

Based on XAT and SNAP

Number of Questions : 20

CEX-0505/18

Direction for questions 1 to 20: Read the following passages carefully and answer the questions given at the end of each passage.

Passage - 1

The daunting judgment of a distinguished ancient historian that “‘hero’ has no feminine gender in the age of heroes” might appear to call into question the very phenomenon I propose to study here: heroines in ancient Greek myth and cult. If there is no word for the female counterpart to the hero in the earliest times, how can we speak of the myths and cults of heroines without being anachronistic? How can we speak coherently of heroines at all?

Based on his observation that no word for heroine is attested in archaic Greek, Finley concludes that there is no female counterpart to the hero, that heroism, for the Greeks of the archaic period, is impossible for a woman. He makes this observation within the context of Homeric epic, where it is perhaps true. We must not allow this to deter us, however, given that the object of our study is not only heroism but rather the entire range of cultural meanings and practices associated with the myths and cults of heroines.

1. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?
 - (a) In the absence of a word for heroine in the earliest texts, the author is forced to extrapolate.
 - (b) Homeric epic was directly responsible for the diffusion of hero cult
 - (c) The term hero, more stable and tangible by virtue of its impeccable Homeric lineage, proves much easier to define than its linguistically more elusive female counterpart.

- (d) The author calls into question the term heroine as the female equivalent of hero.
 - (e) The identities of Hero and Heroine are not discrete as observed by Greek of the archaic period.

2. Which of the following options can be the next line of the above passage?
 - (a) Homeric epic is famous for its silence on the topic of hero cult, but even then it can be made to yield some evidence.
 - (b) The generic requirements of an epic limit its usefulness for the study of hero cult, but the epic has a few things to tell us, not only about heroes, but about heroines as well.
 - (c) The category of heroine as female counterpart to the hero, poised neatly between mortal and immortal beings, seems threatened.
 - (d) I will argue, furthermore, that the “feminine gender” of hero is recoverable, if not in Homer, then in other archaic texts.
 - (e) As a test, let us consider some figures for which we have the kind of archaeological evidence we spoke of above, and see whether the other criteria apply.

Passage - 2

D. H. Lawrence – 1885-1930: The Supreme Triumph

(SNAP 2010)

For man, the vast marvel is to be alive. For man, as for flower and beast and bird, the supreme triumph is to be most vividly, most perfectly alive. Whatever the unborn and the dead may know, they cannot know the beauty, the marvel of being alive in the

flesh. The dead may look after the afterwards. But the magnificent here and now of life in the flesh is ours, and ours alone, and ours only for a time. We ought to dance with rapture, that we should be alive and in the flesh, and part of the living, incarnate cosmos. I am part of the sun as my eye is part of me. That I am part of the earth my feet below know perfectly, and my blood is part of the sea. My soul knows that I am part of the human race. My soul is an organic part of the great human soul, as my spirit is part of my nation. In my own very self, I am part of my family. There is nothing of me that is alone and absolute except my mind, and we shall find that the mind has no existence by itself, it is only the glitter of the sun on the surface of the waters. — Apocalypse, 1931.

3. By *triumph* the author means-
 (a) sin (b) loss
 (c) sorrow (d) victory
4. When the dead look after the afterwards the living should look at life
 (a) forever
 (b) for some months
 (c) for only a short while
 (d) in the past
5. By *rapture* the author means an emotion involving great
 (a) trepidation (b) thrill
 (c) fear (d) joy
6. By the last line "Itwaters", the author means that the mind is only
 (a) a mirage (b) an illusion
 (c) magic (d) a reflection
7. The tone of this passage is
 (a) social (b) moral
 (c) reflective (d) philosophical
8. The most suitable title for this passage would be-
 (a) The Surface of the Waters
 (b) My Mind
 (c) The Human Race
 (d) Alive and Kicking

"The emancipation of women", James Joyce told one of his friends, "has caused the greatest revolution in our time."

Other modernists agree: Virginia Woolf, claiming that in about 1910 "human character changed" and illustrating the new balance between the sexes, urged, "Read the 'Agamemnon' and see whether your sympathies are not almost entirely with Clytemnestra". D.H. Lawrence wrote "perhaps the deepest fight for 200 years and more has been the fight for women's independence".

