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VA - 06

CEX-V-0242/18

Number of Questions : 30

Test Drive

Time Limit

5 Minutes

Directions for questions 1 to 10: Solve the crossword puzzle given below.

1		G	A			2		3
3C		A				4		Y
								R
5		7	I					
6	P			H				
						E		

Clues:

Across:

1. Legendary stories
2. Solo
3. A container
4. A pleading
5. Extremely angry
6. An era

Down:

7. To climb
8. A variant of petrol
9. A large nest of an eagle or other bird prey
10. What Snape took to protect Draco Malfoy

Further Application Questions:

As the name reveals, these questions demand application of logic to extend the passage from where it ended. This would again depend on your understanding of the author's line of thought and the logic used by him to develop the passage.

Common questions stems for these types of questions are:

- The next paragraph of the passage is likely to deal with...
- Which of these is similar to the example used by the author?
- With which of the following statements is the author most likely to agree/disagree...
- The passage is most likely an extract from...
- The author of the passage is most likely a/an ...

Approach

- Read the last paragraph carefully as this would give you an idea of what may follow next.
- Think about the general progression of the passage in terms of the ideas contained in each paragraph and apply the same logic to extend the ideas of the last paragraph.
- For source of the passage or profession of the author questions, eliminate options on the basis of the target reader group. It will be hinted by the use of jargons or theory.

Logical Structure Questions:

These questions test your understanding of the overall logic of the author, i.e. how s/he uses it to develop the passage.

A deeper level of reading is required in order to answer these questions as it helps you understand the author's use of logic and purpose.

Common question stems for these types of questions are:

- The author states his main point primarily by:
- The author develops the passage primarily by:

Approach

- Read the options, revisit the part of the passage where the information asked in the question is stated (in case the question asks you something specific) and then choose the correct option.
- If you can phrase the answer before you look at the options, it will help you save time.

Tone Questions:

An author uses a particular tone in a passage, which relates to the overall attitude displayed by the author in writing on a topic. Is the author critical, argumentative, witty, nostalgic etc? In short, an author can use a positive, negative, or neutral tone in a passage. So, tone is defined as the attitude of the author towards the main idea. The answer to this question is not explicitly stated in the passage and answering this question requires the ability to comprehend the way the author has treated the subject.

Finding the tone of the passage becomes necessary in RC because this determines the validity of any inference. Even in a fact based question, understanding the intention of the author becomes vital to ensure accuracy.

Common question stems for these types of questions are:

- The tone of the author in the passage is...
- The tone of the passage is...
- The style of the author can best be described as...
- The attitude of the author towards the main idea is...

Approach:

- Remember that in this case you should not consider a paragraph in isolation to evaluate the tone. The tone encompasses the overall attitude of the author. Therefore, you should take the whole passage into account.
- First, think of a description of the tone of the passage. Then look at the options and choose the one that is the closest.
- Tone questions, invariably, turn into vocabulary question. Work on your vocabulary.
- Read the first and the last paragraph very carefully to answer such questions.

Directions for questions 11 to 20: Read the following passages carefully and answer the question that follows.

11. Mr. Bingley was good-looking and gentlemanlike; he had a pleasant countenance, and easy, unaffected manners. His sisters were fine women, with an air of decided fashion. His brother-in-law, Mr. Hurst, merely looked the gentleman; but his friend Mr. Darcy soon drew the attention of the room by his fine, tall person, handsome features, noble mien, and the report which was in general circulation within five minutes after his entrance, of his having ten thousand a year. The gentlemen pronounced him to be a fine figure of a man, the ladies declared he was much handsomer than Mr. Bingley, and he was looked at with great admiration for

about half the evening, till his manners gave a disgust which turned the tide of his popularity; for he was discovered to be proud; to be above his company, and above being pleased; and not all his large estate in Derbyshire could then save him from having a most forbidding, disagreeable countenance, and being unworthy to be compared with his friend.

