

**Passage 1**

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

It is the disappearing lake that has stopped disappearing.

Lough Funshinagh in the west of Ireland used to drain through a ‘swallow hole’ as if someone had pulled the plug in a bath. Still, for an unknown reason, nature’s plumbing has broken down, flooding an area thought to be twice the lake’s usual size and threatening homes and livelihoods.

Last week, Roscommon county council halted work to drain the lake artificially with a 2.5-mile (4 km) pipeline to the nearby River Shannon after the campaign group Friends of the Irish Environment took the local authority to the high court because no environmental impact assessment had been carried out, breaching EU rules.

A high court order halting the flood relief has set off a bitter row, with some residents arguing that Ireland’s scientists and political leaders would be pulling out all the stops to find a solution if it were homes in coastal Dublin that were under threat. Mary Beattie’s home has been surrounded by industrial-sized sandbags for more than a year and her garden has partially flooded. “There are even life belts here”, the 69-year-old said, pointing to her submerged farmland. “Did you ever see anything like it?” Beattie said she would move on to the top floor of her house if it became inundated.

With flood relief now at a standstill, residents say they have been abandoned and that far from being protected, the environment has been damaged by inaction. Rare Bewick’s and whooper swans, curlews, and the unusual fauna supported by the seasonal waters have all disappeared. The law is the winner here, nobody else”, said Geraldine

Murray, who lives locally. She remembered scores of swans nesting on the shores when she was a child. Now they are gone, as are the geese and other wildlife.

Standing on what looks like a mangrove thicket in the waters inundating his farm, Tom Carney said the flooding was ‘an awful affliction’ for the community. “The sad thing is nobody knows what happened,” the 70-year-old said. “Whether it is because of climate change or a collapse in the underground caverns or some obstruction that has got in the way, nobody knows”.

Funshinagh is one of the largest turloughs in Ireland and is officially considered ‘of major ecological importance’ and a Priority 1 habitat under EU law. It is served by both surface water during heavy rainfall and groundwater through springs bubbling up from the karst limestone bedrock.

While it hasn’t vanished fully to bone dry land since 1996, a crisis set in after heavy rain in 2016 caused flooding that has failed to recede. Carney said he remembered when the lake used to slowly drain dry, disappearing down the swallow hole and making a whirlpool-like noise as the last water disappeared underground.

According to the International Association of Hydrogeologists (pdf), the water level rose by 2 metres above normal levels in 2016, causing extensive and prolonged flooding. ‘Based on the slow outflow, it was calculated that it would take 600 days or two years for the floodwaters to drain and that would assume no further flood events’, the IAH said in a 2018 report.

Farmers in the area do not want the lake to drain completely but fear the situation for the habitat and their homes will worsen if, after a relatively dry winter, they are faced with another deluge next winter. Septic



tanks will be flooded, sending effluent into what has been recognised as some of the cleanest lake water in the country, they said.

1. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?

- (A) Roscommon county council said it had 'left no stone unturned trying to find a mechanism to deliver urgent emergency relief that would ensure families could stay in their homes', but added that it had been questioned every step of the way by Friends of the Irish Environment.
- (B) Eoin Brady, a lawyer for the campaign group, said the council had twice 'sought to approve a project to abstract a very significant volume of water' from a protected habitat without conducting environmental assessments, as legally required to do.
- (C) "If Roscommon County Council had proceeded as they had originally intended by undertaking a lawful scheme, it is entirely possible that flood relief measures would be in place by now at Lough Funshinagh", he said.
- (D) The loss of vegetation became the cause of swans' disappearance as they do not have the cover and the tadpoles and nutrients on the lake floor.

2. Which of the following can be a suitable title for the given passage?

- (A) The Vanishing Lough Funshinagh
- (B) An Environmental Hazard
- (C) The row over the non-vanishing Irish lake
- (D) Extensive and Prolonged Flooding

3. Which of the following can open up the next paragraph if the passage continues?

- (A) "Us farmers, we just want it to regulate itself; we just want to protect the environment as we did before with

respect and dignity to all the natural wildlife", said Bernadette Mee, pointing to acres of decades-old ash and native larch killed by the flooding on her farm.

- (B) Murray and Carney said the irony is that the habitat the EU law is designed to protect has been destroyed.
- (C) This time of the year, the air above the shoreline should be filled with feathers and the chitter-chatter of birds, Mee said.
- (D) Mee said that before 2016, the water was difficult to see, such was the expanse of rushes and reed beds.

4. Which of the following best sums up the entire passage?

- (A) Lough Funshinagh flooded in 2016 and hasn't receded since, causing an environmental legal tussle.
- (B) Irish lake has put the country in trouble.
- (C) The farmers are happy about the waterlogging in the neighbourhood of Lough Funshinagh Lake.
- (D) The flooded Irish lake is a sign of calamity in the country.

5. Which of the following cannot be inferred from the passage?

- (A) There is an important lesson for public authorities from these legal proceedings that, in dealing with the impacts of climate change, the longest way around is usually the shortest way home.
- (B) The logging of water for such a long period has caused issues for the nearby residents of the area.
- (C) The government must take care of the issue to avoid any serious and critical situation.
- (D) The farmers would be in trouble if the lake completely dries up. So waterlogging should be taken care of without drying up the lake.



Solutions

1. (D)

An inference is something that has been implicitly stated in the passage. There has to be only one correct answer; hence, three of the given cannot be inferred from the passage.

If we read this question and the options carefully, we notice that the first three options have been written in inverted commas and are first-person statements. An inference cannot be a sentence repeated verbatim. Hence, those options cannot be inferred from the passage. Therefore, option D is the right answer.

2. (C)

The passage talks about the lake that flooded a few years ago, and it was not disappearing. Option C conveys the same meaning.

3. (A)

In the last paragraph, the author talks about the condition of farmers and their fear if the situation gets worse. Hence, the next paragraph should start with a sentence that continues the same discussion. Option A talks about the farmers' point of view in the first person and

would be apt to continue the discussion. Hence, option A is the right answer.

4. (A)

A good summary should reflect what has been discussed in the passage. The passage talks about the flooding of Lough Funshinagh Lake, whose water had not vanished even after a long time. And due to the logged water, the residents who lived in the nearby areas were facing issues. The passage further talks about the environmental and the legal tussle that was going on in that area, and consequently, no measure to protect the residents had been taken.

Option A reflects this briefly and is the right answer.

5. (A)

Option B can be inferred from the first three paragraphs.

Option C can also be inferred from the seventh and the eighth paragraphs.

Option D can be inferred from the last three paragraphs.

Option A cannot be inferred from the passage. Hence, it is the correct answer.

Passage 2

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

There is a saying in Silicon Valley that when a product is free, the user is the product.

That's a diplomatic way of describing tech companies' cynicism towards their customers. Time was, companies worked to meet customer needs, but tech businesses have turned that on its head, making it the customer's job to improve their products, services, advertising, and revenue models.

With little regulatory accountability, this pursuit is a particular fixation for the biggest tech companies, which have the unique ability to pinpoint customers' every online move. As part of this surveillance economy, there is perhaps nothing more valuable than knowing users' locations.

So it was that Google executives were dismayed over a most inconvenient discovery: When they made it simpler to halt digital location tracking, far too many customers



did so. According to recently unredacted documents in a continuing lawsuit brought by the state of Arizona, Google executives then worked to develop technological workarounds to keep tracking users even after they had opted out. So much for the customer always being right.

Rather than abide by its users' preferences, Google allegedly tried to make location-tracking settings more difficult to find and pressured smartphone manufacturers and wireless carriers to take similar measures. Even after users turned off location tracking on their devices, Google found ways to continue tracking them, according to a deposition from a company executive.

So, how can we accept the company's word when it says, "privacy is at the heart of everything we do"?

According to the documents, one executive—a location product manager no less—couldn't unpack how Google tracks customers. Other employees complained that there was no clear way for consumers to provide their location to a non-Google app without being shared with Google.

The lawsuit stems from a 2018 Associated Press investigation that demonstrated Google's insatiable appetite for valuable location data and how it stores users' histories even when users ask the company not to. Arizona alleges that by tracking without users' consent, Google violated consumer protection laws that prohibit companies from mischaracterizing their business practices (Google has denied the allegations).

Only now, three years after the A.P. report, is Google rolling out an option to obscure precise location data for apps running on its Android mobile software. Really, does a chess app need to know a user is on the 300 block of Lexington Avenue?

It isn't hard to find other ways that tech companies trample on consumers' trust. Apple

gave users the option to halt apps from tracking their activity across the mobile web, and some 93 percent of U.S. iPhone users have opted for less tracking. That prompted Facebook to tell customers that they don't know what's good for them and other app developers to search for workarounds, evidently against customers' will.

Amazon engages in the practice as well. It is quietly rolling out a new wireless network known as Sidewalk that siphons bits of users' Wi-Fi service off one another to ensure devices like Alexa speakers and Ring doorbells work continuously (and it will add third-party devices over time). The company is opting all of its customers automatically, presumably because if given a real choice, they wouldn't wish to share free with Amazon the Wi-Fi they pay for.

