorant' (A) means lacking in knowledge or training; unlearned, `ignoring' (B) means to refrain from noticing or recognizing, so (A) will be a better fit for the third sentence. `Pray' (A) means to offer devout petition, praise, thanks, etc., to (God or an object of worship) and `*pray over something*' means to say grace over a meal. To `prey' (B) means an animal hunted or seized for food, especially by a carnivorous animal. So only (A) can fit here. The noun `prognosis' (A) means a forecast or prediction. The noun `diagnosis' (B) refers to the process of analyzing information to understand or explain something. So (A) will be a better fit here.

8. c BBAAA

`Precedence' (A) means the fact of preceding in time; antedating whereas `precedent' (B) means any act, decision, or case that serves as a guide or justification for subsequent situations. So (B) will be a better fit for the first sentence. `Prophecy' (A) is a noun and it means a statement that something will happen in the future, especially one made by somebody with religious or magic powers whereas `prophesy' (B) is a verb (it means to make a prophecy). So (B) will be a better fit for the second sentence. `Purposely' (A) means intentionally; deliberately whereas `purposefully' (B) means with determination; so (A) will be a better fit for the third sentence. `Roll' (A) means a list, register, or catalog, especially one containing the names of the persons belonging to a company, class, society, etc as opposed to `role' (B) which means a part or character played by an actor or actress. So only (A) can fit here. The adjective `distinct' (A) means clearly defined and readily distinguishable from all others. `Distinct' also means notable or highly probable. `Distinctive' (B) means having a quality or characteristic that makes something different and easily noticed. So, (A) will be a better fit here.

9. a BBAAB

`Simple' (A) means not elaborate, easy to understand, deal with whereas `simplistic' (B) is derogatory and means making a problem, situation, etc. seem less difficult or complicated than it really is; oversimplified <His interpretation of the figures is far too simplistic>. So (B) will be a better fit for the first sentence. `Scrimp' (A) as an adjective

means meager, scanty. *To scrimp* is to be sparing with or thrifty; to save slowly and with difficulty whereas `skimp' (B) means to try to spend less time, money, etc. on something than is really needed <Older people should not skimp
on food or heating>. So (B) will be a better fit for the second sentence. `Racked' (A) means to strain in mental effort, `wrecked' (B) means to cause the ruin or destruction of, so (A) will be a better fit for the third sentence. `Trooper' (A) is used in the idiom `like a trooper', which means with great energy, enthusiasm as opposed to `trouper' (A) which means an actor, especially a member of a touring company. So only (A) can fit here. An `epigraph' (A) is a brief quotation set at the beginning of a text (a book, a chapter of a book, an essay, a poem) to suggest its theme. An `epigram' (B) is a brief, witty statement in prose or verse—similar to an aphorism. So (B) is the right option.

10. a BAABB

`Turgid' (A) means boring, complicated and difficult to understand <turgid prose>; swollen; containing more water than usual turgid waters of the Thames> whereas `turbid' (B) means muddy; not clear or transparent because of stirred-up sediment; clouded. So (B) will be a better fit for the first sentence. `Torturous' (A) refers to, involving, or causing torture or suffering, whereas `tortuous' (B) means full of twists, turns, or bends; twisting, winding, or crooked. So (A) will be a better fit for the second sentence (due to the word endured). `Disperse' (A) means to drive or send off in various directions; scatter, `disburse' (B) means to pay out (money), especially for expenses; expend funds were to be disbursed in two installments> so (A) will be a better fit for the third sentence. `Unexceptionable' (A) means not offering any basis for exception or objection; beyond criticism as opposed to `unexceptional' (B) which means not exceptional; not unusual or extraordinary. So only (B) can fit here. The verb `invoke' (A) means to mention a person, a theory, an example, etc. to support your opinions or ideas, or as a reason for something or to summon with incantations invoked several eminent scholars to back up her argument>. The verb `evoke' (B) means to bring a feeling, a memory or an image into your mind music evoked memories of her youth> case is unlikely to evoke public sympathy>. So, (B) will be the correct option.

11. d ABABA

`Jibe' (A) means to be in harmony or accord; agree whereas `gibe' (B) means to utter mocking or scoffing words; jeer. So (A) will be a better fit for the first sentence. `Waver' (A) means to sway to and fro; flutter, whereas `waiver' (B) means an intentional relinquishment of some right, interest, or the like. So (B) will be a better fit for the second sentence. `Imperious' (A) means domineering in a haughty manner; dictatorial; overbearing whereas `impervious' (B) means not permitting penetration or passage; impenetrable <an impervious rock/layer>;not affected or influenced by something to criticism/pain> so (A) is the correct choice. `Dribble' (A) means to fall or flow in drops or small quantities; trickle as opposed to `drivel' (B) which is a noun and means silly and nonsense. So only (B) can fit here. To `flush (B) out' means to force someone or something out of hiding or to clean something (usually by forcing water through a container). To `flesh (A) out' something (like a plan or an idea) is to expand it or give it substance. So, (A) will be the correct option.

12. a AABBB

`Destructive' (A) means causing destruction or damage <the destructive power of modern weapons> whereas `destroying'(verb) means to damage something so badly that it no longer exists, works, etc was slowly destroying him>. So (A) will be the correct option for the first sentence. `Foolish' (A) means resulting from or showing a lack of sense, whereas `foolhardy' (B) means recklessly or thoughtlessly bold; foolishly rash; taking unnecessary risks would be foolhardy to sail in a weather like this>. So (A) will be a better fit for the second sentence. `Discriminating' (A) means noting differences or distinctions with nicety; discerning, `discriminatory' (B) means characterized by or showing prejudicial treatment, especially as an indication of racial, religious, or sexual bias, so (B) will be a better fit for the third sentence. `Pallet' (A) means a bed or mattress of straw as opposed to `palette' (B) which means a thin and usually oval or oblong board or tablet with a thumb hole at one end, used by painters for holding and mixing colors. So only (B) can fit here. `Felicitous' (A) means chosen well; very suitable; apt; happy felicitous turn of phrase>. `Fortuitous' (B) means happening by chance, especially a lucky chance that brings a good result fortuitous meeting> success depended on a fortuitous combination of circumstances>. So (B) is the correct choice.

13. b BABAA

`Fermenting' (A) means to cause to undergo fermentation whereas `fomenting' (B) means to instigate or foster (discord, rebellion, etc.). So (B) will be a better fit for the first sentence. `Vile' (A) means highly offensive, unpleasant, or objectionable, whereas `bile' (A) means anger or hatred <The critic's review of the play was just a paragraph of bile>; a liquid that is produced by the liver in the body. So (A) will be a better fit for the second sentence. `Emend' (A) means to edit or change (a text), `amend' (B) means to alter, modify, rephrase, or add to or subtract from (a motion, bill, constitution, etc.) by formal procedure. *Emend* usually applies to the correction of a text in the process of editing or preparing for publication; it implies improvement in the sense of greater accuracy so *amend* (B) will be a better fit for the third sentence. `Lightening' (A) means to become lighter or less dark; brighten as opposed to `lightning' (B) which means a brilliant electric spark discharge in the atmosphere, occurring within a thundercloud. So only (A) can fit here. The verb `leach' (A) means to remove chemicals, minerals, etc. from
soil The noun `leech' (B) refers to a bloodsucking worm or to a person who preys on or clings to another. As a verb, `leech' means to bleed with leeches or to act as a parasite. So, (A) will be the correct choice.

14. c AABAB

`Amenable' (A) means ready or willing to answer, act, agree, or yield; open to influence, persuasion, or advice; agreeable whereas `amendable' (B) means that can be changed for the better; can be improved <The politician considered the law amendable to reflect public opinion>. So (A) will be a better fit for the first sentence. `Assure' (A) means to declare earnestly to; inform or tell positively; state with confidence to whereas `ensure' (B) means to make certain or sure; guarantee. So in this context (A) will be a better fit. `Restrain' (A) means to strain again, `refrain' (B) means to abstain from an impulse to say or do something, so (B) will be a better fit for the third sentence. `Cachet' (A) means superior status; prestige as opposed to `cache' (B) which means a hiding place, especially one in the ground, for ammunition, food, treasures, etc. So only (A) can fit here. The adjective `nutritional' (A) means related to the process of nutrition—that is, using food to

support life nutritional value of milk>. The adjective `nutritious' (B) means healthy to eat or nourishing. So, (B) will be the correct option.