The attitude of the assembly towards Mr. Darcy turned into one of:

- (1) acute Nostalgia
- (2) sincere Pleading
- (3) helpless alarm
- (4) destructive Criticism

12. Following a graphic portrayal of the destruction of order in the world, Yeats describes a world divided between “the worst” who passionately destroy and “the best” who apathetically allow that destruction. Current events and public discourse seem to operate between these same two poles of apathy and intensity Yeats refers to. Violence and hatred cyclically threaten to tear societies apart entirely. Nations like the United Kingdom have recently rejected integration in favor of isolation. In the United States, this election cycle is punctuated by hate-filled intensity and apathetic reactions as unifying frameworks like religion and culture are breaking down and the “centre cannot hold”.

Identify the tone of the passage.

- (1) Optimistic
- (2) Cautioning
- (3) Sarcastic
- (4) Prescribing

13. As Edna awakens to see the wrong with women's place in society, she witnesses the women around her being comfortable in their controlled environment. This new perception allows Edna to continue pushing against society's rules, which inevitably leads Edna to further awaken. Furthermore, Chopin personifies Edna as a bird to convey Edna's wish to be free from her marriage. While listening to Mademoiselle Reisz playing the piano prior to learning how to swim, Edna has a daydream of a man standing on a beach. The image of the bird flying away from the man awakens desire within Edna. Representing boundless freedom, the ocean awakens Edna's ambition to branch away from the restriction of her marriage.

What can be inferred about the author's tone from the given passage?

- (1) Neutral commentary
- (2) Overt pessimism
- (3) Positive appreciation
- (4) Mild acceptance

14. Can "the soul of a nation" be defined by artists of its most oppressed group? That's the ambitious goal of Soul of a Nation: Art in the Age of Black Power, about to open at London's Tate Modern. Through 150 artworks and more than 60 artists, the show aims to represent the United States' ethical, conscious and moral spirit – its soul – through exhibits made by (and about) people who historically had less life, less liberty, and less wealth than their fellow white citizens.

Framing the show from 1963 to 1983, the curators were led by how artists of the time were responding to Martin Luther King's mission and the rising, more militant black

power movement. So the exhibition encompasses a wide variety of works of black subjects and/or created by black artists, from the depictions of protest and music in Roy DeCarava's stunning black-and-white photographs to an afro-wearing, bespectacled brother crossing his arms against a grey background, as well as a red, white and blue frame in Barkley L Hendrick's 1969 work Icon for My Man Superman.

Which of the following reflects the tone of the author?

- (1) Grandiose
- (2) Dogmatic
- (3) Aggressive
- (4) Factual

15. For hundreds of years, the study of ancient Greece and Rome was largely the domain of elite white men and their bored sons. One might assume optimistically that things have changed. After all, women from a wide variety of backgrounds are now able to enrol at prestigious universities and colleges and learn Latin and Greek from scratch; knowledge of the ancient languages is no longer open only to men. But the legacy of male domination is still with us – inside the discipline of classics itself and in how non-specialist general readers gain access to the history and literature of the ancient world.

Identify the tone of the passage from the options below.

- (1) Emotional
- (2) Explanatory
- (3) Evaluative
- (4) Alarming

16. Naipaul presents the vision of Trinidad as a place without rules and disintegrated Hindu community within it. Mr. Biswas tried to escape the obscurity and anonymity of the society. He seems to rise above the disconnected but potent forces always pulling him down.

The readers realize that Mohun Biswas is born an alien, he lives and struggles like one. Even in his death, he has not fully succeeded in establishing his identity. He carries in his heart the memories of the land of his ancestors. His son Anand's refusal to return to the land of dilemma clearly shows that the problems of identity have not been resolved by Mr. Biswas. He finds some solace in Savi but the search of Anand remains alive with a greater sense of alienation and anxiety.

Which of the following best reflects the tone of the given passage?

- (1) Despair
- (2) Disdain
- (3) Lugubrious
- (4) Sarcastic

17. Watt was one of the most industrious of men; and the story of his life proves, what all experience confirms, that it is not the man of the greatest natural vigour and capacity who achieves the highest results, but he who employs his powers with the greatest industry and the most carefully disciplined skill — the skill that comes by labour, application, and experience. Many men in his time knew far more than Watt, but none laboured as assiduously as he did to turn all that he did know to useful practical purposes. He was, above all things, most persevering in the pursuit of facts. He cultivated carefully that habit of active attention on which all the higher working qualities of the mind mainly depend.