After facing a backlash over humans listening in to its Alexa devices, Amazon once considered automatically opting customers out. But it rejected the notion favouring one that served its ends: making Alexa better.

Similar philosophies extend to nearly every corner of how Big Tech operates. The companies choose to opt customers into data collection schemes; they draw up dense terms of service policies that give users little recourse but to accept, and they seek to trick users through crafty design elements. And when they don't like the laws that customers' chosen elected representatives pass, they've shown they're willing to spend hundreds of millions to overturn them.

1. The tone of the author in this passage is:
(A) Alarming
(B) Concerned
(C) Derogatory
(D) Suggestive
2. "When a product is free, the user is the product". Choose the most accurate implication of this sentence.



- (A) Companies sell the data of their users.
(B) Privacy of the users is compromised.
(C) Companies sell their other products on free platforms.
(D) Companies flourish their advertising business under the disguise of free products.
3. All of the following can be inferred from the passage, except:
(A) Most users share their personal information reluctantly.
(B) Companies use the personal information of the users without their consent.
(C) Some of the Google employees do not want to track users' locations.
(D) Big tech companies deliberately keep their user policies ambiguous to trick their users.
4. Choose the correct order in which the author has mentioned the names of these companies.
(A) Google, Apple, Facebook, Amazon
(B) Google, Amazon, Apple, Facebook
(C) Google, Apple, Amazon, Facebook
(D) Google, Facebook, Amazon, Apple
5. Which of the following, if true, would weaken the argument made by the author?
(A) Few of the users are not reluctant to share their locations with the apps they use.
(B) The big tech companies might be selling their users' data to other companies.
(C) Tech giants do not use their users' data to promote their advertising business.
(D) A chess app does not need to know its users' locations to promote its business.

Solutions

1. **(B)**
The subject of the passage is the breach of customers' privacy by the tech companies. And the author has expressed his concern about it. He has been slightly critical of the practices adopted by the companies to trick the users. But overall, the tone is that of expressing concern about it. Hence, B should be chosen as the answer here.
2. **(A)**
The given sentence states, 'the user is the product'. That means something has to be sold. Companies are not selling their free product, but they are selling the data they gather through that product, thus making their users their products.
- Though facts mentioned in options B, C, and D are also correct, they do not capture the statement's essence.
Option A is the most accurate implication of the given statement.
3. **(C)**
When given a choice about sharing their locations, most users opt out. This means A can be inferred.
Even if the users opt out, companies still find ways to track their locations. This means B is also correct.
D can be inferred from the last paragraph.
C has not been indicated anywhere in the passage; the Google employees only shared how they track their users' locations. They never said that they were



doing it reluctantly. Hence, C would be a wrong inference.

4. (A)

One needs to skim through the passage, and it can be noticed that option A is the correct order.

5. (C)

Option A states that ‘few of the users are not reluctant...’ which implies that most users are reluctant to share their locations. This is exactly the argument made by the author in the passage. Hence, it would strengthen the argument made by the author.

Option B would also strengthen the author’s argument. The author starts the passage by saying that ‘if a product is free, the user is the product’. So, if the

companies are selling their users’ data, it would only strengthen his argument.

Option D strengthens the author’s argument. When the author asks in the passage, ‘does a chess app need to know a user is on the 300 block of Lexington Avenue?’, this is exactly the point he wants to make; that these apps do not need to know the location of their users.

Option C, if true, would weaken the author’s argument. The author has argued throughout the passage that these tech companies trick their users and use the data to do business with them. Option C states that they do not promote their advertising business with this data, contrary to the author’s claim. Hence, C is the answer here.

Passage 3

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

With the lifting of lockdowns, the crowds and chaos are back. Trains from Bihar, Jharkhand, and eastern Uttar Pradesh departing for industrial towns and metros are overflowing. Migrant workers eager to return to work are frustrated by the long waiting lists for train tickets.

Where can these labourers be considered migrants—in the slums and chawls of the metropolises or in the villages and towns they call ‘home’? The COVID-19 pandemic has not only broken their dreams and exposed them to the harsh reality of the system but has also buried the concept of ‘gram swaraj’.

Ideas of reducing economic inequality and creating parity have also proved to be hollow. This is important in a country where 63 families have more assets than its annual budget and where the total wealth of only nine people is equal to that of half the country’s population.

A few months ago, our politicians were assuring the country that these migrant workers need not return from their villages, and their livelihoods would be taken care of in the villages themselves. The central and state governments have provided free rations and money to about 800 million people, but people need regular work and food. Packed trains and the waiting lines of thousands of people eager to return to the cities show how these promises have failed.

Will their problems end just by getting back to work? Not at all. The pandemic has emptied the pockets of a large number of people. Markets have opened, but the pace of business is sluggish. Production in factories has been disrupted. It is natural to impact employment and the payment of wages. There are predictions that the economy will pick up, but it will take at least three years for the pre-COVID situation to return—and everyone knows those days were not great either.



The economy has been deteriorating for several quarters. Few jobs were being created and demand was not picking up as expected. Some fear a long recession. The condition of Indian women has worsened. According to a study by Oxfam, the amount the CEO of a giant company earns in 10 minutes is equal to the annual income of a woman working from home.

If these figures are worrying, there's more. The World Bank last week said that inequalities will widen due to COVID-19 and that about 125 new million people have slipped below the poverty line. This number is for those living daily for less than \$1.9. In India, those who spend more than ₹32 per day are not counted as people living below the poverty line. Those who spend less than \$14 a day are considered poor in the U.S. According to a study by Azim Premji University, 230 million Indians have been driven to poverty due to COVID-19. It does not seem that this havoc will end this financial year either.

Since 1990, India has lifted about 300 million people out of poverty—the pandemic has ruined this glorious work. No one knows how long it will take to get over this scourge either. The primary reason is that there has been only one way to stop this contagion—vaccination, and it won't even reach 80% of the Indian population before December, at least.

It's clear that countries such as China and the U.S. will recover soon, but dozens of vulnerable countries in Asia, Africa, and Eastern Europe will have to struggle for much longer. These times force us to pause and think because all our economic theories have proved futile. In the past hundred years, we have had two global pandemics, witnessed the fall of the monarchy, the rise of democracy, and the capitalism vs socialism debates. Once a bastion of communism, Moscow now houses seven out of the world's top 100 super-rich.

What did the system of capitalism, for which ballads were sung after the collapse of the Soviet Union, give us in the past three decades? We know the answer by now.

The pandemic has exposed the hollowness of slogans such as global village, Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, and the left and the right ideologies. The post-pandemic world will have to change the way of doing things. This had happened after every pandemic and the Great War. The First World War paved the way for the departure of monarchies. The Second World War sparked the Cold War. The fall of the Berlin Wall in the late 1980s paved the way for the collapse of the communist system.

Is the coronavirus pandemic laying the groundwork to change the current face of capitalism?

1. The tone of the author in this passage is:
(A) Alarming
(B) Derogatory
(C) Angry
(D) Dismissive
2. Which of the following is the main reason for the economic disparity and the plight of the poor?
(A) Politicians
(B) The rich
(C) Capitalism
(D) Economic policies
3. Which of the following can be considered the theme of the passage?
(A) Capitalism can work only in rich countries of Europe and America and not in poor African and Asian countries.
(B) All the claims made and policies declared by the government were hollow, and the system was a sham.
(C) After the outbreak of a pandemic or any global disaster, the ways of doing things have always changed.
(D) The pandemic marginalised the poor even further, and the capitalist



economic policies are responsible for that.

4. The author has mentioned all of the following in the passage, except:
- (A) The drastic effect of the lockdown on the economic conditions of migrant labourers.
 - (B) Occurrence of deaths due to the migrant labourers trying to return home.
 - (C) The effect of the pandemic on governments across the world.
 - (D) The effect of the pandemic on the condition of working women.

5. Which of the following is most likely to be true about the author of this passage?
- (A) The author is a pessimist and easily gets perturbed by challenging situations.
 - (B) The author is an egalitarian, so he is annoyed by the economic disparity prevalent in the world.
 - (C) The author is a communist, so he has thrashed the capitalist economic system.
 - (D) The author is an expert on the economy, and he is angry at how the governments have handled the COVID crisis.

Solutions

1. (C)

The author is not happy with the economic disparity in the country. And for that, he holds the system responsible, so much so that he goes on to negate the concept of capitalist democracy.

‘Derogatory’ would be too harsh of a word to describe the author’s tone here, for the author has not shown contempt but concern over the utility of the current system.

Dismissive would mean to negate completely and not be worth considering seriously. So, it should not be chosen as the tone. Because the author certainly wants to give a second thought to the existing system of capitalism.

‘Alarming’ has a sense of urgency, which cannot be witnessed anywhere in the passage.

To describe the kind of unhappiness of the author, ‘angry’ is the most accurate word here. So, it should be chosen as the tone of the author.

2. (C)

After pointing out several system failures, the author has raised questions

about the utility of capitalism. He even raised a question on the longevity of capitalism in the last sentence of the passage. So, C is the answer.