But if modernist writers considered women's revolt against men's domination as one of their "greatest" and "deepest" themes, only recently, perhaps in the past 15 years has literary criticism begun to catch up with it. Not that the images of sexual antagonism that abound in modern literature have gone unremarked- far from it. We are able to see in literary works the perspective we bring to them and now that women are enough to make a difference in reforming canons and interpreting literature, the landscapes of literary history and the features of individual books have begun to change.

9. According to the passage, modernists are changing literary criticism by:-
 (a) Noting instances of hostility between men and women
 (b) Seeing literature from fresh points of view
 (c) Studying the works of early twentieth-century writers
 (d) Reviewing books written by feminists
10. The author quotes James Joyce, Virginia Woolf and D.H. Lawrence primarily in order to show that:-
 (a) these were feminist writers.
 (b) although well-meaning, they were ineffectual.
 (c) before the twentieth century, there was little interest in women's literature.
 (d) None of the above

11. The author's attitude towards women's reformation of literary canons can best be described as one of -
 (a) ambivalence (b) antagonism
 (c) indifference (d) endorsement
12. Which of the following titles best describes the contents of the passage?
 (a) Modernist Writers and the Search for Equality
 (b) The meaning of Literature, from 1910 onwards
 (c) Transforming Literature
 (d) None of the options

Passage - 4

(XAT 2013)

"Whatever actions are done by an individual in different embodiments, [s]he reaps the fruit of those actions in those very bodies or embodiments (in future existences) ".

A belief in karma entails, among other things, a focus on long run consequences, i.e., a long term orientation. Such an orientation implies that people who believe in karma may be more honest with themselves in general and in setting expectations in particular - a hypothesis we examine here. This research is based on three simple premises. First, because lower expectations often lead to greater satisfaction, individuals in general, and especially those who are sensitive to the gap between performance and expectations, have the incentive to and actually do "strategically" lower their expectations. Second, individuals with a long term orientation are likely to be less inclined to lower expectations in the hope of temporarily feeling better. Third, long term orientation and the tendency to lower expectations are at least partially driven by cultural factors. In India, belief in karma, with its emphasis on a longer term orientation, will therefore to some extent counter-act the tendency to lower expectations. The empirical results support our logic; those who believe more strongly in karma are less influenced by disconfirmation sensitivity and therefore have higher expectations.

Consumers make choices based on expectations of how alternative options will perform (i.e., expected utility). Expectations about the quality of a product also play a central role in subsequent satisfaction. These expectations may be based on a number of factors including the quality of a typical brand in a category, advertised quality, and disconfirmation sensitivity. Recent evidence suggests that consumers, who are more disconfirmation sensitive (i.e., consumers who are more satisfied when products perform better than expected or more dissatisfied when products perform worse than expected) have lower expectations. However, there is little research concerning the role of culture-specific variables in expectation formation, particularly how they relate to the impact of disconfirmation sensitivity on consumer expectations.

13. "Future existences" in the first paragraph can refer to:
 1. Human life, 5 years afterwards
 2. Next birth in human form
 3. Next birth in any embodiment

Which of the following statement(s) is correct?

- (a) 1, 2
 (b) 2, 3
 (c) 1, 3
 (d) 2 only
 (e) None of the three
14. Consider the following assertion and conclusion:
 Assertion: The meaning of *karma* in the above passage (refer to first two lines of the paragraph in italics).
 Conclusion: Belief that long term consequences are important.
- Now read the following statements carefully:
 1. The conclusion will always follow the assertion.
 2. The conclusion may follow the assertion.
 3. The conclusion may follow the assertion only if an individual lives long enough.
 4. The conclusion cannot follow the assertion.

Which of the following statement(s) is correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2
- (c) 2 only (d) 3 only
- (e) 4 only

15. Which of following statements, if true, would contradict the first of the three premises mentioned in the first paragraph?

- (a) Higher satisfaction leads to lower expectation.
- (b) Lower expectation leads to long term consequences
- (c) Satisfaction depends on achievement and not on expectation
- (d) Karma affects our immediate feelings
- (e) Lower expectation would lead to lower efforts

16. Read the following statements carefully:

1. Temporary feelings and law of *karma* are independent.
2. As per theory of karma, temporary feelings would not lower the expectation.
3. Temporary feelings and law of *karma* are contradictory.