The tone of the author in the passage is:

- (1) cavilling
- (2) cynical
- (3) panegyric
- (4) denigrating

18. The authenticity of *Landscape with the Fall of Icarus*, as this unsigned and undated work is now known, has often been a matter of contention. Many believed it to be a copy after a lost work by Bruegel, but others took the view that, despite its extensive over painting, it was in fact a Bruegel original. Further fuel was added to the controversy by the discovery in 1935 of a second, slightly smaller version, almost identical but for two crucial differences — the inclusion of Icarus's father Daedalus, and the positioning of the sun. This version, which surfaced in a private collection, is now in the Musée David et Alice van Buuren, Brussels.

What can be inferred about the author's tone towards the painting *Landscape with the Fall of Icarus*?

- (1) Mendacious
- (2) Skeptical
- (3) Didactic
- (4) Lampooning

19. We write these words now, many miles distant from the spot at which, year after year, we met on that day, a merry and joyous circle. Many of the hearts that throbbed so gaily then, have ceased to beat; many of the looks that shone so brightly then, have ceased to glow; the hands we grasped, have grown cold; the eyes we sought, have hid their lustre in the grave; and yet the old house, the room, the merry voices and smiling faces, the jest, the laugh, the most minute and trivial circumstance connected with those happy meetings, crowd upon our mind at each recurrence of the season, as if the last

assemblage had been but yesterday. Happy, happy Christmas, that can win us back to the delusions of our childish days, that can recall to the old man the pleasures of his youth, and transport the sailor and the traveller thousands of miles away, back to his own fire-side and his quiet home!

This passage has an aura of:

- (1) Wistfulness
- (2) Callousness
- (3) Appreciation
- (4) Didactic

20. November came, with raging south-west winds. Building had to stop because it was now too wet to mix the cement. Finally there came a night when the gale was so violent that the farm buildings rocked on their foundations and several tiles were blown off the roof of the barn. The hens woke up squawking with terror because they had all dreamed simultaneously of hearing a gun go off in the distance. In the morning the animals came out of their stalls to find that the flagstaff had been blown down and an elm tree at the foot of the orchard had been plucked up like a radish. They had just noticed this when a cry of despair broke from every animal's throat. A terrible sight had met their eyes. The windmill was in ruins.

The tone of the passage is:

- (1) Sanguine
- (2) Objective
- (3) Caustic
- (4) Narrative

Directions for questions 21 to 35: Read the following passages and answer the questions that follow.

Passage – 1

The *bhadralok* is a privileged social class that emerged in Bengal under the impact of British rule. The landlord goes back to earlier times. When they come together, which is often, the effect is deadly, especially for a woman house-hunting alone.

I am just back to Calcutta after a few years in Mumbai. I wanted to rent a house. Here's what I got.

As I pushed back the iron gate that led to the apartment block in EE Block in Salt Lake, I was greeted the usual Calcutta way. The watchman stretched his hands and yawned hard, to show how deep the dark cavity of his mouth was, and pointed upwards to the first floor.

It was a hot April afternoon. I was meeting my first prospective landlord in Calcutta. I pushed the doorbell. A middle-aged woman wearing a nightie with a *dupatta* draped around her upper body opened the door. "*Ashun didimoni*," she said. (It roughly translates as "Come in, madam", but not quite. *Didimoni* is what the tea-stall owner calls you. It made me uncomfortable. They owned a two-roomed flat in Salt Lake. The biggest thing I own is a fridge. Was it deference to my jeans')

But I soon got to know who the boss was. The landlord motioned me with a grand sweep of his hand to sit down on the mat opposite him.

He seemed to be in his early forties. He was plump, extremely fair and his bare upper body was glistening with sweat. He had the look of someone who has just been disturbed in his sleep.