15. c AAAAA

`Condign' (A) means appropriate; deserved whereas `condescend' (B) means to descend to a less formal or dignified level; to assume an air of superiority <I will not *condescend* to answer the sore loser's charge that I cheated in order to win the race> <wealthy people who tend to be *condescending* toward their poor relations>.`Yolk' (A) refers to the yellow and principal substance of an egg, as distinguished from the white, whereas `yoke' (B) means a device for joining together a pair of animals; rough treatment or something that restricts your freedom and makes your life very difficult to bear <the yoke of imperialism> people often chafe under the yoke of parental control> a part of a dress, skirt, etc. So (A) will be a better fit for the second sentence. `Naive' (A) is an adjective and means having or showing a lack of experience, judgment, or information; credulous, `knave' (B) is a noun which means an unprincipled, untrustworthy, or dishonest person, so (A) will be a better fit for the third sentence. `Babel' (A) was an ancient city in the land of Shinar in which the building of a tower intended to reach heaven was begun and the confusion of the language of the people took place; `babble' (B) which means a talk that is confused or silly and is difficult to understand. So only (A) can fit here. A buffoon is a person who does silly but amusing things which suggests that the tone of the sentence is negative. The adjective `officious' (A) means too ready to tell people what to do or to use the power you have to give orders. `Officious' generally has a negative connotation. As an adjective, `official' (B) means authorized, authoritative, or characteristic of an office. So, (A) will be the correct choice.

16. a BAAAB

`Effluent' (A) means something that flows out or forth; outflow whereas `affluent' (B) means having an abundance of wealth, property. So (B) will be a better fit for the first sentence. `Aisles' (A) are walkways between or along sections of seats in a theater, classroom, whereas `isles' (B) means small islands. *Rolling in the aisles* means wild with laughter. So (A) will be fit for the second sentence. `Bow' (A) is the forward end of a vessel or airship, `bough' (B) is a branch of a tree, especially one of the larger or main branches, so (A) will be fit for the third sentence. `Complaisant' (A) means inclined or disposed to please; obliging; agreeable or gracious as opposed to `complacent' (B) which means too satisfied with yourself or with a situation, so that you do not feel that any change is necessary. In the context of the sentence, (A) will be a better fit. The adjective `prospective' (A) means likely or expected to happen. The noun `perspective' (B) refers to a view or outlook. So, (B) will be the correct choice.

17. d ABABA

`Broach' (A) means to draw (beer, liquor, etc.), as by tapping; to begin talking about a subject that is difficult to discuss, especially because it is embarrassing or because people disagree about it whereas `brooch' (B) is a kind of clasp or ornament. So (A) will be a better fit for the first sentence. `Perspicuous' (A) means clearly expressed or presented; lucid, whereas `perspicacious' (B) means having keen mental perception and understanding. So (B) will be a better fit for the second sentence. `Quay' (A) means a landing place, especially one of solid masonry, constructed along the edge of a body of water, `key' (B) is a small metal instrument specially cut to fit into a lock and move its

bolt, so (A) will be a better fit for the third sentence. `Abrogation' (A) means to abolish by formal or official means as opposed to `abnegation' (B) which means to refuse or deny oneself (some rights, conveniences, etc.); reject; renounce. So only (B) can fit here. The noun `prodigy' (A) refers to a highly talented young person or to a wondrous event. The noun `protégé' (B) refers to someone whose training or career is advanced by an influential person. So, (A) will be the appropriate choice.

18. b BBABB

`Boulevard' means a wide city street, often with trees on either side whereas `bulwark' means a person or thing that protects or defends something; a wall built as a defence; the part of a ship's side that is above the level of the deck. So, only (B) fits in the first sentence. `Sleight' (A) refers to skill; dexterity, whereas `slight' (B) means an act or instance of slighting indifference or treatment. So (B) will be a better fit for the second sentence. `Vise' (A) means a tool with two metal blocks that can be moved together by turning a screw. The vise is used to hold an object firmly while work is done on it <he held my arm in a vise-like (= very firm) grip> whereas `vice' (B) means an immoral or evil habit or practice, so (A) will be a better fit for the third sentence. `Vile' (A) is an adjective and means highly offensive, unpleasant, or objectionable as opposed to `wile' (B) which is a noun and means a trick, artifice, or stratagem meant to fool, trap, or entice; device. Since the appropriate word needed is a noun(as is clear by the usage of an article *a*), only (B) can fit here. The verb `quench' (A) means to satisfy, extinguish, or cool down. The verb `quell' (B) means to stop something such as violent behavior or protests < Extra police were called in to quell the disturbances> or to stop or reduce strong or unpleasant feelings < to quell your fears>. So, (B) will be the correct choice.

19. d AAAAA

`Wreaked' (A) means to do great damage or harm to somebody/something <Their policies would wreak havoc on the economy> swore to wreak vengeance on those who had betrayed him> whereas `wrecked' (B) means to spoil something completely weather wrecked all our plans>. So (A) will be a better fit for the first sentence whereas (B) will be repetitive as `havoc' is already mentioned there. `Perquisites' (A) refers to perk, benefit, privilege, or advantage over and above regular income, salary, whereas `prerequisites' (B) means something required beforehand. So (A) will be a better fit for the second sentence. `Peremptory' (A) means expecting to be obeyed immediately and without question or refusal peremptory summons> letter was peremptory in tone>. `Preempt' (B) means to prevent something from happening by taking action to stop it; to do or say something before somebody else does, so (A) will be a better fit for the third sentence. `Wracked' (A) means to wreck as opposed to `racked' (B) which means to cause to suffer torture, pain, anguish, or ruin; to stretch or strain violently.

So only (A) can fit here. The verb `ravage' (A) means to ruin, devastate, or destroy. The noun `ravage' (often in the plural) means grievous damage or destruction. `Ravish' (B) typically has a human subject and object, and means seize, rape; to give somebody great pleasure. So, (A) will be the correct choice.

20. d AAAAA

`Review' (A) means a critical article or report, as in a periodical, on a book, play, recital, or the like whereas `revue' (B) means a form of theatrical entertainment in which recent events, popular fads, etc., are parodied. So (A) will be a better fit for the first sentence.

`Marquee' (A) means (especially in sport) most important or most popular <He is one of the marquee names in men's tennis> whereas `marquis' (B) means a nobleman of high rank between a count and a duke. So (A) will be a better fit for the second sentence. `Pass muster' is an idiom which means to measure up to a certain standard; be adequate, `mustard' (B) is a pungent powder or paste prepared from the seed of the mustard plant, so (A) will be better fit for the third sentence. `Creak' (A) is a sharp, harsh, grating, or squeaking sound as opposed to `creek' (B) which means a small stream or tributary. So only (A) can fit here. Attrition here means a reduction or decrease in number of employees and is the apt word. `Detrition' is the act of wearing away by friction.

21. b BAABB

`Epoch' (A) means a particular period of time marked by distinctive features, events whereas `epic' (B) means heroic; majestic; a long poem about the actions of great men and women or about a nation's history; a long and difficult job or activity that you think people should admire. So (B) will be a better fit for the first sentence. `Carefree' (A) means without anxiety or worry, whereas `careless' (B) means not paying enough attention to what one does. In context of the sentence (A) will be a better fit for the second sentence. *Few* gives a negative idea; it indicate that something is largely absent. *A few* express a positive idea. It indicates that something exists or is present (but in a small number). *The few* refers to the small number of something that is being talked about or referred to. So (A) will be a better fit for the third sentence. `Effective' (A) means adequate to accomplish a purpose; producing the intended or expected result as opposed to `efficient' (B) which means the skillful use of energy or industry to accomplish desired results with little waste of effort. Only (B) can be used with persons so (A) cannot fit here.

The adjective `restive' (A) means difficult to control or impatient in the face of restraint or authority. The adjective `restless' (B) means unable to rest, relax, or remain still. Unlike `restive', `restless' is not associated with an external restraint. So, (B) will be the correct choice.