Which of the following combination of statements is consistent with the second premise?

- (a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2
- (c) 1 and 3 (d) 3 only
- (e) 1, 2 and 3

Passage - 5

(XAT 2013)

An example of scientist who could measure without instruments is Enrico Fermi (1901-1954), a physicist who won the Nobel Prize in physics in 1938. He had a well-developed knack for intuitive, even casual-sounding measurements. One renowned example of his measurement skills was demonstrated at the first detonation of the atom bomb, the Trinity Test site, on July 16, 1945, where he was one of the atomic scientists observing the blast from base camp. While final adjustments were being made to instruments used to measure the yield of the blast, Fermi was making confetti out of a page of notebook

paper. As the wind from the initial blast wave began to blow through the camp, he slowly dribbled the confetti into the air, observing how far back it was scattered by the blast (taking the farthest scattered pieces as being the peak of the pressure wave). Fermi concluded that the yield must be greater than 10 kilotons. This would have been news, since other initial observers of the blast did not know that lower limit. After much analysis of the instrument readings, the final yield estimate was determined to be 18.6 kilotons. Like Eratosthenes, Fermi was aware of a rule relating one simple observation—the scattering of confetti in the wind—to a quantity he wanted to measure.

The value of quick estimates was something Fermi was familiar with throughout his career. He was famous for teaching his students skills at approximation of fanciful-sounding quantities that, at first glance, they might presume they knew nothing about. The best-known example of such a "Fermi question" was Fermi asking his students to estimate the number of piano tuners in Chicago, when no one knows the answer. His students—science and engineering majors—would begin by saying that they could not possibly know anything about such a quantity. Of course, some solutions would be to simply do a count of every piano tuner perhaps by looking up advertisements, checking with a licensing agency of some sort, and so on. But Fermi was trying to teach his students how to solve problems where the ability to confirm the results would not be so easy. He wanted them to figure out that they knew something about the quantity in question.

17. Read the statements given below:

1. Atomic bomb detonation was a result of Fermi's Nobel Prize contribution.
2. Fermi's students respected him as a scientist
3. Yield of atomic bomb can only be measured in Kilotons.

Which of the following statement(s) can be inferred from the passage?

- (a) 1, 2 (b) 2, 3
- (c) 1, 3 (d) 2 only
- (e) None of the three statements is correct

18. Suppose you apply the same logic as Fermi applied to confetti, which of the following statements would be the most appropriate?
- (a) You can calculate the minimum pressure inside the cooker by calculating the maximum distance travelled by any of its parts after it explodes.
 - (b) You can calculate the average potency of a fire cracker by calculating the distance covered by one of its bigger fragments.
 - (c) You can easily find out the average potency of an earthquake by measuring the length of a crack it makes on the surface of the earth.
 - (d) You can calculate the exact volume of water stored in a tank by measuring the distance covered by the stream of water coming out of the tap fixed on the lower corner of the tank.
 - (e) All of the above conclusions can be drawn.
19. Quick estimate, as per Fermi, is most useful in:
- (a) In finding an approximate that is more useful than existing values.
 - (b) In finding out the exact minimum value of an estimate
 - (c) In finding out the exact maximum value of an estimate
 - (d) In finding out the range of values of an estimate
 - (e) In finding out the average value of an estimate
20. Given below are some statements that attempt to capture the central idea of the passage:
1. It is useful to estimate; even when the exact answer is known.
 2. It is possible to estimate any physical quantity.
 3. It is possible to estimate the number of units of a newly launched car that can be sold in a city.
 4. Fermi was a genius.
- Which of the following statement(s) best captures the central idea?
- (a) 1, 2 and 4
 - (b) 2, 3 and 4
 - (c) 2 and 3
 - (d) 2 only
 - (e) 1, 2 and 3

Answers and Explanations

1	c	2	d	3	d	4	c	5	d	6	d	7	d	8	d	9	b	10	d
11	d	12	d	13	e	14	c	15	c	16	b	17	e	18	a	19	d	20	c