We had a brief discussion about the rent and maintenance and I agreed readily to all his terms.

Then, because some of my journalist colleagues have suffered at the hands of landlords because of their odd hours, I decided to come clean.

"One thing. I will come back home at very late hours," I said.

"How late' 10 ' clock'" the landlord demanded.

"No, it could be much later," I answered.

"How late"" he asked again.

"Well, on certain days, it could be 2.30 in the morning," I said, trying to figure that would not be very late, yet not too early either.

"2.30!" the man exclaimed. The woman looked grim.

"Why"" the man asked.

"Because I work for a newspaper," I said. I was losing my fear.

"Since most of my friends are journalists, they will also drop in from time to time, very late," I added.

"How late"" the landlord asked again.

"2.30. Or even later," I said.

"Do you have boyfriends"" it was the woman.

I had told her I was married. I told her what I had told her.

"Yes, but you are talking about strange things. All sorts of friends. I want to know if there will be men here. Suppose," her voice was gentler, "one particular man comes back home with you. Suppose for five days. Everyday after 10 in the night. How will I face my neighbours"

I said that my friends' neighbours were not known to complain very much.

"Do you also visit your friends at 2.30?" the man asked.

I suddenly felt that they would have liked me better if I had a *dupatta* thrown on my shoulders, too.

"Yes, I do," I said.

The man was holding his breath. Something important would come out of him now.

"Can I ask you something' I want to know this because I am really very curious," he said.

He lowered his voice but thrust his head forward. "I really want to know because I have never met anyone like you," he repeated. "But when your friends drop in at 2.30, what do you all DO?"

I ran away and oiled my hair. I eventually found a house, but not before encountering a few more would be landlords, who asked probing questions.

Last week, I eventually signed the agreement with the gentleman who finally agreed to take me in as a tenant.

But our lawyer does not approve of me wholeheartedly. I found that my surname was replaced by my husband's on the agreement. (My husband is away mostly; which explains my lone battles.)

But when I told my lawyer that I didn't like it one bit, he looked at me strangely and said that it was legally binding on me as a "married Hindu woman" to use my husband's surname.

In Mumbai, I had come across severe problems. A broker had asked me what my "caste" was. "Hindu, or Muslim"" he had prodded, when I had looked bewildered.

"Good, madam, if you were Muslim we wouldn't have been able to help you." I was looking for a house in Kandivli, where Muslims are not allowed. It was also

extremely embarrassing for me when I failed to find a Muslim friend a house in my locality.

But then the brokers didn't claim to be *bhadraloks*. And when I told my first broker that there would be friends, sometimes parties, she had said: "Invite me."

My last landlord in Mumbai, though, has accused me of running away with a fluorescent light and its holder. But I am sure that is not because of my gender.

I wish myself the best in Calcutta.

21. The attitude of the author towards the landlords in the passage is:
- (1) ambiguous
 - (2) sarcastic
 - (3) nonchalant
 - (4) fastidious
22. Refer to the line "The landlord motioned me with a grand sweep of his hand to sit down on the mat opposite him." Which word best describes the attitude of the landlord towards the author in this instance?
- (1) Reverential
 - (2) Contemplative
 - (3) Sardonic
 - (4) Denigrating
23. This passage is most likely an extract from:
- (1) a newspaper editorial
 - (2) a newspaper report
 - (3) a newspaper self-help column
 - (4) a newspaper feature
24. If there were a paragraph after the last line of the passage, which of the following would be its main focus?
- (1) The author's misadventures in her field of choice
 - (2) The author's journey as a tenant in Calcutta

- (3) The author's experience as a woman in Calcutta
- (4) The author's relationship with her landlord in Calcutta

25. The author presents her argument in the passage by:
- (1) introducing an implicit premise and defending it subsequently.
 - (2) introducing a subtle innuendo and denouncing it subsequently.
 - (3) going for the jugular and arguing in favour of her stance.
 - (4) introducing her subject matter and documenting its evolution.