22. d ABABA

`Sear' (A) means to cause somebody to feel sudden and great pain; burn or scorch injuriously or painfully whereas `sere' (B) means dry; withered. So (A) will be a better fit for the first sentence. `Shear' (A) means to cut (something), whereas `sheer' (B) is used to emphasize the size, degree or amount of something; unmixed with anything else. So (B) will be a better fit for the second sentence. `Envelop' (A) (verb) means to wrap up in or as in a covering, `envelope' (B) is a noun and means a flat paper container used for sending letters in, so only (A) (verb) can fit in the third sentence. `Foundering' (A) means to become wrecked; fail utterly as opposed to
`floundering' (B) which means to struggle clumsily or helplessly. Only (B) can fit here because the campaign is still underway it has not yet failed. `Regrettable' (A) applies to incidents or situations and means causing or deserving regret. The adjective `regretful' (B) refers to people and means feeling or showing sadness or disappointment because of something that has happened or something that you have done or not done So, (A) will be the correct choice.

23. b ABBAB

`Rupture' (A) means the act of breaking or bursting whereas `rapture' (B) means ecstatic joy or delight; joyful ecstasy. So (A) will be a better fit for the first sentence. `Shoal' (A)

refers to a small hill of sand just below the surface of the sea, whereas `shale' (B) means a type of soft stone that splits easily into thin flat layers. So (B) will be a better fit for the second sentence. `Deft' (A) means dexterous; nimble; skillful; clever, `daft' (B) means senseless, stupid, or foolish, so (B) will be better fit for the third sentence. `Weary' (A) means physically or mentally exhausted by hard work, exertion, strain, etc as opposed to `wary' (B) which means watchful; being on one's guard against danger. So only (A) can fit here. The adjective `reluctant' (A) means to feel or show hesitation, aversion, or unwillingness. The adjective `reticent' (B) means inclined to be silent or restrained in expression or appearance. So, (B) will be the correct option.

24. b BAABA

`Mitigates' (A) means to lessen in force or intensity, as wrath, grief, harshness, or pain; moderate whereas `militates' (B) means to have a substantial effect; weigh heavily. So (B) will be a better fit for the first sentence. `Titivate' (A) means to make smart or spruce; to improve the appearance of somebody/something by making small changes <She titivated her hair in the mirror> whereas `titillate' (B) means to excite or arouse agreeably. So (A) will be a better fit for the second sentence. `Wreathe' (A) is a verb which means to encircle or adorn with or as with a wreath, `wreath' (B) is a noun which means a circular band of flowers, foliage, or any ornamental work, for adorning the head or for any decorative purpose; a garland or chaplet. Since only a verb can fit in here, so (A) will be a better fit for the third sentence. `Illude' (A) means to deceive or trick as opposed to `elude' (B) which means to avoid or escape by speed, cleverness, trickery, etc. So only (B) can fit here. Machination (A) means a secret and complicated plan. So (A) is the correct choice.

25. c ABAAB

`Amicable' (A) means characterized by or showing goodwill; friendly; peaceable whereas `amiable' (B) means having or showing pleasant, good-natured personal qualities; affable. *Amiable* refers for example to someone's personality and suggests a friendly and pleasant manner - in a sense likeable. *Amicable* refers to things like arrangements and agreements that are favorable to both sides in the agreement or arrangement, so (A) will be a better fit for the first sentence. `Better' (A) means of superior quality or excellence, whereas `bettor' (B) means a person who bets. So (B) will be a better fit for the second sentence. `Bloc' (A) means a group of persons, businesses, etc., united for a particular purpose, `block' (B) means a solid mass of wood, stone, etc., usually with one or more flat or approximately flat faces, so (A) will be a better fit for the third sentence. `Continuous' (A) means prolonged without interruption; unceasing as opposed to `continual' (A) which means of regular or frequent recurrence; often repeated; very frequent. `Continuous' is not interchangeable with `continual' in the sense of spatial relationship. So only (A) can fit here. The noun `tact' (A) means diplomacy or skill in dealing with others. `Tack' (B) refers to the way in which you deal with a particular situation; the direction of your words or thoughts; a course of action; a small nail; the direction of a ship. So, (B) will be the correct option.

Practice Test - 2

1. b AABAB

'Capital' has multiple meanings: (1) a city that serves as the seat of government; (2) wealth in the form of money or property; (3) an asset or advantage; (4) a capital letter

(the type of letter used at the beginning of a sentence). 'Capitol' refers to the building in which a legislative assembly meets. (Remember that the o in capitol is like the o in the dome of a capitol building.) In the statement (A) 'capitol' is appropriate as it mentions a building where the meeting was scheduled. 'Bridal' means of, for, or pertaining to a bride or a wedding and 'bridle' refers to anything that restrains or curbs. It also means part of the tack or harness of a horse, consisting usually of a headstall, bit, and reins. According to the given sentence, the subject should have a check on his expenses. Hence, 'bridle' fits well. 'Brake' means to slow or stop by means of or as if by means of a brake and 'break' means to smash, split, or divide into parts violently. In the third statement, 'brake' is appropriate. 'Ascent' refers to movement upward from a lower to a higher state, degree, grade, or status; advancement and 'assent' refers to agreement or concurrence. In the fourth sentence, ascent is appropriate. 'Annual' refers to something occurring yearly and 'annul' means to make something void. Hence, annul is correct.

2. c ABABB

'Boor' refers to a person with rude, clumsy manners and little refinement and 'boar' is an animal. 'Boor' fits well in the sentence. 'Beside' means at the side of and 'besides' means in addition to. 'Its' is a possessive pronoun and *it's* a contraction of "it is". The adjective 'discreet' means prudently self-restrained or tactful and 'discrete' means distinct or separate. 'Eminent' means prominent or outstanding and 'imminent' means impending, about to occur.

3. d AAABB

'Continual' means "frequently repeated"; going on with occasional interruptions. 'Continuous' means "unceasing"; going on without interruption. 'Pier' means a structure built on posts extending from land out over water, used as a landing place for ships, an entertainment area and 'pyre' refers to a pile or heap of wood or other combustible material. 'Mete' means to distribute by or as if by measure; allot: mete out justice and 'meet' means to come upon by chance or arrangement. The verb 'elicit' means to call forth or bring out and the adjective 'illicit' means unlawful or not permitted. The adjective 'liable' means subject to, obligated to, or responsible for something. The noun or verb 'libel' refers to a false publication that damages a person's reputation.

4. a BBAAA

'Practice' is a noun which refers to a habitual or customary performance; operation and 'practise' is its verb form. 'Premise' refers to a proposition supporting or helping to support a conclusion and 'premises' refers to a tract of land including its buildings. As both a noun and a verb, 'peek' refers to a glance or brief look. The noun 'pique' refers to a sense of wounded pride. As a verb, pique means to excite, arouse, or irritate. 'Retch' means to vomit and 'wretch' refers to a deplorably unfortunate or unhappy person. 'Raze' means to tear down; demolish; level to the ground and 'raise' means to move to a higher position.

5. b AABAB

The adjective 'stationary' means remaining in one place. The noun 'stationery' means writing materials. 'Throes' refers to a violent spasm or pang; paroxysm and 'throw' means to propel or cast in any way, especially to project or propel from the hand by a sudden

forward motion or straightening of the arm and wrist: to throw a ball. 'Palatable' means having a pleasant or acceptable taste. 'Palpable' means readily or plainly seen, heard, perceived, capable of being touched or felt. 'Tenet' refers to any opinion, principle, doctrine, dogma, etc., especially one held as true by members of a profession, group, or movement and 'tenant' refers to a person or group that rents and occupies land, a house etc. 'Stature' refers to the height of a human or animal body; level of achievement and 'statute' refers to an enactment made by a legislature and expressed in a formal document.