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| <p>1. c (a) is incorrect as the author does not extrapolate anywhere in the passage. (b) is incorrect as no data/evidence is given by passage that depicts diffusion of hero cult. (c) is correct. (d) is incorrect as author calls into question the category heroine and not just the term (refer to last line). (e) is incorrect as according to the passage, the identity of heroine is not addressed in mentioned Greek literature.</p> <p>2. d Author is not debating the existence of the female counterpart of the term hero; rather he says that no evidence of its existences is present in Greek text. He says, "We must not allow this to deter us". (d) is the best answer as it takes that argument forward and talks about possible existence of the term heroine in other texts.</p> <p>3. d 'Triumph' means 'victory'.</p> <p>4. c The answer is clearly stated in the passage where the author states "and ours only for a time", which is clearly depicted in option (c).</p> <p>5. d 'Rapture' means 'joy'.</p> <p>6. d The last line of the para states, "the mind has no existence by itself, it is only the glitter of the sun on the surface of the waters", which clearly shows that mind is a reflection.</p> <p>7. d The author is philosophising about the purpose of being alive, about the origin/role and purpose of everything a common man is endowed with, including his mind. He isn't 'reflecting' or analysing any event/experience of his or anyone else's past.</p> <p>8. d The passage talks about what the author feels about being alive and how one should live it. He is in a celebratory mood - celebrating the fact that he is alive! So, (d) is the answer.</p> <p>9. b Refer to the last paragraph - "Not that the images we are able to see in literary works change." Author says that modernist writers have left an impact on literature by works that have a newer perspective on the theme.</p> | <p>10. d By quoting James Joyce and Virginia Woolf Author wants to emphasize on the fact that the fight for women's independence is not a new theme and that it has been going on for several decades now.</p> <p>11. d The author appreciates the change that is visible in the literature with reference to the discussed theme.</p> <p>12. d Author has discussed how modernist writers have impacted the issue of Women's Emancipation. None of the given options are correct.</p> <p>13. e From the first paragraph, it can be inferred that 'those very bodies or embodiments' refers to either one's life form in the current life or to a similar form or embodiment in a future life. Thus, 'future existences' does not refer to either of the three statements and option (e) is the answer.</p> <p>14. c The first statement of the passage merely states that one has to reap the fruits of one's actions at some point in time after those actions have been committed. However, this not necessarily mean that such consequences are important. The conclusion, therefore, may or may not follow. Option (c) is the correct answer.</p> <p>15. c The first premise states that people may, and do, often lower their expectations of performance and achievement in order to maximize their sense of satisfaction since 'lower expectations often lead to greater satisfaction'. Option (c), which states that satisfaction depends on actual achievement and not expectations thus contradicts the first premise.</p> <p>16. b The second premise states that 'people with a long term orientation are likely to be less inclined to lower expectations in the hope of temporarily feeling better.' This implies that those with a belief in the law of karma are not easily swayed by temporary feelings. Thus, statement 1 is consistent with the premise. Statement 2 can be directly inferred from the second premise. Statement 3 does not follow from the given premise. Thus, option (b) is the correct answer.</p> |
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| <p>17. e Statement 1 cannot be inferred as the passage is silent on the nature of Fermi's Nobel Prize contribution. It merely mentions that Fermi was 'one of the atomic scientists' who observed the first detonation of the atomic bomb from base camp. There is nothing in the passage to conclude that Fermi's students considered him to be a genius. Thus, statement 2 also cannot be inferred. While the passage mentions the yield of the atomic blast being measured in kilotons, it does not say that this is the only unit for making such a measurement. Thus, none of the statements 1, 2 or 3 can be inferred from the passage and option (e) is the answer.</p> <p>18. a Option (a) is the answer as it details a situation which is analogous to the one described in the passage, where Fermi estimated the minimum yield of the nuclear blast by using confetti.</p> | <p>19. d Option (a) is incorrect as it is not implied in the passage. Options (b) and (c) are negated as the passage does not mention that quick estimate is used to arrive at exact values of an estimate. Option (d) is the correct choice as quick estimate is used to estimate</p> <p>20. c Statements 1 and 4 cannot be inferred from the passage. Since the passage talks about Fermi's focus on estimating various physical quantities, statements 2 and 3 can be inferred as being closest to capturing the central idea of the passage. Option (c) is the correct answer.</p> |
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