Other options have barely got a mention in the passage.

3. (D)

Though the author has made all these points in the passage, option D aptly captures the essence of the passage. Other options address only localised/specific issues. D describes the passage in general. It covers all parts of the passage from start to end. Hence, D is the answer.

4. (B)

A simple reading of the entire passage is required to answer this question. Clearly, B has not been mentioned anywhere in the passage.

A has been mentioned in the first and second paragraphs. C has been mentioned towards the end of the passage. And D has been mentioned in the sixth paragraph.



5. (B)

Calling someone a pessimist just because he has criticised the system is not a good idea, so option A can be cancelled. Moreover, just because someone is not happy with the achievements of the capitalist economic system, he cannot be called a communist. The author has also highlighted the disparity in communist countries, so, option C can also be cancelled.

Options B and D are close contenders, but the author has not said anything that suggests he is an economy expert. Option B is most likely to be the correct observation about the author. The author is not happy with the economic disparity between the poor and the rich. He has thrashed this disparity and held the capitalist economic system responsible for that. Hence, the answer is B.

Passage 4

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

From the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic—as copious flows of data were generated and processed—a striking gender bias emerged: It became apparent that the novel coronavirus was, and still is, killing men at significantly higher rates than women.

A lesser-known and discussed—but equally striking—fact is that virus-related labour market disruptions have not been gender-neutral, either. The pandemic has affected women's employment status much more significantly than men's.

The COVID-19-induced recession of 2020 was very different from other recessions in recent memory. It was not a good recession because it was caused by government policies and private sector responses to counter the spread of the virus—not by a disruption in the production sector or the collapse of financial markets.

In any event, vast service industry sectors were directly affected by the economic contraction caused by social distancing and lockdown protocols. In turn, many other sectors were indirectly affected by lower demand and disruptions in supply. While closed restaurants, online schools, and empty airports epitomised the economy in 2020, the disruptions have been much broader.

The latest recession has been different from previous ones because it has severely hit industries and occupations that require close physical contact. These jobs are in health care, education, and hospitality, which tend to have high female employment shares.

This is quite different from previous recessions that disproportionately reduced jobs in the traditionally male-dominated construction, transportation, and manufacturing sectors. At the macro level, these differences are easy to detect. In a typical recession, the unemployment rate for male workers increases much more than for female workers.

For instance, during the Great Recession, which lasted from May 2007 to November 2009, the unemployment rate for men increased from 4.6% to 11%; for women, it went from 4.4% to 8.6%. In contrast, in January 2020, the unemployment rate for both genders was 3.5%; by April 2020, it had climbed to 16.1% for women and 13.6% for men.¹

In addition, even in the modern era, caring for children and the elderly falls disproportionately on women. So, the closures of schools and all other centres that care for children and seniors are likely to have further reduced—perhaps enormously—the labour market opportunity for many women.

1. The author has cited all of the following as reasons behind the recession of 2020, except:



- (A) Government policies
 - (B) Social distancing and lockdown protocols
 - (C) Collapse of financial markets
 - (D) Private sector's response
2. The unemployment ratio in women was significantly higher than in men during the recession of 2020 because:
- I. COVID-19 has not been gender-neutral.
 - II. Sectors such as health care, education, and hospitality were hit more severely.
 - III. Caring for children and the elderly falls disproportionately on women.
- (A) I and II
 - (B) II and III
 - (C) I and III
 - (D) Only II
3. All of the following distinguish the recession of 2020 from the previous recessions, except:
- (A) The recession of 2020 disproportionately reduced jobs in traditionally female-dominated sectors.
 - (B) The recession of 2020 was not a recession caused by the collapse of financial markets.
 - (C) The recession of 2020 was induced by a pandemic.
 - (D) In this recession, the service sector was directly affected, while the production sector was indirectly affected.
4. The main argument made by the author in the passage is:
- (A) The 2020 recession induced by COVID-19 was different from the usual recessions.
 - (B) Unlike other recessions, the 2020 recession was gender-biased.
 - (C) Women were affected more drastically than men during the recession of 2020.
 - (D) Sectors such as health care, education, and hospitality were hit more severely than the construction, transportation, and manufacturing sectors.
5. What style has been adopted by the author in writing this passage?
- (A) Descriptive
 - (B) Factual
 - (C) Narrative
 - (D) Analytical

Solutions

1. **(C)**
Reasons stated in options A, B, and D are given in the third and fourth paragraphs. In the third paragraph, the author has clearly stated that it was not a recession caused by a disruption in the production sector or the collapse of financial markets.
2. **(B)**
II has been mentioned in the sixth paragraph, and III has been mentioned in the eighth paragraph as the reasons behind the higher unemployment ratio in women. Hence, B is the answer.
3. **(D)**
The question demands the readers to identify the specific characteristics of this recession that were not seen in earlier recessions. In this regard, options A, B, and C are true. Only option D defines characteristics that are not specific to the recession of 2020. Service sectors and production sectors are always hit by any kind of recession. Hence, D is the answer here.



4. (C)

Though all the arguments stated in A, B, C, and D have been made in the passage, the question asks for the *main argument*. The main argument should be something that the author has reiterated throughout the passage. The main argument is something like the theme of the passage.

In the given passage, the author has mainly highlighted that women were worse hit than men during the 2020 recession. To support this claim, he has mentioned certain facts as well. Also, a major portion of the passage is concerned with highlighting the facts on how women suffered more during the 2020 recession. Hence, C is the correct answer here.

5. (B)

A narrative piece is generally written in the first person, which is not the case here. So, C is wrong.

A descriptive piece contains a lot of minute details, usually creating imagery in the readers' minds. So, A is wrong.

An analytical piece of writing generally includes a qualitative or quantitative analysis of facts. Here, the author has not analysed any situation in the given passage. So, this option is slightly off the track.

The correct answer is factual, as the author has mentioned simple facts which can be proved. The author has also given some data-based information to prove his points.

Passage 5

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Four different writing systems have been used in Algeria. Three are well known—Phoenician, Latin, and Arabic—while one is both indigenous to Africa and survives only as a writing system. The language it represents is called Old Libyan or Numidian, simply because it was spoken in Numidia and Libya. Since it's possible that it's an ancestor of modern Berber languages—although even that's not clear—the script is usually called Libyco-Berber. Found throughout North Africa, and as far west as the Canary Islands, the script might have been used for at least as long as 1,000 years. Yet only short passages of it survive, all of them painted or engraved on rock. Everything else written in Libyco-Berber has disappeared.

Libyco-Berber has been recognised as an African script since the 17th century. But even after 400 years, it hasn't been fully deciphered. There are no long texts surviving that would help, and the legacy of the

written language has been one of the acts of destruction, both massive and petty. That fate, of course, is not unique. It's something that's characteristic of modern European civilisation: it both destroys and treasures what it encounters in the rest of the world. Like Scipio Africanus weeping while he gazed at the Carthage he'd just obliterated, the destruction of the other is turned into life lessons for the destroyer, or artefacts in colonial cabinets of curiosities. The most important piece of Libyco-Berber writing was pillaged and sold to the British Museum for five pounds. It's not currently on display.

But Libyco-Berber also reveals a more insidious kind of destruction, an epistemological violence inflicted by even the best-intentioned Europeans. There are numerous stories of badly educated, arrogant Europeans insisting that Africans not only never did, but never could, write books. Even as sensitive a philosopher as the French sociologist and theorist Pierre Bourdieu, who had deep personal ties to Algeria, and who supported the



Berber/Amazigh cultural movement, could essentially make the same assumption. He insisted that the Kabyle people, whom he lived among and studied for years, were pre-literate, although they used (and still do) the characters of Libyco-Berber. Bourdieu's is a cautionary tale for intellectuals who are committed to social activism. The passion—the need—to do what's right is all too often steered by the conviction that, precisely because we're intellectuals, we know what's right. For Bourdieu, for example, the very ability to think, to reflect about what's right, is tied to literacy.

But Bourdieu's observational mistake—the idea that the Kabyle weren't literate—is actually not his most consequential misapprehension. That would be the idea that literacy is a supreme cognitive and cultural achievement. It's one of the means by which universities shore up the value of their intellectual work—they police grammar, philology, and literacy—in short, they define and champion rigour and 'standards'. For those of us brought up within that system—even brought up, as I was, in a former colony (Kenya)—those standards might appear to be value-neutral. But they're value-neutral only because they annihilate even the possibility of other values, of other modes of thinking or being. When Bourdieu went from the elite *École Normale Supérieure* to a Kabyle settlement, he saw, ultimately, the absence of what made the university, and his own mind, what it was. That supposed absence is the product of intellectual arrogance, yes, but it's also part of a European cultural heritage.