6. b ABBAB

The adjective 'economical' generally means thrifty--marked by careful use of resources or operating with little waste. The adjective 'economic' (related to the field of economics) generally refers to the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services. The adjective 'gristly' means resembling or containing gristle. The noun 'grizzly' refers to a large brown bear. As an adjective, 'grizzly' (more commonly grizzled) means streaked with gray. The adjective 'disinterested' means impartial and without bias and 'uninterested' means indifferent or unconcerned. 'Childlike' is an adjective which means like or befitting a child, as in innocence, trustfulness, or candor and 'childish' means marked by or indicating a lack of maturity. The noun 'temerity' means reckless boldness; rashness. The adjective 'timidity' means lacking in self-assurance, courage, or bravery; easily alarmed; timorous; shy.

7. c BAAAA

'Demur' is the act of making objection and 'demure' refers to a person who is characterized by shyness and modesty; reserved. The adjective 'credible' means believable, worthy, or trustworthy and 'creditable' means worthy of praise or credit. 'Foreboding' refers to a sense of impending evil or misfortune and 'forbidding' means tending or threatening to impede progress. So 'foreboding' will be redundant in this case, as the following word is 'premonition', which is a synonym of 'foreboding'. The verb 'flounder' means to struggle, to make clumsy efforts to move or regain one's balance. The verb 'founder' means to sink or become disabled. 'Expeditious' refers to acting or done with speed and efficiency and 'expedient' means conducive to advantage or interest; an action that is useful or necessary for a particular purpose, but not always fair or right.

8. d AAABA

'Obsequious' means characterized by or showing servile complaisance or deference; fawning. 'Obsequies' refers to a funeral rite or ceremony. The adjective 'amoral' means lying outside the moral order or acting without regard for any particular code of morality; neither moral nor immoral. The adjective 'immoral' means not moral--that is, violating traditionally held moral principles. 'Exult' means to show or feel a lively or triumphant joy; rejoice exceedingly; be highly elated or jubilant. 'Exalt' means to raise in rank, honor, power, character, quality, etc. 'Adjure' means to charge, bind, or command earnestly and solemnly, often under oath or the threat of a penalty and 'abjure'
means to renounce, repudiate, or retract, especially with formal solemnity. 'Griping' means to complain naggingly or constantly; grumble and 'gripping' means holding the attention or interest intensely; fascinating; enthralling.

9. d BAAAB

The adjective 'climactic' corresponds to the noun climax: 'a climactic scene'. The adjective 'climatic' corresponds to the noun climate: 'climatic research'. The noun 'confidant' refers to a person (usually a friend or associate) to whom secrets or private matters are disclosed. The adjective 'confident' means certain, bold, or self-assured. The singular noun 'criterion' means a standard on which a judgment or decision can be based. The plural form of criterion is 'criteria'. The noun 'conscience' means the sense of what is right and what is wrong and the adjective 'conscious' means being aware or deliberate. A 'desert' is a dry, sandy region or wasteland; the verb 'desert' means 'to abandon'. A 'dessert' is a sweet dish served at the end of a meal.

10. c ABABB

'Quiet' means silence and 'quite' means 'very' or 'actually'. The noun 'allusion' means an indirect reference to a person, event, or thing. 'Illusion' is a noun that means false impression. 'Affect' is usually a verb meaning 'to influence'. 'Effect' is usually a noun meaning result. When used as a verb, 'effect' means to cause. As a noun, 'principal' commonly means 'administrator' or a 'sum of money'. As an adjective, 'principal' means most important. The noun 'principle' means basic truth or rule. 'Empathy' refers to identification with and understanding of another's situation, feelings, and motives and 'apathy' refers to lack of interest or concern; absence or suppression of passion, emotion, or excitement.

11. d ABAAA

'Wale' refers to a streak, stripe, or ridge produced on the skin by the stroke of a rod or whip; welt and 'wail' refers to a long, loud, high-pitched cry, as of grief or pain. 'Vantage' means a position, condition, or place affording some advantage or a commanding view and 'vintage' refers to something representing the high quality of a past time: vintage cars; vintage movies. 'Taut' means emotionally or mentally strained or tense: taut nerve and 'tout' means to describe or advertise boastfully; publicize or promote; praise extravagantly: a highly touted nightclub. 'Sulk' means to remain silent or hold oneself aloof in a sullen, ill-humored, or offended mood and 'skulk' means to lie or keep in hiding, as for some evil reason: The thief skulked in the shadows. 'Stalagmites' refers to a deposit, usually of calcium carbonate, more or less resembling an inverted stalactite, formed on the floor of a cave or the like by the dripping of percolating calcareous water. And 'stalactites' refers to a deposit, usually of calcium carbonate, shaped like an icicle, hanging from the roof of a cave or the like, and formed by the dripping of percolating calcareous water.

12. c BAAAA

'Vogue' refers to something in fashion, as at a particular time and 'vague' refers to something not clearly or explicitly stated or expressed. 'Tortuous' refers to something full of twists, turns, or bends; twisting, winding, or crooked and 'torturous' pertaining to, involving, or causing torture or suffering. 'Risqué' means daringly close to indelicacy or impropriety; off-color and 'risky' refers to something attended with or involving risk; hazardous. 'Rogue' refers to an unprincipled, deceitful, and unreliable person and 'rouge' refers to red or pink cosmetic for coloring the cheeks or lips. 'Especially' is an adverb

which means particularly; exceptionally; markedly: Be especially watchful. 'Specially' means in a special manner; "a specially arranged dinner".

13. b BBABB

'Rampart' refers to anything serving as a bulwark or defense and 'rampant' refers to something widespread and unrestrained and 'rampant' refers to something extending unchecked; unrestrained. 'Premier' refers to someone first in status or importance; principal or chief and 'premiere' refers to a first public performance or showing of a play, opera, film, etc. 'Precipitous' refers to something very steep: precipitous cliffs. It also refers to something rapid and unplanned, hasty. 'Precipitate' means to cause to happen earlier than expected. 'Populous' means full of residents or inhabitants, as a region; heavily populated and 'populace' refers to the common people of a community, nation, etc., as distinguished from the higher classes. 'Impale' means to push a sharp pointed object through something. 'Impel' means to drive or urge forward; press on; incite or constrain to action.

14. a BAABA

'Voracious' is an adjective that refers to someone who is exceedingly eager or avid: voracious readers; a voracious collector. 'Veracious' means habitually speaking the truth; truthful; honest: a veracious witness. 'Sensuous' refers to, favorably or literally, to what is experienced through the senses: sensuous impressions; sensuous poetry and 'sensual' means of, relating to, given to, or providing gratification of the physical and especially the sexual appetites. 'Ironic' means coincidental; unexpected and 'sarcastic' means of, pertaining to, or characterized by sarcasm: a sarcastic reply. `Mucus' is a noun; `mucous' is an adjective. 'Mucus' refers to the viscous, slippery substance that consists chiefly of mucin, water, cells, and inorganic salts and is secreted as a
protective lubricant coating by cells and glands of the 'mucous' membranes. 'Redolent' means suggestive; reminiscent. 'Indolent' means not wanting to work.

15. b AAABB

'Meddle' means to involve oneself in a matter without right or invitation; interfere officiously and 'mettle' refers to courage and fortitude. 'Luxuriant' refers to something richly abundant, profuse, or superabundant and 'luxurious' refers to something characterized by luxury; ministering or conducive to luxury: a luxurious hotel.

'Loath' means unwilling; reluctant; disinclined; averse: to be loath to admit a mistake.

And 'loathe' is a verb which means to feel disgust or intense aversion for; abhor: I loathe people who spread malicious gossip. 'Infer' means to derive by reasoning; conclude or judge from premises or evidence: They inferred his displeasure from his cool tone of voice. 'Imply' means to suggest that something is true or that you feel or think something, without saying so directly. <I disliked the implied criticism in his voice.> 'Corvette' means a warship. 'Cravat' is a necktie.

16. c AAABA

'Comprises' means to include or contain; to consist of and 'composes' means to make or form by combining things, parts, or elements. 'Enormity' refers to outrageous or heinous character; atrociousness: the enormity of war crimes. 'Enormousness' means very great or

abnormal size, bulk, degree, etc.; immensity; hugeness. 'Duel' refers to a prearranged, formal combat between two persons, usually fought to settle a point of honor and 'dual' means of, pertaining to, or noting two. 'Adept' means very skilled; proficient; expert: an adept juggler. 'Adapt' means to make suitable to requirements or conditions; adjust or modify fittingly: They adapted themselves to the change quickly. He adapted the novel for movies. 'Later' means at some time subsequent to a given time. 'Latter' means of, relating to, or being the second of two groups or things or the last of several groups or things referred to <of ham and beef the latter is cheaper today>.