Passage – 2

Although websites such as Facebook and MySpace experienced exponential growth during the middle of the first decade of the 21st century, some users remain oblivious to the fact that the information they post online can come back to haunt them. First, employers can monitor employees who maintain a blog, photo diary, or website. Employers can look for controversial employee opinions, sensitive information disclosures, or wildly inappropriate conduct. For example, a North Carolina newspaper fired one of its features writers after she created a blog on which she anonymously wrote about the idiosyncrasies of her job and coworkers.

The second unintended use of information from social networking websites is employers who check on prospective employees. A June 11, 2006 *New York Times* article reported that many companies recruiting on college campuses use search engines and social networking websites such as MySpace, Xanga, and Facebook to conduct background checks. Although the use of MySpace or Google to scrutinize a student's background is somewhat unsettling to many undergraduates, the *Times* noted that the utilization of Facebook is especially shocking to students who believe that Facebook is limited to current students and recent alumni.

Corporate recruiters and prospective employers are not the only people interested in college students' lives. The third unintended use of social networking websites is college administrators who monitor the Internet—especially Facebook—for student misconduct. For example, a college in Boston's Back Bay expelled its student Government Association President for joining a Facebook group highly critical of a campus police sergeant. In addition, fifteen students at a state university in North Carolina faced charges in court for underage drinking because of photos that appeared on Facebook.

Although more users of websites such as Facebook are becoming aware of the potential pitfalls of online identities, many regular users still fail to take three basic security precautions. First, only make your information available to a specific list of individuals whom you approve. Second, regularly search for potentially harmful information about yourself that may have been posted by mistake or by a disgruntled former associate. Third, never post blatantly offensive material under your name or on your page as, despite the best precautions, this material will likely make its way to the wider world. By taking these simple steps, members of the digital world can realize the many benefits of e-community without experiencing some of the damaging unintended consequences.

26. In the last paragraph, the author does all of the following except:
- (1) cautioning
 - (2) advising
 - (3) complaining
 - (4) suggesting
27. How has the author arranged his ideas in this passage?
- (1) He starts by discussing a problem and then goes on to explain its repercussions.
 - (2) He discusses a potential threat and goes on to prescribe some preventive measures.
 - (3) He summarizes the pitfalls of a particular issue.
 - (4) He starts with a premise and then goes on to offer counter evidence to undercut the hidden assumptions.

28. Which of the following would be most likely considered as misconduct by the Boston College mentioned in the passage?
- (1) One of its students participating in a LGBT pride rally
 - (2) One of its students participating in a strike to pressurize the government to release more funds for the College Welfare Society
 - (3) One of its students participating in a rally demanding action against the Student Union President in a sexual harassment case
 - (4) One of its students participating in a strike demanding action against a college professor accuses of taking bribe in exchange of grades

Passage – 3

Prior to the fall of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR), Mikhail Gorbachev, seeing a country falling behind its Western rival and a people increasingly clamouring for change, addressed the growing internal unrest in the summer of 1987 by introducing a series of reforms known as perestroika (literally, restructuring). In *Perestroika: New Thinking for Our Country and the World*, Mikhail Gorbachev discussed his analysis of the problems facing the USSR and his plans to solve them.

Perhaps the most pressing and visible problem facing the USSR in the last 1980s came in the form of the country's consistently mediocre economic performance, despite its vast natural resource wealth and large labour force. Gorbachev flatly admitted that economic failures were increasing and current policies were failing to offer a sustainable remedy. Failing to take advantage of the numerous scientific and technological advancements available, the USSR relied on inefficient and outdated business models. As a result, Gorbachev said, "in the last fifteen years the national income growth rates had declined by more than a half and by the beginning of the eighties had fallen to a level close to economic stagnation." With business executives focused on using more resources (in order to employ more people) instead of becoming more efficient, the country produced

poor quality products unable to compete in a global economy. Further, this inefficiency led to shortages: “the Soviet Union, the world’s biggest producer of steel, raw materials, fuel and energy, has shortfalls in them due to wasteful or inefficient use.”