There's a depressing familiarity to the assumption made by Europeans that Africa is a site of lack. But that supposed lack is something that Europe has counted on since the destruction of Carthage. Indeed, the destruction of that ancient city by Lake Tunis could lay claim to being the very lack at the centre of European intellectual

culture. But that's another story. At one point, Carthage was poised to become the greatest empire on Earth. It failed only because the great Carthaginian general Hannibal didn't destroy Rome itself when he invaded Italy. If Hannibal had succeeded, Punic rather than Latin might have been the language of European intellectuals until the post-Enlightenment. Bourdieu's own language might not have been a 'Romance' language at all, and his most famous term, 'habitus', might have been a Punic word. But then, his whole project wouldn't have assumed Africa to be a place deficient in literacy. Bourdieu might have been studying pre-literate Romans instead—or never have had the chance, as a member of a pre-literate group in the remote mountains of southern France.

1. Which of the following is true about Libyco-Berber?
 - (A) It is spoken in Numidia and Libya.
 - (B) It is the ancestor of most of the modern Berber languages.
 - (C) Everything written in Libyco-Berber has disappeared.
 - (D) It is not confined to Algeria and can also be found in other African countries.
2. '...and the legacy of the written language has been one of the acts of destruction, both massive and petty'. —this sentence from the second paragraph indicates that:
 - (A) The Europeans deliberately destroyed most of the written texts of Libyco-Berber script.
 - (B) Africans were no less, along with Europeans, in destroying Libyco-Berber script.
 - (C) It is a characteristic of modern European civilisation to destroy what it encounters.
 - (D) The Libyco-Berber script could not have been deciphered yet,



because most of its texts have been destroyed.

3. What can be inferred about Bourdieu from the passage?
- (A) Unlike other Europeans, he believed that Africans were well versed in their written script.
 - (B) His most consequential misapprehension was that he believed that literacy is a supreme cognitive and cultural achievement.
 - (C) Though he lived among the Africans, he always harboured mal-intentions for them.
 - (D) Bourdieu's ties with Algerians were stronger than his relationship with the Kabyle people.
4. What is the theme of the fourth paragraph?
- (A) Universities shore up the value of their intellectual work, and they define and champion rigour and

'standards' with the idea that literacy is a supreme cognitive and cultural achievement.

- (B) Literacy is not a cognitive and cultural achievement, but most Europeans propagated this idea due to their intellectual arrogance.
 - (C) The standards set by the universities are value-neutral because they annihilate even the possibility of other values, of other modes of thinking or being.
 - (D) Literacy is a supreme cognitive and cultural achievement, and Europeans used this idea to establish their supremacy over the rest of the world.
5. What is the tone of the author in the last paragraph?
- (A) Sardonic
 - (B) Sarcastic
 - (C) Mocking
 - (D) Taunting

Solutions

1. (D)

The question is concerned with the first paragraph. Option A is incorrect. Lybyco-Berber is not a spoken language but only a written script. Option B is incorrect, as it is clearly stated in the passage that it might be the ancestor of modern Berber languages, but it is not clear. Option C is incorrect. Not everything written in Lybyco-Berber has disappeared, but some short passages still survive.

2. (A)

The author has written in the passage what has been given in option C. But it is not what the given sentence in the question indicates. Rather, it makes it clear that the Europeans destroyed the script deliberately. Also, in the third paragraph, the author says that even the best-intentioned Europeans violently

destroyed the African scriptures because they did not want them to read and write. All this indicates that option A is the correct choice here.

Option B is incorrect, as only Europeans were held responsible for the destruction, not the Africans.

Option D, again, has mentioned a fact; but this is not what the given sentence in the question indicates. Rather, the sentence in question explains why the script could not have been deciphered and why it was destroyed.

3. (B)

In the third paragraph, the author states that even Bourdieu made the same assumption. Here 'same assumption' refers to 'Europeans insisting that Africans



not only never did, but never could, write books'. Hence, option A is incorrect.

Option C has a negative connotation, so it should not be inferred. Plus, Bourdieu lived among Africans and also supported their cultural movements.

There is nothing to suggest that Bourdieu's ties with Algerians were stronger than his relationship with the Kabyle people; hence, D cannot be inferred.

Option B can be inferred from the first two sentences of the fourth paragraph. Hence, B is the answer.

4. (B)

Options A and C represent only a small fraction of the paragraph; they are only sub-topics of the discussion. So, they cannot be regarded as the theme of the paragraph.

Option D is not the theme as it does not represent the author's view about literacy; rather, it represents how Europeans treated literacy.

Option B is the theme of the passage. It exactly represents the author's take on literacy. The author has been critical and disapproving of how the Europeans, universities, and Bourdieu tried to undermine African literacy due to their intellectual arrogance.

5. (B)

Sarcastic (B) is the correct choice here. Words 'sardonic' and 'sarcastic' are similar but do not have the same meaning. The word 'sardonic' is characterised by bitter or scornful words, and it is slightly harsher than the word 'sarcasm', which is characterised by irony used to mock.

Passage 6

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

There's an iconic moment, filmed in the shadow of the Very Large Array in New Mexico, that many people who visit this giant telescope try to duplicate. A young astronomer sits cross-legged on the bonnet of her car, the towering line of radio dishes vanishing into the distance behind her. With her laptop in front of her, she's listening intently to a giant pair of headphones, held upside down so that the strap hangs below her chin. The shot is from the film *Contact* (1997), and the astronomer, Dr Eleanor Arroway (played by Jodie Foster), is listening, awestruck, to the first signal from extraterrestrial intelligence. Having worked as a professional astronomer for more than a decade, I've met several colleagues for whom the film was an important part of their childhood. Many modern astronomers are driven by the ideals that *Contact* speaks to, the awe of discovery, and the search for

company somewhere in this vast and empty Universe.

On 19 October 2017, the astronomer Robert Weryk spotted something rather extraordinary: a splinter of rock, just a few hundred metres across, tumbling through our inner solar system. Not much to write home about, you might think: there are more than 750,000 known asteroids and comets in our cosmic backyard, and countless millions more waiting to be discovered. But this object was very, very special. As his team would soon discover, this piece of flying cosmic debris could only have come from outside of our own solar system. The human race had found its first-ever interstellar traveller.

The object was soon named 'Oumuamua: Hawaiian for 'first distant messenger' or 'scout' (and pronounced the way one might write an ode to a cow: 'Oh, moo-er, moo-er'). More than three years later, the debate over 'Oumuamua's true nature has spilt beyond the borders of academic astronomy



and into the popular imagination. One reason is obvious: a visitor from the stars—not in any metaphorical sense, but a real, tangible object right here, in our cosmic backyard—forces us to see ourselves as a small part of a wider Universe that exists far beyond our imaginative shores. There’s another reason: in our current space-faring culture, just as we’re launching missions to the planets and dreaming of visiting the stars, a compelling question would inevitably arise: What if ‘Oumuamua is more than a simple inanimate object?

The existence of extraterrestrial life is one of humanity’s great driving questions. Before Socrates, the ancient Greek philosophers debated the ‘plurality of worlds’, and who among us hasn’t looked up at the stars at some point and wondered if there wasn’t someone, somewhere, looking back? In the latter half of the 20th century, this enduring fascination crystallised into a systematic scientific search effort known as SETI: the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence. But after more than six decades of hunting for radio signals from nearby stars, we’re as alone as we ever were. When we speculate about life elsewhere in the Universe, we’re doing the most dangerous of things, from a scientific perspective: extrapolating from a single data point, that of human existence. This combination of a profound and universal yearning, undercut by a total absence of evidence, has allowed the question of extraterrestrials to become a cosmic blank canvas onto which it’s possible to project our hopes and our fears, our deepest insecurities, and our loftiest desires. Our answer to the question of whether or not extraterrestrial intelligence might exist often tells us more about the baggage we bring than anything about the Universe as it really is.

Victorians of the late 19th century, living in the era of ambitious engineering, looked at Mars and saw globe-spanning canals—evidence, they believed, of a grand industrial civilisation mirroring their own. In the

Cold War 1960s, as millions lived under the shadow of potential nuclear annihilation, ‘neocatastrophism’—the theory that violent events inevitably wipe out extraterrestrial civilisations—emerged as an explanation for our apparent cosmic solitude. The Argentinian Trotskyist J Posadas was convinced that advanced aliens would be socialists; more recently, the Vatican’s then-chief astronomer José Gabriel Funes suggested in 2008 that extraterrestrials might share a close relationship with God. Scientists tend to believe that intelligent extraterrestrials will be builders of technology, fluent in the universal language of mathematics. In contact, the aliens announce their presence by beaming prime numbers at us, and many of our messages broadcast to the stars consist of physics and mathematics wrapped up in binary code. This perspective on aliens as scientific rationalists underlies most of modern SETI. It’s a viewpoint that I happen to agree with. Then again, I’m a scientist: of course, I do.

1. The figure of speech used in the first paragraph is:
(A) Imagery
(B) Antithesis
(C) Paradox
(D) Metaphor
2. Which of the following is true regarding the passage?
(A) The passage has mentioned facts supporting the presence of extraterrestrial life.
(B) The passage has mentioned facts that negate the presence of extraterrestrial life.
(C) The passage has neither negated nor approved the presence of extraterrestrial life.
(D) The passage has indicated that whether or not there is extraterrestrial life is still debatable and a matter of research.
3. What is the writing style used in the passage?