17. d AABBB

'Fortuitous' refers to something happening or produced by chance; accidental: a fortuitous encounter. 'Fortunate' refers to someone having good fortune; receiving good from uncertain or unexpected sources; lucky. 'Exceptional' means forming an exception or rare instance; unusual; extraordinary: The warm weather was exceptional for January. 'Exceptionable' refers to something liable to exception or objection; objectionable. 'Exasperate' means to irritate or provoke to a high degree; annoy extremely: He was exasperated by the senseless delays. 'Exacerbate' means to increase the severity, violence, or bitterness of; aggravate: a speech that exacerbated racial tensions; a heavy rainfall that exacerbated the flood problems. 'Espouse' refers to choosing and following; as of theories, ideas, policies, strategies or plans and 'expound' means to set forth or state in detail: to expound theories. 'Gratis' means without charge or payment; free: The manufacturer provided an extra set of coat buttons gratis. 'Gratuitous' is an adjective which has multiple connotations. It means given, done, bestowed, or obtained without charge or payment; free; voluntary. It also means being without an apparent reason, cause, or justification: a gratuitous insult.

18. d AABBB

'Epitaph' refers to an inscription on a tombstone in memory of the one buried there and an 'epigram' is a brief, witty statement in prose or verse. An 'epigraph' is a brief quotation set at the beginning of a text (a book, a chapter of a book, an essay, a poem) to suggest its theme. It also refers to an inscription, as on a statue or building. 'Epithet' refers to any word or phrase applied to a person or thing to describe an actual or attributed quality: "Richard the Lion-Hearted" is an epithet of Richard I. 'Callous' is an adjective which refers to somebody who is insensitive; indifferent; unsympathetic: They have a callous attitude toward the sufferings of others. 'Callus' refers to a hardened or thickened part of the skin; a callosity. 'Abstruse' means hard to understand; recondite; esoteric: abstruse theories and 'obtuse' is an adjective which refers to somebody not quick or alert in perception, feeling, or intellect. 'Addictive' means causing or tending to cause addiction. It also means characterized by or susceptible to addiction: an addictive personality. 'Addicting' means to cause to become physiologically or psychologically dependent on a habit-forming substance.

19. b BAAAA

'Augur' means to predict, bode as from omens; prognosticate and 'auger' refers to a boring tool, similar to but larger than a gimlet, consisting of a bit rotated by a transverse handle. 'Complement' means something that completes or brings to perfection. A 'compliment' is an expression of praise. The noun 'mantel' refers to a shelf above a

fireplace. The noun 'mantle' refers to a cloak or (usually figuratively) to royal robes of state as a symbol of authority or responsibility. 'Eclectic' means not following one style or set of ideas but choosing from or using a wide variety whereas exotic means from or in another country, especially a tropical one; seeming exciting and unusual because it is connected with foreign countries. 'Oriental' is of, pertaining to, or characteristic of the Orient, or East; Eastern. 'Occidental' is of, pertaining to, or characteristic of the Occident or its natives and inhabitants; western.

20. c AAABA

'Pall' means a cloth covering, usually black, spread over a coffin or tomb; depressing or oppressive atmosphere and 'pawl' is a pivoted bar adapted to engage with the teeth of a ratchet wheel or the like so as to prevent movement or to impart motion. The noun 'palate' refers to the roof of the mouth or the sense of taste. The noun 'palette' refers to an artist's paint board or a range of colors. 'Wreath' refers to a circular band of flowers, foliage, or any ornamental work, for adorning the head or for any decorative purpose; a garland or chaplet. 'Wrath' refers to strong, stern, or fierce anger; deeply resentful indignation. The noun 'hoard' refers to a supply of something that has been stored up and often hidden away. As a verb, 'hoard' means to collect and store away or to keep something to oneself. The noun 'horde' means a crowd, throng, or swarm. To 'flaunt' means to show off. To 'flout' means to defy or to show contempt for.

21. d ABAAA

'Abjure' (A) means to renounce whereas 'adjure' (B) means to request earnestly. So (A) will be a better fit for the first sentence. 'Ambiguous' (A) means open to more than one interpretation; not having one obvious meaning; not clear or decided, whereas 'ambivalent' (B) means the simultaneous existence of two opposed and conflicting attitudes, emotions; having mixed feelings or contradictory ideas about something or someone. So (B) will be a better fit for the second sentence. 'Apprise' (A) means to inform, 'appraise' (B) means to evaluate, so (A) will be better fit for the third sentence. 'Amoral' (A) means without moral standards or principles as opposed to 'immoral' (B) which means violating moral principles. Since there is already a mention of lack of moral sensibility in the sentence only (A) is logically fit here. 'Classic' (A) means an author or a literary work of the first rank, especially one of demonstrably enduring quality. 'Classical' (B) means pertaining to or versed in the ancient classics. So, (A) will be a better option.

22. c BABAB

'Alternate'(A) means every other; (of two things) each following and succeeded by the other in a regular pattern. Whereas 'alternative' (B) means (of two things) mutually exclusive; (of one or more things) available as another possibility or choice. So, B is a better choice. 'Ameliorate' (A) means to make or become better, more bearable, whereas 'alleviate' (B) means to make (suffering, deficiency, or a problem) less severe. So (A) will be a better fit for the second sentence. 'Compel' (A) means to force somebody to do something; to make something necessary whereas if an idea or feeling 'impels' you to do something, you feel as if you are forced to do it. <Last year ill health compelled his retirement>. felt impelled to investigate further>.So (B) will be a better fit. 'Antidote' (A) means a medicine or other remedy for counteracting the effects of poison, disease whereas 'anecdote' (B) means a short account of a particular incident or event. So only (A) can fit here. 'Unchartered' (A) means not authorized by charter; unregulated; not having a

charter or written constitution, 'uncharted' (B) means not shown or located on a map; not mapped or surveyed; unexplored; unknown, as a place or region. It is also used figuratively as 'the present study is a foray into uncharted territory'. Hence, (B) will be the correct choice.

23. d AABBA

'Breach' (A) means a gap made in a wall, fortification; an act of breaking or failing to observe a law, agreement, or code of conduct; a break in relations whereas 'breech' (B) means the hinder or lower part of a gun. So (A) will be a better fit. 'Cavalry' (A) means the part of a military force composed of troops that serve on horseback whereas 'calvary' means the hill outside Jerusalem on which Christ was crucified. So (A) will be a better fit for the second sentence. 'Childlike' (A) means (of an adult) having the good qualities, such as innocence, associated with a child whereas 'childish' (B) means silly and immature so childish (B) will be a better fit for the third sentence as it suits the tone (the tone is negative). 'Climactic' (B) means pertaining to or coming to a climax: as opposed to 'climatic' (A) which means of or pertaining to climate. So, only (B) can fit here. 'Repudiated' (A) means to reject with disapproval or condemnation. 'Refuted' (B) means to prove to be false or erroneous, so (A) will be the correct option.

24. a AAABB

'Compounded' (A) means to increase or add to whereas 'confounded' (B) means bewildered; confused. So (A) will be a better fit for the first sentence. 'Contemptuous' (A) means showing or expressing contempt or disdain, whereas 'contemptible' (B) means worthy of contempt. So (A) will be a better fit for the second sentence. 'Credible' (A) means capable of being believed; believable, 'credulous' (B) means gullible, so (A) will be a better fit for the third sentence. 'Demure' (A) is an adjective that means characterized by shyness and modesty. 'Demur' (B) is a verb that means to raise objections or show reluctance. Since a verb is required in the sentence, only (B) can fit here. 'Inflammatory' (A) means tending to arouse anger, hostility etc; relating to or causing inflammation of a part of the body; arousing or intended to arouse angry or violent feelings whereas 'inflammable' (B) means capable of being set on fire; combustible; flammable. So, (B) will be the correct choice.