The decrepit economy engendered social unrest and woe that only compounded economic difficulties and societal misery. Gorbachev wrote of “a gradual erosion of the ideological and moral values of our people” and noted the considerable growth in “alcoholism, drug addiction and crime.” Accentuating these difficulties, the Communist government often ignored the needs of the average citizen, causing distrust and resentment. Perhaps the most destructive element of the social unravelling and inadequate government response was the mediocre education system. Gorbachev said, “Creative thinking was driven out from the social sciences, and superfluous and voluntarist assessments and judgments were declared indisputable truths.”

Although Gorbachev also opined about the growing public disbelief in the content of the immense government propaganda campaigns, the extent to which economic underdevelopment and social deviance gripped Soviet culture made the collapse of the USSR virtually inevitable in the minds of many

observers. When combined with *glasnost* (literally, openness), Gorbachev’s plan that allowed greater transparency, *perestroika* actually served to hasten the collapse of the USSR. Contrary to its purpose, *perestroika* ensured that the fall of the USSR would occur sooner rather than later. Only a few years after Gorbachev implemented changes that would have been unthinkable and antithetical to the philosophy of previous leaders like Lenin, Stalin, and Khrushchev, the USSR fell.

29. Which of the following best describes the main aim of the last paragraph?
- (1) Defend Gorbachev and his cronies by citing their beneficial deeds
 - (2) Explain an unintended consequence of a desirable course of action
 - (3) Criticize Gorbachev and his contribution to the USSR
 - (4) Expose the faulty policies of leaders like Lenin and Stalin
30. The author of the passage is most likely a/an/the:
- (1) current ambassador of Russia to the USA.
 - (2) history teacher.
 - (3) social activist.
 - (4) newspaper editor.

Visit “Test Gym” for taking Topic Tests / Section Tests on a regular basis.

VA - 06 : RC - 3

Answers and Explanations

CEX-V-0242/18

1	–	2	–	3	–	4	–	5	–	6	–	7	–	8	–	9	–	10	–
11	4	12	2	13	1	14	4	15	2	16	3	17	3	18	2	19	1	20	4
21	2	22	2	23	4	24	2	25	4	26	3	27	2	28	4	29	2	30	2

For quesitons 1 to 10:

S	A	G	A	S	NAME	O	N	E
C	R	A	T	E	NAME	C	R	Y
A	NAME	NAME	NAME	NAME	NAME	T	NAME	R
L	I	V	I	D	NAME	A	NAME	I
E	P	O	C	H	NAME	N	NAME	E
NAME	NAME	W	NAME	NAME	NAME	E	NAME	NAME

1. Legendary stories - Sagas
2. Solo – One
3. A container is a crate
4. A pleading is a cry
5. Livid means to be extremely angry
6. An epoch refers to an era
7. To climb is to scale
8. Octane is a variant of gasoline or petrol
9. A large nest of an eagle is called an eyrie
10. Snape, in Harry Potter, took a vow to protect Draco.
11. 4 Option (4) is the correct answer. Option (1) is incorrect as there is no element of past being recalled. Option (2) is incorrect because the author is not trying to convince us about something. Option (3) is incorrect because there is no element of surprise being discussed in the passage, and nor is the author powerless about anything. The author is describing the criticizing of Mr. Darcy by the assembly for being proud.
12. 2 Option (2) is the correct answer. Option (1) is incorrect as there is no sign of hope there in the passage. Option (3) is incorrect as the author isn't using any irony. He is directly talking about the damaging effects of war and violence and so he is indirectly making us conscious about the potential dangers of all violence. Hence, he is making one cautious.
13. 1 Option (1) is the correct answer. Option (2) is incorrect as there is nothing that shows the worst to come. The author has neither positive nor negative remarks. For the same reason, option (3) is incorrect. The author simply comments on the newly emerging perception of Edna, which makes option (1) most appropriate.
14. 4 Option (4) is the correct answer. Option (1) is incorrect as the passage is neither extravagant in style, nor is its topic of discussion anything bold or epic like. Option (2) is incorrect as the content of the passage is not at all assertive. Option (3) can be easily negated. Option (4) is correct as the author gives many pieces of information in the passage.
15. 2 The author doesn't show any sentiment in the given passage. Hence, option (1) can be negated. The author explains the evolution of a particular discipline. Hence, explanatory best captures the tone of the author. Option (3) can be eliminated as the author doesn't compare two themes. The author also doesn't raise any alarm. So, option (4) can be eliminated too.