- (A) Descriptive
 - (B) Analytical
 - (C) Contemplative
 - (D) Retrospective
4. All of the following have got a mention or an indication in the passage, except:
- (A) Humans live in constant fear of extinction.
 - (B) The possibility of 'Oumuamua' being related to extra-terrestrial intelligence.
 - (C) Ancient philosophers debated the possibility of extra-terrestrial intelligence.
 - (D) The author is a professional astronomer.

Solutions

1. (A)

Imagery is a figure of speech used by the authors to create visuals/images in the minds of the readers. The author has tried to draw a picture with his words in the first paragraph. Hence, A is the answer.

Metaphor is a direct comparison, not present anywhere in the paragraph. Antithesis is the placement of two contradictory ideas side by side. And a paradox is a contradictory statement in itself.

2. (D)

The passage has neither supported nor negated the presence of extra-terrestrial life. Still, it is a difficult choice between options C and D.

We should go with D, as option C is very neutral and does not cover the true intention behind writing the passage. Whereas, in the passage, the author has presented two views—one of the scientists, which is based on research and observation; and the other of the inquisitive masses, which is derived out of sheer curiosity—to drive home the point that existence of extra-terrestrial life is still a matter of debate and research.

3. (B)

The author is majorly analytical in his style as he has analysed various prospects of the existence of extra-terrestrial intelligence. In the first paragraph, though, he has mentioned a movie from the past. But that is just that. It is not prevalent; hence, calling the passage retrospective is not good. Contemplative would be the wrong word to describe a scientific piece of writing that attempts to provoke readers' curiosity.

4. (D)

The word 'neocatastrophism' used in the last paragraph indicates what has been stated in option A. The last sentence of the third paragraph—what if 'Oumuamua is more than a simple inanimate object?—indicates what has been written in option B. And the second sentence of the fourth paragraph indicates what has been stated in option C.

Nowhere in the passage has it been mentioned or indicated that the author is an astronomer. Though, in the last sentence of the passage, it is mentioned that the author is a scientist. But that does not mean that we can call him an astronomer. Hence, D is the correct answer.



Passage 7

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Forget the great white shark from *Jaws* or the megalodon from *The Meg*: there's a new superstar shark in town, and it'll give you more nightmares than both of them combined. Meet the goblin shark.

The secretive fish was first found off the eastern coast of Japan, where it was described in 1898. With its unusually long snout and fleshy skin tone, the shark was given the name *tenguzame*—a mythical Japanese monster with a long face, pink skin, and demonic jaws, which led to the Western translation, 'goblin shark'. The pink colouration is due to blood vessels shining through its translucent skin.

The shark lives in the open ocean, at depths of 100 to 1,300 metres. It can be found in the Atlantic, Pacific, and Indian Oceans, with a scattered, patchy distribution. It has been pulled up from the seas around Japan, New Zealand, France, Madeira, South Africa, Brazil, and many other countries. There is evidence that the goblin shark may occasionally move up into shallower waters, like many other deep-sea species.

The goblin shark gives birth to live pups. When born, these are around 80 to 100 cm in length. When mature, the males measure 260 to 380 cm. Like most shark species, the females are larger, at more than 420 cm. Some whopping specimens of 620 cm have also been discovered.

With their small, slender teeth measuring less than 1cm across, goblin sharks probably chow down on small, soft-bodied fish and invertebrates.

In recent years, rare video footage has shown just how incredible those unusual jaws are. First, the goblin shark uses electroreceptors called ampullae of Lorenzini on its long nose to detect the electrical fields of its prey. Then, when prey is located, the

goblin shark uses the natural buoyancy provided by its large, oil-rich liver to float silently towards its victim. When the unwary animal gets within range,—SMASH!—a pair of extendable jaws filled with nail-like teeth lunge out from its face.

When the jaws are retracted, the goblin shark looks far less unusual and closely resembles other deep-sea shark species.

“When specimens of goblin sharks were first captured and recorded, their jaws were in the protruded position. Older textbooks illustrate the animals in this way”, says marine biologist Tom Hird. “In the past ten years or so, scientists studying live specimens at depth using submersibles have helped us establish exactly how the jaw thrusts forward when the sharks feed”.

The goblin shark belongs to the family Mitsukurinidae, which contains one living species, the goblin shark. There are other extinct members of this family in the fossil record, which dates back some 125 million years. Previously, several specimens of goblin sharks were classified as different species, but this was due to preservation techniques fixing the jaws in different positions, leading to confusion.

Goblin sharks certainly have an aura of mystery. They are not thought to be rare, yet so few animals have been found that it is hard to draw any conclusions about how abundant they are.

In every sense, the goblin shark is a creature ripe for Hollywood to exploit. Let's just hope that it doesn't follow in the path of many of its shark cousins and become exploited by fishing fleets, too.

1. Which of the following can be inferred about the Goblin sharks?
 - (A) Goblin sharks have caused more human casualties than all the other species of sharks combined.



- (B) Goblin sharks do not like human contact and are likely to attack humans readily.
- (C) Goblin sharks are on the verge of extinction; hence stringent anti-poaching laws need to be framed.
- (D) Goblin sharks are the last surviving species of the family they belong to.
2. Which of the following is not true about the Goblin sharks?
- (A) Like most of the species of sharks, females are larger in Goblin sharks.
- (B) The first specimen of the Goblin shark was found near the eastern coast of Japan.
- (C) Goblin shark is a deep-sea creature; it is unlikely to be spotted in shallow waters.
- (D) Goblin shark is a mysterious oviparous animal that usually dwells in the deep sea.
3. Choose the set that correctly defines the characteristics of the Goblin shark.
- (A) Deep-sea creature—pink skin—long snout—large teeth
- (B) Coastal creature—translucent skin—long snout—large teeth
- (C) Deep-sea creature—translucent skin—long snout—small teeth
- (D) Deep-sea creature—pink skin—long snout—small teeth
4. Which of the following is the author likely to suggest regarding Goblin sharks?
- (A) Making more stringent anti-poaching laws to protect Goblin sharks.
- (B) Making a Hollywood movie featuring Goblin shark as a monstrous animal.
- (C) Increasing number of studies using submarines to learn more about the species.
- (D) Writing a book on Goblin sharks to spread awareness about its innocuousness.
5. Choose the most appropriate title for the passage.
- (A) Goblin: prey or predator
- (B) Goblin: the new giant of the deep sea
- (C) Goblin: ready to join Hollywood
- (D) Goblin: secretive giant

Solutions

1. (D)

Nothing about human casualties occurring due to Goblin sharks has been discussed in the passage; hence, A should not be inferred.

Though it is mentioned in the passage that Goblin sharks are secretive, it will be far-fetched to infer that they are likely to attack humans readily. Hence, B should not be inferred.

Nowhere in the passage has it been mentioned that Goblin sharks are on the verge of extinction. Rather, it is mentioned in the second last paragraph that they are not thought to be rare, but it is difficult to estimate the population of these sharks. Hence, C would be a wrong inference.

The ninth paragraph states, 'The goblin shark belongs to the family Mitsukurinidae, which contains one living species, the goblin shark'. This is exactly what has been written in option D. Hence, D is the correct answer.

2. (D)

B is mentioned in the second paragraph. A is mentioned in the third paragraph. C is also true, as stated in the passage that Goblin sharks are deep-sea creatures; hence, they are unlikely to appear near the coast, though sometimes they might come in shallow waters.

D is not true, as given in the passage that Goblin sharks give birth to live pups.



Hence, they are viviparous, not oviparous. D is the answer here.

3. (C)

It is written in the second paragraph that 'The pink colouration is due to blood vessels shining through its translucent skin'. Hence, option C is the correct set to describe the characteristics of the Goblin shark.

4. (B)

In the first paragraph, the author mentions two movies based on sharks. In the final paragraph, the author again states, 'the goblin shark is a creature ripe for Hollywood to exploit'.

Plus, the author seems to be very excited and intrigued with the discovery of an interesting species of sharks. Hence, he would most likely suggest making a movie based on Goblin shark.

Other options do not find any ground in the passage. Hence, assuming any of those would be incorrect.

5. (B)

Option A is least likely to be the correct choice here, as Goblin has not been discussed as prey or a predator in the passage. So, it can easily be discarded.

The fight is tough between B and C. In the passage, the author has clearly suggested that Goblin is ripe for Hollywood. Still, there are plenty of reasons to go with option B.

Option C gives an impression that Hollywood has announced plans to make a movie on Goblin, which is certainly not the case in the passage. The author has simply introduced a recently discovered species of sharks and described its features. After which, he has added his personal view that this species is so intriguing that it can be a crisp and entertaining subject for Hollywood.

The passage is mostly about describing the characteristics and features of Goblin, which is a newly-discovered species (comparatively), and little is known about it. Hence, one should go with option B.

Passage 8

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

In little more than a decade, our understanding of the recent period of human evolution has been revolutionised. New excavations and the application of exciting scientific methods yield extraordinary insights into our ancient past and overturn previously-held truths.