25. b BAAAA

'Connotes' (B) means to signify or suggest (certain meanings, ideas, etc.) in addition to the explicit or primary meaning whereas 'denotes' (B) means to be a mark or sign of; indicate. So (B) will be a better fit for the first sentence. 'Fritter something away' means to waste time or money on things that are not important whereas 'fetter somebody' means to put chains around a prisoner's feet. So (A) will be a better fit. 'Dissemble' (A) means to give a false or misleading appearance; to conceal or disguise one's true feelings or beliefs whereas 'disassemble' (B) means to take apart; take (something) to pieces so (A) will be a better fit for the third sentence. 'Apocryphal' (A) means of doubtful authorship or authenticity as opposed to 'apothecary' (B) which means a pharmacist; a person who prepared and sold medicines and drugs. So only (A) can fit here. 'Propound' (A) means to put forward (an idea or theory) for consideration by others, 'propose' (B) means to offer or suggest (a matter, subject, case, etc.) for consideration, acceptance, or action. So, (A) will be the correct choice.

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25. b BAAAA

'Connotes' (B) means to signify or suggest (certain meanings, ideas, etc.) in addition to the explicit or primary meaning whereas 'denotes' (B) means to be a mark or sign of; indicate. So (B) will be a better fit for the first sentence. 'Fritter something away' means to waste time or money on things that are not important whereas 'fetter somebody' means to put chains around a prisoner's feet. So (A) will be a better fit. 'Dissemble' (A) means to give a false or misleading appearance; to conceal or disguise one's true feelings or beliefs whereas 'disassemble' (B) means to take apart; take (something) to pieces so (A) will be a better fit for the third sentence. 'Apocryphal' (A) means of doubtful authorship or authenticity as opposed to 'apothecary' (B) which means a pharmacist; a person who prepared and sold medicines and drugs. So only (A) can fit here. 'Propound' (A) means to put forward (an idea or theory) for consideration by others, 'propose' (B) means to offer or suggest (a matter, subject, case, etc.) for consideration, acceptance, or action. So, (A) will be the correct choice.

Chapter 10 - Word Usage

Practice Test - 1

1. c The correct expression should be `up in the air' which means `not yet decided. Option (a) is correct; `air' here means `to allow fresh air into a room or a building'. In option (b), `taken off air' means not being broadcast. Option (d) is correct; `clear the air' means to improve a difficult or tense situation by talking about worries, doubts, etc.

2. d The correct idiom is `pluck up the courage' which means to make yourself do something even though you are afraid to do it. Option (a) is correct, `pluck at something' means to hold something with the fingers and pull it gently, especially more than once. Option (b) uses a correct idiomatic expression `pluck (something) out of the air'. The idom `pluck something out of the air' means to say a name, number etc. without thinking about it, especially in answer to a question. If you pluck a number out of the air, you say any number and not one that is the result of careful calculation. Option (c) is correct, `pluck' means courage and determination.

3. b The correct expression is `give the game away' which means to tell a secret, especially by accident; to show something that should be kept hidden. Option (a) is correct, `big game' means `large wild animals that people hunt for sport'. Option (c) is correct, `be a game' means to not be considered to be serious. Option (d) is correct. `To be in the game' means to still have a chance at succeeding or winning.

4. a The correct expression is `draw the line' which means to distinguish between two closely related ideas. Option (b) is correct, `draw straws' means to decide by a lottery with straws, pieces of paper, etc. Option (c) is correct, `draw in' means (of hours of daylight) to become shorter. Option (d) is correct, `draw down' means to reduce a supply of something that has been created over a period of time.

5. d The correct expression is `play it by ear' which means to play music by remembering how it sounds rather than by reading it. Option (a) is correct, `having somebody's ear' means to be able to give somebody advice, influence them, etc. because they trust you. Option (b) is correct, `with half an ear' means without giving your full attention to what is being said. Option (c) is correct, `turn a deaf ear' means to ignore or refuse to listen to somebody/something.

6. b The correct expression is `toe the line' which means to say or do what somebody in authority tells you to say or do, even if you do not share the same opinions. Option (a) is correct, `be in line with something' means similar to something or so that one thing is closely connected with another. Option (c) is correct. `To follow the line of least resistance' means ` to follow the easiest way of doing something'. Option (d) is correct. `line' also means `merchandise or services of a similar or related nature'.

7. d The correct expression is `colours' which means a flag, badge, etc. that represents a team, country, ship'. Option (a) is correct; here `losing colour' means looking pale or sick. Option (b) is correct, 'adding colour' means to make something more interesting. Option (c) is correct; `colour' also means `to affect something, especially in a negative way'.

8. a The correct expression is `lead by the nose' which means to control somebody completely. Option (b) is correct, `leading down the garden path' means to make somebody believe something that is not true. Option (c) is correct; `lead story' means `the main or first item of news in a newspaper, magazine or news broadcast'. Option (d) is correct. `lead-in' means an introduction to a subject, story, show.

9. d The correct expression is `make out' which means to understand. Option (a) is correct. `make of' means to interpret as the meaning of. Option (b) is correct. `Makes like' means to pretend to be; act like. Option (c) is correct. `Make do with' means to use something as a poor-quality or temporary alternative to the real thing.

10. a The correct expression should be `pressing her claim.' Option (b) is correct. `Pressing' means `urgent' in this case. Option (c) is correct. `pressing' in this context means to try to make somebody accept something although they may not want it. Option (d) is correct. `pressed', in this case, means to make strong efforts to persuade or force somebody to do something.

11. d The correct expression should be `gather himself' which means to prepare oneself to do something that requires effort. Option (a) is correct. `gather someone to ' means to pull somebody towards oneself and put ones arms around them.' Option (b) is correct. `gather' in this context means to believe or understand that something is true because of information or evidence one has. Option (c) is correct. `Gather up' means `to collect something; to pick something up.'

12. d The correct expression should be `blends traditional with/and modern styles' which means to combine traditional and modern styles. Option (a) is correct. `blend the flour with the milk' means to mix the flour with the milk in this case. Option (b) is correct. For something to `blend in' means for it to be similar to its surroundings or to match its surroundings. Option (c) is correct. `blend into' means to look so similar to the background that it is difficult for you to see it separately.

13. d The phrasal verb `live on' means not to be forgotten. `Live it up' means to have a good time by spending a lot of money. `Live out' means to stay somewhere until you die. `Live down' means to stop being embarrassed about something. The correct expression would be `she could barely keep her excitement in check.' `To keep something in check' means `to keep something under control.'

14. b One does not `mark off' an assignment but instead just `marks' them. `Mark down' means to reduce the price of something. `To Mark off' is to cross out or otherwise mark something to show that it has been dealt with. `Mark out' means to draw lines to enclose an area. `Mark up' means to increase the price of something.

15. c `Pass away' (which means `to die') is incorrect and should be replaced by `pass by' which means to miss an opportunity. The correct sentence is "As she was known for her negative attitude, great opportunities passed by her `Pass the hat around' means to collect money by asking people or organizations. `Passed down' means to transmit information or give property to younger generations. `Pass out' means to faint/lose consciousness.

Practice Test - 2

1. d `pull you down' is correct, it means to criticize or degrade someone. `pull to pieces' is correct. It means to criticize or attack. 'pull no punches' is a correct expression. It means to be honest about something. (d) is incorrect. The correct expression is to pull rank which means to use one's official position or authority to get work done.

2. c 'run someone down' means to make someone tired. `to run through' is correct. It means to squander. (c) is incorrect. The correct expression is `ran for' which means to be presented or performed for a continuous period of time. (d) is a correct expression; when a garment doesn't lose colour we say the colour does not run.

3. c 'to come round' means to recover. `come round' also means to agree. (c) is incorrect. The correct expression is `come by' (to get or find out). (d) is correct. The expression `comes to' means add up to/ amount to.

4 . a (a) is incorrect. The correct expression is `held out' which means to offer resistance. (b) is correct. `Held up' means being stopped and robbed by bandits. The expression 'held over' means to be postponed. `hold back' means to prevent something from leaving a place.