16. 3 In this passage, the author recounts the struggle and grief of Mr. Biswas. Hence, lugubrious or sentimental best captures the tone of the author. No other option comes close.
17. 3 The author employs a positive tone in the passage. Options (1), (2) and (4) are negative options. Panegyric is the only option that comes close.
18. 2 The author and other people are unsure about the authenticity and origin of the painting. 'Skeptical' is the most appropriate because it provides a hint of doubt. The author is not misleading anyone (mendacious). He is also not preaching (didactic) or ridiculing (lampooning).
19. 1 Option (2) is incorrect because the author does not appear happy in the present moment. He longs for the lost past and is nostalgic about it. The author does not appreciate the present moment and hence option (3) is also incorrect. The passage's tone is not preaching.
20. 4 This is clearly a story. Caustic means too harsh. Narrative is the best option.
21. 2 Throughout the passage, the author employs a mildly mocking tone towards the entire renting system. She finds the probing questions uncomfortable. She is not ambiguous in her opinion. It is quite the contrary. She is deeply involved with the subject and is not casual or nonchalant about it. She is also not fault finding or being fastidious in the passage.
22. 2 The previous sentence gives a hint. The landlord doesn't want any doubt in asserting his dominance. This attitude is patronizing or condescending. Option (2) is the best option.
23. 4 An editorial doesn't use a first person narrative. Same is the case with a newspaper report. It has to be concise too. A self-help column will talk about a problem and its solution. A newspaper feature is normally an article exploring a particular subject in news and it can employ a first person narrative. Hence, option (4) is the answer.
24. 2 The main idea of this paragraph is the author's quest for a house. She signs an agreement in the passage. The last line shows her apprehensions about her upcoming journey in Calcutta. Hence, option (2) is the best answer. The passage doesn't focus on the author's gender only but rather a combination of her gender and her quest for a rented place.
25. 4 This is a logical structure question. The author clearly states her premise in the first paragraph itself. Hence, we can eliminate option (1). Option (2) is eliminated because the author is not insinuating anything. She is clearly stating her mind. Option (3) is partially correct. To go for the jugular means to tackle the subject head on. However, the author doesn't take any stance in the passage. The author mentions her quandary in finding a suitable place and talks about her journey in a narrative pattern. Hence, option (4) is the best answer.
26. 3 The author, in the last paragraph, suggests ways to avoid potential problems that may arise due to one's use of social media platforms. He doesn't complain about anything in the last paragraph. Hence, option (3) is the answer.
27. 2 The author of the passage starts by talking about the various ways one can be harmed or affected by social media platforms. He discusses the various probable concerns one may have. In the last paragraph, he suggests ways to prevent this threat from affecting one's future. Only option (2) covers this. Hence, it's the answer. Options (1) and (3) are partially correct. Option (4) is wrong.
28. 4 It is an analogy or further application question. The passage mentions that the Boston College took action against its student when the latter joined a criticism against one of its resident staff members. Hence, the college will most likely react to a similar situation. Only option (4) involves a member of the staff. Option (2) will most likely be welcomed by the college. Options (1) and (3) can't be determined on the basis of the information provided in the passage.
29. 2 The author in this passage talks about Gorbachev and his policies. However, he mentions in the last paragraph that Gorbachev's actions resulted in the hasty collapse of the USSR. However, he has not blamed Gorbachev. Options (1) and (3) can be negated on this ground. Option (4) is incorrect. Hence, option (2) is the answer.
30. 2 This passage is like an analytical essay. The author explains a particular situation by citing different examples and quotations from a particular source. Normally, an explanatory passage is written by a teacher. The current ambassador won't normally write such an academic piece. Option (3) is a vague option. Option (4) is possible but a newspaper editor would most likely talk about a current topic. Option (2) is the best option.