We now know that as recently as 40,000 years ago, there may have been six or more different lineages of humans on Earth, including Neanderthals, Denisovans, the 'Hobbits' of Flores (*Homo floresiensis*), *Homo luzonensis* on the island of Luzon in the Philippines, in addition to us (*Homo sapiens*).

We also know that we carry a genetic legacy from when we overlapped with these lost

cousins. And this genetic inheritance might have been one key to how we ultimately managed to become so successful and spread so widely across the planet.

Our species, *Homo sapiens*, evolved in Africa around 300,000 years ago. Before 2010 the prevailing thought among scientists was that these people had very little, if any, contact with other now-extinct human relatives (the most well-known being the Neanderthals) as they left Africa and expanded outwards into Eurasia. Precisely when this happened is not known.

I believe that there were several out of Africa movements, broadly between 160,000 and 60,000 years ago, but the most important for our story were the more recent. In some archaeological sites in Europe, there is a gap



between the latest Neanderthal archaeological layers and the start of subsequent layers containing evidence for early *Homo sapiens*. This suggested that perhaps the two groups might not have even met one another in these regions.

In 2010, however, scientists in Leipzig, Germany, announced that they had sequenced the majority of the Neanderthal genome. Analysis showed that human beings do inherit a small amount of Neanderthal DNA and that there had, in fact, been interbreeding between our two groups.

This came as a great surprise to many at the time. The suggestion was that the two groups may have met briefly, possibly somewhere in the Near East, with humans subsequently carrying low but similar levels of Neanderthal genetic ancestry to all parts of the world.

A few years later, in 2014, my research group at the University of Oxford discovered that, in Europe, Neanderthals and *Homo sapiens* had actually overlapped with one another for a considerable time: up to 5,000 years, before Neanderthals disappeared about 40,000 years ago. The disappearance of Neanderthals was therefore a longer and more drawn-out process than previously thought.

Between 45,000 to 40,000 years ago, it seems, we were contemporaries and had ample time to meet and interact. New evidence I describe in my book *The World Before Us* suggests an even wider overlap, both in Europe and in other parts of Eurasia.

Given this co-existence and the genetic exchange that occurred, could there also have been cultural exchange between the two groups? Many palaeoanthropologists thought for decades that if there was cultural exchange it was likely to be one way: from the supposedly superior *Homo sapiens* to the less capable Neanderthals.

Recent work on the Neanderthals and their world has shown that, far from the backward

cave dwellers widely popularised in the 19-20th century, they were a capable, often sophisticated group of hunter-gatherers present for more than 250,000 years, surviving through periods of often significant variability in climate. Evidence is emerging that prior to the arrival of modern humans they were doing certain things that were considered previously to be the exclusive domain of us—*Homo sapiens*.

Fascinating new evidence, for example, now suggests that Neanderthals might have been the first cave painters of Europe. We can date small concretions of calcium carbonate that have slowly grown over painted surfaces using traces of radioactive isotopes of uranium. Extremely old ages have been obtained, showing that some of the painted caves in Spain are more than 65,000 years old.

This is a time when Neanderthals were the sole occupants of Europe. Archaeologists assumed for decades that all early art drawn on cave walls was produced by modern humans. These new results challenge that view. Similarly, we are also beginning to recognise evidence for Neanderthals behaving in other ways that we often term ‘behaviourally modern’; perhaps wearing ornaments made from eagle talons, decorating themselves with feathers, using mineral colourants, and preparing skins probably for clothing using deliberately selected bone implements.

I wonder whether we ought to look at the overlap period evident in the archaeological record as one where there might have been an exchange of ideas, creativity, and technology between the two groups as they met and interacted, rather than this being one way as previously thought.

1. The primary purpose of the passage is:
 - (A) To explain that there existed different lineages of humans who possessed similar characteristics as *Homo sapiens*.
 - (B) To conclude that *Homo sapiens* interacted with their lost cousins and



- human beings inherit a small amount of their DNA.
- (C) To suggest that there might have been a cultural exchange between *Homo sapiens* and Neanderthals.
- (D) To suggest that Neanderthals were smarter than *Homo sapiens*, and they spread across the globe before *Homo sapiens* did.
2. According to the various studies and archaeological surveys carried out by the scientists, which of the following can certainly be said about the nature of the relationship between Neanderthals and *Homo sapiens*?
- (A) There was a mutual exchange of ideas, creativity, and technology between the two groups.
- (B) If there was a cultural exchange between the two groups, it was only one way: from *Homo sapiens* to Neanderthals.
- (C) Out-of-Africa movements of Neanderthals happened broadly between 1,60,000 and 60,000 years ago, but they did not overlap with *Homo sapiens*.
- (D) Much of the overlapping of the two groups happened between 45,000 and 40,000 years ago in Europe and Eurasia.
3. All of the following are likely to be true about Neanderthals, except:
- (A) The evolution of Neanderthals pre-dates the evolution of the *Homo sapiens*.
- (B) Neanderthals lived in proximity to *Homo sapiens* in the years before their extinction.
- (C) Neanderthals occupied Europe and Eurasia before *Homo sapiens*.
- (D) Before their extinction nearly 40,000 years ago, Neanderthals were more developed and evolved than *Homo sapiens*.
4. The author of this passage is most likely to be a/an:
- (A) Archaeologist
- (B) Anthropologist
- (C) Paleoanthropologist
- (D) Paleoarchaeologist
5. Which would be the most suitable title for the given passage?
- (A) The influence of Neanderthals on *Homo sapiens*
- (B) Neanderthals and their journey with *Homo sapiens*
- (C) *Homo sapiens* and their lost cousins
- (D) Evolution of *Homo sapiens* and Neanderthals

Solutions

1. (C)

The primary purpose refers to the theme of the passage—the most prevalent argument. The author has focused majorly on how the new studies in the last decade have revolutionised our views about our past. Previously it was a matter of speculation whether *Homo sapiens* interacted with Neanderthals or not. But recent studies and research revealed that the modern man inherits a small amount of their DNA.

The author has called these revelations exciting and surprising. Moreover, the author seems to be intrigued with the idea of cultural exchange between the two groups.

Based on these facts, it is convenient to call option C the passage's primary purpose.

Options A and B serve as sub-topics as they have been mentioned in the passage. They cannot be regarded as the main idea. Option B does not provide a



precise picture of the facts mentioned in the passage. The passage has claimed that *Homo sapiens* interacted with Neanderthals, but option B is vague and states the association of *Homo sapiens* with other lost cousins. Option D is incorrect, as *Homo sapiens* were considered the smarter of the two groups in the passage.

2. (D)

The last paragraph of the passage suggests that it cannot be said with surety that the exchange of ideas was mutual or one way. Hence, options A and B can be ruled out.

The first part of option C is certainly correct, but the second part cannot be claimed with certainty. In the passage, only the possibility of that being the case has been indicated.

The ninth paragraph of the passage indicates that option D is correct.

3. (D)

The 5th paragraph of the passage suggests that option A is likely to be correct.

The 9th paragraph suggests that option B is correct.

The 12th and 13th paragraphs suggest that option C is correct.

D has not been indicated anywhere in the passage; hence, it is not true. D is the answer.

4. (C)

Archaeologists are chiefly concerned with collecting samples from the sites and determining their age. Anthropologists chiefly study the behaviour and relation of human groups. Since the author is concerned with the cultural and behavioural patterns of the Neanderthals, he is most likely a palaeoanthropologist. In the given passage, 'palaeoanthropologist' is a pinpoint description, while archaeologists will have a broader sense.

5. (A)

A is the most appropriate title for the given passage. It covers both the chief arguments made by the author in the passage.

C is not a good choice as only the Neanderthals, and not all the lost cousins have been discussed in the passage.

D is not a good choice as nothing about the evolution of *Homo sapiens* has been said in the passage.

B is a good choice but not very accurate. The passage is not about their journey but their interaction.

Passage 9

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

A cross-sectional survey by the Indian Council of Medical Research- National Institute of Virology to study the prevalence of Nipah virus (NiV) in bats of India has picked up samples with the presence of antibodies against the Nipah virus in some bat species from a cave in Mahabaleshwar, a popular hill station in Satara district, Maharashtra. NiV is on the top-10 priority list pathogens identified by the World Health Organisation.

To date, India has experienced four episodes of NiV outbreaks with CFR ranging from 65% to 100%. The first evidence of NiV infection was reported in Siliguri district, West Bengal in 2001, followed by Nadia district in West Bengal in 2007. The presence of NiV antibodies was detected in Mynaguri and Dubri districts of Assam and Cooch Behar of West Bengal, both places situated close to the Bangladesh border. A third outbreak occurred in Kozhikode district of Kerala state in 2018 with 18 case fatalities, followed by



another outbreak in the same state in 2019. A study in 2018 has identified many South-East Asian countries, including Indian states as potential hotspots for the NiV disease.

Pteropus medius bats, which are large fruit-eating bats, are the incriminated reservoir for NiV in India as both NiV RNA and antibodies were detected in the samples of these bats collected during previous NiV outbreaks. Studies on other species of bats as potential NiV reservoirs in India are very limited.