5. c (c) is incorrect. The correct expression is `bear up well under /amid pressure' which means to remain cheerful and show courage in spite of the difficulties. (a) is correct. `To bear down' means to defeat or overcome something. (b) is correct; `bear up' means to withstand the weight or pressure of something. 'To bear fruit' means `to yield results.'

6. d (a) is correct. `off colour' means not in the usual form. (b) is correct. `showing one's (true) colours' means to reveal one's true self without pretensions. (c) is correct. `To come off/through with flying colours' means to succeed brilliantly. (d) is incorrect. The correct expression is `to take up the cudgels' which means to defend or fight on behalf of someone.

7. c (a) is correct. `Dead beat' means exhausted. (b) is correct. A deadbeat is someone who doesn't pay his or her debts. (c) is incorrect. If the winner won by a mile, the race cannot be called a dead heat. When either the contestants complete evenly or finish at the same time, the race is called a dead heat. (d) is correct. A dead letter is a law which no longer exists or is no longer in force.

8. b (a) is correct. A bluestocking is a highly educated and cultured woman. (b) is incorrect. A person who is a damper is called a wet blanket, not a blue blanket. (c) is correct; `true-blue' means unwaveringly loyal or faithful; staunch. (d) is correct. Something sudden and unexpected is called a bolt out of the blue.

9. c (a) is correct. `To sit back' means to wait for something to happen while deliberately not getting involved. (b) is correct. `To sit in on a meeting' means to participate during a meeting. (c) is incorrect. The correct expression is `to sit out'. `To sit out of a match' means not to participate in a match. (d) is correct. "To sit on a committee or a panel' means to be a member of that committee/ panel.

10. c 'To throw in' means to add something extra when you sell something. 'To throw oneself into' means to do something with a lot of enthusiasm. (c) is incorrect. The correct expression is `throw off'. `to throw off' means to free yourself from something. `Throw on' means to put on clothes without much thought.

11. c `Pack (somebody) in' means `to attract a lot of people to see a performance (or actors, speakers etc.) `Pack into' means ` to put a lot of things or people into a limited space.' The phrasal verb `pack away' means to put something away usually for safekeeping. `Packed out' means to fill a venue.

12. a The correct expression is `to root out' which means to find the source of a problem and remove it. It is never used to describe the process of pulling out a tooth. `Root about' means to look in a place to try to find something. `Root for' means to support. `Root up' means to dig a plant out of the ground.

13. c `To draw back' is to retreat or move backwards. One of the meanings of the phrase `draw down' is to reduce the level of something. One of the meanings of `Drawn in' is to arrive at a station (for trains). The correct phrase for sentence c is `drawn into' which means to get involved in something unpleasant. `Drew up' is used to describe a vehicle stopping alongside something.

14. b `Walk away with' means to win easily. `Walk in on' is the correct phrase which means to enter somewhere unexpectedly and see something. `To walk out on' is to leave unceremoniously; desert. `To walk up' means to approach someone.

15. b The correct idiomatic expression for option (b) is `rolled into one' i.e. `combined in one person or thing.' `Rolled down' means `to open something by turning a handle.' `Roll over' means `to allow money that somebody owes to be paid back at a later date.'

Practice Test - 3

1. c `Let down' means to disappoint. `Let off' means not to punish. `Let go' has been incorrectly used in this sentence. The expression means to allow to free, to release one's grasp and even to dismiss. `Let in' means to allow to enter. The answer is (c).

2. a `To fall apart' means to break into pieces or to be emotionally disturbed. The correct usage in this sentence is `to fall away' which means to withdraw support or allegiance. `To fall back' means to retreat. `To fall behind' means to lag in progress. `To fall out' means to quarrel. The answer is (a).

3. c `Cast back' means to refer to something in the past. `Cast about' means to search or to seek. `Cast away' is to reject, discard or shipwreck. The correct phrase in this sentence is `cast off' which is to complete the final stitches for a knitted garment. `Cast out' means to reject or expel. The answer is (c).

4. d `Bring down' means to lessen or reduce. `To bring forth' is to make something known or visible. `Bring about' means to accomplish or cause. `Bring down' has not been correctly used in d. The correct idiom in this sentence should have been `bring out' which means to reveal or to publish. The answer is (d).

5. d `Knocked down' means to demolish. `Knock cold' means to render unconscious. In sentence c, `knock over' means to hit something so that it falls or turn on its side. In sentence d, the correct phrase should be `knockout' means to defeat in a boxing match by striking a blow that prevents the opponent from rising for a specific period of time. The answer is (d).

6. d (a) is correct. `Waiting about/around' means to stay in a place idly for someone. (b) is correct. To wait on someone means to serve someone or attend to someone. (c) is correct. `Waiting on /at tables' means to serve people. (d) is incorrect. The correct expression is `to wait up for someone' i.e. to postpone going to bed in anticipation of something or someone.

7. b (a) `turnabout'- or `about turn'- means a complete change in approach or attitude. (b) is incorrect. The correct expression is `turn on'- which means to oppose someone. `turn against' (i.e. to change from supporting to opposing someone)can also be used in this case. (c) `turning one's back on something' means rejecting something or not confronting it. (d) `turn-over' means the movement of people in and out of an industry.

8. d `Step down/aside' is the correct expression. It means `to leave an important job or position and let somebody else take your place.' `Step in' means `to help somebody in a disagreement or difficult situation.' `Step out' means `to go out.' To `step back' from something means `to think about a situation calmly, as if you are not involved in it yourself.' `Step (something) up' means `to increase the amount, speed, etc. of something.'

9. a (a) is incorrect. The correct expression is `rub the wrong way' which means to upset or offend someone. `Rub (someone) out' means `to kill him/her.' (b) is correct. `To rub along with someone' means to get along well with him/her. (c) is correct. `To rub-down a surface' means to clean it and prepare it for painting. (d) is correct- `to rub it in' means to constantly remind someone of a defeat, or a mistake etc.

10. d (a) is correct. `Reading into something' means to give your own meaning to something rather than what was intended. (b) is correct. `Read over' means to read something carefully. (c) is correct. `To read up on something' means to improve one's knowledge of a subject by reading. (d) is incorrect. The correct expression is `read out' which means to read aloud to an audience.

11. d (a) is correct. `Put the wind up' means to frighten or scare someone. (b) is correct. `To put someone's back up' means to make someone angry. (c) is correct. `To put to the test' means to test the strength / real value of something. (d) is incorrect. The correct expression is `to put at their ease/ or to put him at his ease' which means `to cause someone to relax or feel welcome.'

12. b (a) is correct. 'To wash down' means to drink in order to swallow something solid. (b) is incorrect. `To wash away' means when floods or waves completely remove a structure or a building. The correct usage in option (b) would have been `to drown their sorrows...' `drown one's sorrows' means `to try to forget one's problems by drinking a lot of alcohol.' (c) is correct. `To wash up' means to clean everything used to prepare food and eat it.

(d) is correct. A `washout' is when it rains so heavily that an event has to be cancelled.

13. a (a) is incorrect. The correct expression is `to fly in the face/teeth of someone or something'. (b) is correct. `To fly off the handle' means to lose one's temper. (c) is correct. `To fly in the face of something' means to go against what is accepted. (d) is correct. `To fly into a rage or a temper' means to get angry suddenly.

14. d Both (a) and (b) are correct. `Agree on/upon' means to reach an agreement on something mutually acceptable. (c) is correct. `agree with' means `to suit one's digestion

or health.' (d) is incorrect. The correct expression is `to agree to terms and conditions'-it means to give one's approval to something.

15. c `Cut off' for teaching is incorrect. `To be cut out for something' means `to have the qualities and abilities needed for something.' So the correct sentence is `He is not cut out for teaching.' If a motor or an engine `cuts in', it starts working. `cut in' (on somebody/something) means to interrupt somebody when they are speaking. `Cut himself off' means `to stop communicating with people.' `Cut (something) out of (something)' means `to stop doing, using or eating something.'

Practice Test - 4

1. b (a) is correct. `Cuts across' means `to affect or be true for different groups that usually remain separate.' (b) is incorrect. The correct expression is `to cut a wide swath (swathe)' which means to attract a lot of attention. (c) is correct. `A cut above the rest' means to be satisfactory or right for the situation; to be good enough to succeed or to do what is needed. (d) is correct. `To cut the mustard' means to come up to the mark or meet expectations.

2. d (a) is correct. `Deals in' means to do business. (b) is correct .'Deal out (here)' means to administer. (c) is correct. It means to exclude someone. (d) is incorrect. The correct expression is `dealt with in his new book'- it means the subject hasn't been covered well.

3. b (a) is correct. `To fall about one's ears' means to collapse. (b) is incorrect. The correct expression is `fallen on hard times' meaning going through a bad phase or suffering hardship. (c) is correct. `To fall back on something' means to use something as a support in times of crisis. (d) is correct. Here `fall back' means to withdraw.

4. d (a) is correct. `Hanging around' means waiting idly.

(b) is correct. `Hang back (from)' means to keep away from someone. (c) is correct. `Hang on' means to hold on to something/ not to sell something. (d) is incorrect. The correct expression is `hanging over'- means something which is imminent.

5. a (a) is incorrect as the idiom used here is `held her nose up'. The correct expression is `to hold one's nose' which means to repress feelings of distaste.

(b) is correct; `nose around' means `to try to find out information.' (c) is correct; `to nose out' means to defeat, especially by a narrow margin. (d) is correct; `to follow one's nose' means to go forward in a straight course.

6. c (a) is correct. It means to remain solvent. (b) is correct. `To keep after' means to pursue or give chase to someone. (c) is incorrect. The expression is `keep up with the times'. (d) is correct. It means to be alone and maintain secrecy about oneself.

7. d (a) is correct. It means to fight against something.

(b) is correct. It means a rebuff or a humiliating setback. (c) is correct. It means to rebel against authority. (d) is incorrect. The correct expression is to `kick off' or start something.

8. a (a) is incorrect. The correct expression is `Knock about' -which means to travel around a place casually. (b) is correct. If something suffers a `knockback', it fails to make progress. (c) is correct. `Knock down' means to hit with a vehicle. (d) is correct. When you knock something off a list or a document, you remove it.

9. b (a) is correct. It means to attack verbally or physically, commonly the former. (b) is incorrect. The correct expression is `lash out on'. It means to spend lavishly. (c) is correct. it means to attack physically. (d) is correct. It means to fall with force (accompanied by strong winds).

10. d (a) is correct. It means to reduce. (b) is correct. It means to note down. (c) is correct. It means to give low marks. (d) is incorrect. The correct expression is `mark off' which means to separate/ distinguish with a line etc.

11. c (a) is correct. It means to fasten with nails. (b) is correct. It means to define precisely. (c) is incorrect. The correct expression is `nail down'- means to make final. (d) is correct. It means to fasten to the surface of something.

12. c (a) is correct. `Open fire' means to begin firing. (b) is correct. `Open up' means to start a business. (c) is incorrect. The correct expression is `opened up/ out' which means to be more relaxed. (d) is correct. `Open up'- here it means creating opportunities.

13. c (a) is correct. You say that letters `pass between' two people when those people write to each other.

(b) is correct. `pass for' means to be regarded as something though it may not be that (artificial jewelry passes for gold among the ignorant —). (c) is incorrect. The correct expression is `pass down'- which means handed down from one generation to the next. (d) is correct. If something `passes' you `by', it happens and finishes before you notice it or can take advantage of it.

14. b (a) is correct. `rake around' means to search for something. (b) is incorrect. The correct expression is `rake in'-To receive in large amount. (c) is correct. `rake(haul) over the coals' means to scold severely.

(d) is correct. `rake up' means to raise or revive.

15. a (a) is incorrect. The correct expression is `scrape up an acquaintance'- which means to get to know with difficulty. (b) is correct. `scrape along' means to live on very little income. (c) is correct. `scrape in' means to manage to get in by just making the cut off. (d) is correct. `scrape through' means to just manage to pass a test.

Practice Test - 5

1. c (a) is correct. `talked about' means renowned. (b) is correct. `talk around' means to avoid talking directly about something. (c) is incorrect. `Talk at' means to speak to somebody without listening to what he/she says. The correct expression is `talked to' or `talked with'. (d) is correct. `talk someone into doing something' means to persuade someone to do something.

2. d (a) is correct. When you vote against something, you are not in favour of that thing. (b) is correct. It means to decide against or defeat in a vote. (c) is correct. `Voted in' and `voted into office' are both correct expressions for voting in favour of a candidate and electing him. (d) is incorrect. The correct expression is `voting on a motion'.

3. d (a) is correct. `write in'- here it means to insert or include changes. (b) is correct. `write off- a loan/ debt' means to reduce to zero the book value of; to cancel from accounts as a loss. (c) is correct. `write off' means `to consider as a loss or failure.' (d) is incorrect. The correct expression is `to write out a cheque'.

4. d (a) is correct. `answer back' means to talk back to someone. (b) is correct. `answer for'- here it means to take responsibility for something. (c) is correct. `answer for'- here it means to vouch for someone.

(d) is incorrect. The correct expression is `to have a lot to answer for'- it means to be the main cause of a problem.

5. b (a) is correct. `break away' means to escape. (b) is incorrect. The correct expression is `broke out in a cold sweat'. It means to become frightened and begin to sweat. (c) is correct. `break down' means to lose control, to give way to one's emotions. (d) is correct. `break in' means to train someone to do a new job.

6. c (a) is correct. `counted against' means to consider a factor against something. (b) is correct. `count among' means to consider someone as a particular type of person or part of a particular group. (c) is incorrect. The correct expression is `count for'. It means to be worth something. (d) is correct. `count someone in' means to include someone as part of something.

7. a (a) is incorrect. The correct expression is `to drive into a corner'. It means to force someone into a position or state where there are few choices and no escape. (b) is correct. When you `drive at' something, you are trying to say something. (c) is correct. `drive a wedge' means to cause a division.

(d) is correct. `drive round the bend' means to drive someone mad, exasperate someone.

8. d (a) is correct. `get around' means to circulate/ spread. (b) is correct. `get above oneself' means to have too high an opinion of oneself; behave arrogantly. (c) is correct. `get around' means to successfully handle or overcome a problem. (d) is incorrect. The correct expression is `to get it down to a fine art' which means to learn to do something well and efficiently.

9. a (a) is incorrect. The correct expression is hit like a ton of bricks. it means to shock or stun someone. (b) hit back (at)- to retaliate/ counter attack. (c) hit it off- to be friendly or become friends in no time. (d) hit out at- attack verbally in public.

10. c (a) is correct. `join forces' - To combine one's efforts with someone else's efforts. (b) is correct. `join in' means to take part. (c) is incorrect. The correct expression is `Join the ranks of'. It means to be part of a larger group. (d) is correct. `join up' means to join the armed forces.

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11. d (a) is correct. `wear away' means to erode. (b) is correct. `wear down' means to make something weaker. (c) is correct. `wear down' means to exhaust someone. (d) is incorrect. The correct expression is `wear off'. It means to diminish in effect.

12. b (a) is correct. `use up' means to consume completely.

(b) is incorrect. The correct expression is `use for'-it means the need to use something. (c) is correct. `Get used to something' means to get accustomed to something. (d) is correct. The expression means to lose the use or ability of.

13. d (a) is correct. `Come across' means to find. (b) is correct. `Come across (as)' means to give an impression. (c) is correct. `Get across' means to communicate. (d) is incorrect. The correct expression is `tide over the crisis' which means to overcome some difficult situation.

14. d (a) is correct. `Stay put' means to remain in a place or position. (b) is correct. `Stay the course' means to continue to do something difficult. (c) is correct. `Stay on' means to remain at a place of study or work. (d) is incorrect. The correct expression is `stayed his anger'. It means to appease temporarily.

15. d (a) is correct. `tie someone to something'- To connect someone to something. (b) is correct. `tie down' means to restrict somebody's freedom. (c) is correct. `tied up' means to be occupied in something. (d) is incorrect. The correct expression is `tying in' which means to connect or coordinate.