The new study—Detection of possible Nipah virus infection in *Rousettus leschenaultii* and *Pipistrellus* bats in Maharashtra, India, published in the *Journal of Infection and Public Health*—has found the virus and antibodies in different species. In March 2020, from a cave in Mahabaleshwar, two species of bats, *Rousettus leschenaultii* (medium-sized fruit-eating bats) and *Pipistrellus pipistrellus* (tiny insectivorous bats), were trapped by researchers using mist nets.

Blood, throat, and rectal swab samples were collected onsite from anaesthetised bats. Throat and rectal swab specimens were collected from all the bats. Necropsy of ten bats of each species was performed at the containment facility of the Indian Council of Medical Research-National Institute of Virology (ICMR-NIV), Pune.

RNA was extracted from samples and Anti-NiV IgG antibodies were detected in a number of the samples. One bat each from *R. leschenaultii* and *P. pipistrellus* species tested positive for both NiV RNA and anti-NiV IgG antibodies, the study said. This is the first report of possible NiV infection in *R. leschenaultii* bats in India, which was demonstrated by the presence of both NiV RNA and anti-NiV IgG antibodies in bats, said Dr Pragya Yadav, NIV scientist and one of the authors.

The cross-sectional survey was initiated to study the prevalence of NiV in bats of India by random sampling of *P. medius*,

R. leschenaultii and *P. pipistrellus* bats that have wide prevalence in India, said Mangesh Gokhale, lead author of the study, and Dr DT Mourya, former director of NIV and one of the authors.

In earlier investigations during the last decade, NiV activity could not be detected in *R. leschenaultii*, despite processing several hundred bats, including bats from the same location.

1. According to the passage:
 - (A) India has experienced four outbreaks of NiV; first in Siliguri, second in Nadia, third in Mynaguri, and fourth in Dubri.
 - (B) India has experienced four outbreaks of NiV; first in Siliguri, second in Nadia, third in Cooch Behar, and fourth in Kozhikode.
 - (C) India has experienced four outbreaks of NiV; first in Siliguri, second in Nadia, third in Kozhikode, and fourth in Mahabaleshwar.
 - (D) India has experienced four outbreaks of NiV; the first two were in the state of West Bengal, and the other two were in the state of Kerala.
2. Which of the following statements is/are correct?
 - I. *Pteropus medius* bats are the carriers of both NiV RNA and antibodies against NiV.
 - II. Before 2020, only *Pteropus medius* bats were known to be the carriers of NiV.
 - (A) Only I
 - (B) Only II
 - (C) Both I and II
 - (D) Neither I nor II
3. The main purpose of the passage is:
 - (A) To highlight the fact that only *Pteropus medius* bats are the potential carrier of NiV in India.
 - (B) To suggest that there might be some species of bats other than *Pteropus*



medius which can be potential carriers of NiV.

- (C) To highlight the possible presence of antibodies against NiV in certain species of bats sampled in Mahabaleshwar.
- (D) To highlight the processes carried out by the scientists to survey the presence of antibodies in certain species of bats.
4. In earlier investigations, NiV activity could not be detected in *R leschenaultia*; what could be a possible explanation behind the detection of NiV in these bats now?

- I. Earlier, the number of bats sampled to carry out the survey was insufficient.
- II. Both *R leschenaultia* and *Pteropus medius* are fruit-eating species; they might have shared the same fruit.
- III. *R leschenaultia* might have caught the infection from *P pipistrellus*, as they both are inhabitants of Mahabaleshwar.
- (A) I and II
(B) Only II
(C) II and III
(D) Only I

Solutions

1. (D)

On reading the second paragraph, it is evident that option D is the correct statement. Such types of questions only require a careful reading.

2. (C)

Statement I can be confirmed from the first sentence of the third paragraph. Statement II can be inferred as the possible antibody and NiV infection found in a survey conducted in March 2020. So, the correct answer is both I and II.

3. (C)

Option A goes against the new survey's findings discussed in the passage; hence A is certainly incorrect.

Option D is very shallow and does not cover the domain of the passage; hence, it can be cancelled as well.

Options B and C are left after elimination. But to decide upon the correct choice, one must understand the passage's tone. Rather than highlighting the

disease, the passage has highlighted the cure.

In the first passage, the author mentions the possible presence of antibodies against NiV in certain species of bats. Again, the first sentence of the sixth paragraph only mentions the antibody. Hence, it is safer to go with option C.

4. (B)

Based on the facts given in the passage, only statement II will be the right assumption. It is mentioned in the passage that both these species of bats are fruit-eating species. Hence, II is a possibility.

As far as statement I is concerned, it can be negated after reading the passage's last sentence.

Statement III is not likely to be a correct explanation, as the NiV activity has been detected in both these species in a recent survey.



Passage 10

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Most of us live in social worlds that are profoundly unequal, where small elites have vastly more power and wealth than everyone else. Very few of the have-nots find this congenial. As experimental economists have shown, we tend to enter social situations prepared to take a chance and cooperate in collective activities. But if others take more than their share, we resent being played for a sucker. We live in unequal worlds, and few of us are unaware of or indifferent to that fact.

Since the elites are massively outnumbered, the origins and stability of unequal divisions of the cake are puzzling, especially once we realise that this is a very recent aspect of our social existence. Our particular species of humans have been around for about 300,000 years, and, best as we can tell, for about 290,000 of those years, we lived materially poorer but much more equal lives. For most of our life as a species, most communities lived as mobile foragers, shifting camps when local resources became scarce, but probably sticking to a regular pattern over a defined territory.

Mobile foragers live in small bands (tens, not hundreds), but with connections of kith and kin to neighbouring bands, in social worlds of a few hundred to a few thousand. In many respects, these forager cultures are varied. They have differing cultural traditions and face different environments. The Australian Western Desert and the High Arctic could hardly be less alike, and both differ sharply from the rainforests of the Congo Basin. Even so, in crucial ways, their social lives are remarkably similar. They sometimes have elders or initiates, but they have no chiefs. No-one has command authority over other adult males. Relations between the sexes vary, but women are indispensable, skilled, autonomous, and essential props of the

foraging economy in many forager cultures. They gather plant foods and small game, and make much of the equipment of everyday life. They often have a good deal of social and sexual choices.

In contrast with subsistence farmers, foragers are indulgent towards their children, who roam self-educating in mixed-age groups, learning by exploring and experimenting. While the U.S. cultural anthropologist Marshall Sahlins exaggerated the ease of forager life in his book chapter 'The Original Affluent Society' (1972), he was right that they met their subsistence needs efficiently and often quite quickly, in part through a profound commitment to sharing. These communities didn't just happen to be fairly equal, but actively sought equality. The Canadian archaeologist Brian Hayden has long insisted that every community contains aggressive, ambitious individuals who'd like to be leaders. Foragers keep these upstarts on a short leash.

Somehow, after 290,000 years of living without anyone having the power to tell us what to do, and with every member of a community having about as much as everyone else, most of us are now subject to command, and with immensely less than a favoured few. Why? Of course, in the state societies we live in, there's no mystery about the many accepting their subordination to elites. While elites are vastly outnumbered, they control the army, the police, and the state apparatus. An attempt to seize elite wealth would be met by overwhelming coercive power, and even successful revolutions have a dismal record of largely replacing one elite with another, usually at the expense of many lives, mostly of the poor. So, for those outside the elite world, their least-worst option is to accept subordination, perhaps with individual or collective attempts at amelioration, depending on the specifics of the political environment.



No social world ever went from an egalitarian community to an elite-dominated, state-structured society in one fell swoop. It's a gradual movement towards inequality. The pathway to inequality leads through unequal, but still small-scale and stateless, communities, in which incipient elites lived with and among their neighbours, and without control of coercive state institutions. As such, they were vulnerable, and as Christopher Boehm notes in *Hierarchy in the Forest* (1999), and Stephen Pinker too, in *The Better Angels of Our Nature* (2011), the denizens of pre-state communities aren't shy about the judicious application of violence. So how did inequality establish and grow without the cloak of law and the shield of organised state power?

1. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage's first paragraph?
 - (A) Most of us are aware of the economic and power dynamics prevalent in the world.
 - (B) The have-nots themselves are responsible for their plight.
 - (C) Most of the have-nots have readily accepted the reality of this unequal world.
 - (D) Humans naturally tend to enter social situations with unequal opportunities.
2. All the following are true according to the passage, except:
 - (A) Our ancestors kept changing their whereabouts every time they ran out of resources.
 - (B) The unequal distribution of resources is a very recent phenomenon in the history of humankind.
 - (C) Our ancestors enjoyed a materially richer and much more equal life than we do.
 - (D) The unequal distribution of resources favouring elites is surprising, considering how the have-nots outnumber the elite.
3. Which of the following is not true about mobile foragers?
 - (A) They usually lived in small groups but had close relations with the neighbouring groups.
 - (B) They lived in different environments and had differing cultural traditions; still, their social standards were very similar.
 - (C) Women in their societies enjoyed a comparatively independent and self-sufficient lifestyle.
 - (D) In most of the groups, there would be a head whom everyone looked up to and followed.
4. With which of the following the author is most likely to agree?
 - (A) The foragers lived and enjoyed a very easy-going life.
 - (B) Foragers had developed a profound culture of sharing.
 - (C) Foragers had a structured educational system for their children.
 - (D) Foragers had a leader in most of their communities.
5. The primary purpose of the passage could be:
 - (A) To explain how through centuries, humans lived in an egalitarian society.
 - (B) To explain the phenomenon of a gradual change from egalitarianism to the dominance of a few.
 - (C) To discuss how inequality crept into our world due to a decline in our cultural, social, and moral values.
 - (D) To highlight the difference between the lifestyle of foragers and modern societies.



Solutions

1. (A)

‘We live in unequal worlds, and few of us are unaware of, or indifferent to, that fact’.—this last sentence from the first paragraph implies the same thing written in option A. Hence, option A is the correct answer.

B has not been mentioned anywhere in the passage; hence it can be easily discarded.

‘Very few of the have-nots find this congenial’.—This sentence clearly indicates that C cannot be inferred.

‘We tend to enter social situations prepared to take a chance and cooperate in collective activities’.—This sentence indicates that D cannot be inferred.

2. (C)

On reading the second paragraph of the passage, it is evident that the statements in options A, B, and D are true. But the first part of option C is not correct, as it is stated in the paragraph that the foragers lived a materially poor but much more equal life. Hence, C is the answer here.

3. (D)

The question is concerned with the third paragraph of the passage. On reading the third paragraph, it is evident that options A, B, and C are correct. In contrast, it is mentioned that foragers did not quite like the idea of chiefs in their communities. Hence, D is not true, and it is the answer.

4. (B)

The question is concerned with the fourth paragraph of the passage. Since the author believed that Marshall Sahlins exaggerated the ease of forager life, he is not likely to agree with option A.

The author has stated that their children learned through exploration and experimentation by living with the mixed-age groups. Hence, he is not likely to agree with option C.

The last sentence of the same paragraph indicates that the author would not agree with option D as well.

The correct answer is option B. It has been indicated in the fourth paragraph.

5. (B)

Option B captures both the parts of the main idea propagated in the passage: egalitarianism in the past and the dominance of the elite today. Hence, it is the correct choice to describe the purpose of the passage.

Option A captures only one aspect of the passage; hence, it is not a good choice.

The author has not discussed the decline in cultural, social, and moral values. Hence, option C cannot be the purpose.

And if the author had wanted to highlight the difference between the lifestyle of the foragers and modern societies, he would have discussed the modern lifestyle a bit more. Plus, option D does not mention the core issue of egalitarianism. Hence, it does not define the purpose.

Passage 11

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

We’ve all heard the numbers: Consumer confidence is down, retail sales are down. And for many of us, the markets we serve

are down, as well. There is an important relationship to note here. Confidence—an attitude—is down, so sales are down. When confidence is up, sales follow. The principle at work here is this: Our actions follow our



attitudes. The relationship between actions and attitudes is so close, that the two go hand-in-hand, and our actions can be seen as outward expressions of our attitudes.

Ok, so what does that have to do with you? Here's what: If the markets you serve are down, that action (lack of buying) is a result of an attitude (lack of confidence). And you can influence that attitude, and be part of the solution, or be influenced by it, and thus contribute to the problem.

Attitudes are contagious. You know that if you spend a lot of time with negative people, you begin to see what's wrong with everything and everyone. Hang around a lot with depressed people, and you become depressed. On the other hand, if you are with energetic and optimistic people, it rubs off on you as well.

Here's one more piece of this puzzle. You can choose your attitudes. You can choose to be happy, you can choose to be sad, you can choose to be confident, and you can choose to be cautious. Don't believe it? Take this little test. Tomorrow, as you are eating breakfast, tell yourself these things over and over. 'It's going to be a rotten day. Everybody's afraid to buy. Most people probably won't even see me. I'll probably be laid off soon anyway'. Now, having repeated that litany of dreariness to yourself, pay attention to what kind of attitude you exhibit during the day. You are probably not going to be effervescent and overwhelmingly positive. Instead, you'll be depressed and discouraged, and you'll spread it to the people around you like the plague.

You could, on the other hand, dramatically change your attitude for the day if you were to get up in the morning, and repeat this kind of dialogue with yourself: 'It's going to be a good day. I can't wait to see what good things are going to happen. I know there's some good things I can do for my customers. I'm going to make a difference in their businesses and their lives'. The result of that

kind of train of thought is confidence and positive energy. And you'll spread that, also.

Here's the point. You can choose to be part of the problem, or part of the solution. You can choose to be influenced by the negativity around you. You can reflect that cautiousness and lack of confidence. You can contribute to that downward spiral in attitude. In that case, you have chosen to be part of the problem.

On the other hand, you can choose to be part of the solution. You can choose an attitude of confidence and optimism. By doing so, you influence those around you and you do your small part to contribute to the solution. Of course, you are not single-handedly going to change world attitudes. But you can positively influence those in your spheres of contact.

You are a professional. You contact more individuals in the course of the day than most people do. Your customers, prospects, colleagues; your friends and family; the people you work with and supervise; even your managers—all of them can be influenced via your attitude. Because of your position of great potential influence, you have a greater responsibility to be proactive, and to lead others.

It's time for you to step up to the plate and become a positive leader for those around you.

1. Choose the most suitable title for the passage.
 - (A) Are you part of the solution or part of the problem?
 - (B) You, too, can sell
 - (C) How to sell confidently and effectively
 - (D) Change your attitude, change the outcome!
2. Choose the correct set that defines the author's tone in this passage.
 - (A) Zealous, optimistic, and encouraging
 - (B) Zealous, optimistic, and alarming
 - (C) Ostensible, elegant, and inflated



- (D) Exaggerated, enthusiastic, and energetic
3. Choose the most accurate theme of the passage.
- (A) Our sale on a particular day depends on our attitude that day.
- (B) You can be part of the solution or part of the problem by changing your attitude.
- (C) Staying in the company of negative people produces negative results,

and staying in the company of positive people produces positive results.

(D) Our actions follow our attitude, and the outcome follows the action.

4. The author is most likely to be a:
- (A) Motivational speaker
- (B) Marketing expert
- (C) Successful entrepreneur
- (D) Yoga trainer

Solutions

1. (A)

Options A and D are both tough contenders to be the 'title of the passage', and it is a tough choice. But if one reads the passage carefully, it can be observed that the author of the passage has used the phrases, 'be the part of the solution' and 'be the part of the problem' again and again throughout the passage. Moreover, he has given choices to individuals whether they want to be a part of the solution or want to be a part of the problem. They can choose any of them; they only need to change their attitude and the company they keep.

So, from the author's tone and phrases, it can be said that option A is a more suitable title than option D.

2. (A)

All three words given in option A describe the traits displayed by the author; hence, it is the most accurate set to define his mood and tone.

The author in no way sounds alarming; hence, B cannot be correct.

Option C portrays a negative image of such a positive author; hence, it cannot be chosen.

'Exaggerated' is the word that cancels option D. The author has not exaggerated. Hence, D should not be chosen.

3. (B)

Just like the previous question, the choice is tough. But the difference is the same. The author mainly focuses on an individual's choice of becoming a part of the solution or a part of the problem. Hence, option B should be chosen.

In the absence of option B, D could have been the answer.

4. (B)

Again, the answer to this question could be perplexing. But if one is adept at reading between the lines, the answer is also obvious.

The tone, the language, and the words and phrases chosen by the author suggest that the author is more likely to be a marketing expert. Though the possibility of him being a motivational speaker cannot be completely negated on this ground, one has to choose the most accurate out of the given alternatives.

The author has frequently used market, sale, up, down, attitude, consumers, customers, managers, colleagues, etc. Hence, calling him a marketing expert would be a more apt description.



Passage 12

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

It is often claimed that small firms are responsible for a disproportionately large share of new jobs that are created in the U.S. economy. If true, this speaks well of the entrepreneurial spirit of the U.S. economy, whereby newcomers introduce new ideas or production processes that lead to new and improved products or services. The rise of global companies like Wal-Mart, Microsoft, and Google from small beginnings is a testament to the importance of small businesses and the economic forces they sometimes unleash. However, the claim that small businesses generate many new jobs must be evaluated carefully. First, there isn't a universal agreement on the definition of a small business.

Furthermore, the failure rates of small businesses are quite high. According to the Bureau of Labour Statistics, only about half of the businesses that opened in 1994 were still operating five years later. Thus, when one accounts for job destruction, small businesses appear to account for a significantly smaller share of net new jobs created in the private sector than many people might believe.

The importance of small businesses to job creation has been part of the economic policy narrative for some time. In 1979, then-Massachusetts Institute of Technology Professor David Birch claimed that firms with 20 or fewer employees accounted for two-thirds of all new jobs created between 1969 and 1976; firms with 100 or fewer employees accounted for 82 percent of all new jobs created. Conversely, he found that large firms (500 or more employees) accounted for only 15 percent of net job growth. Birch's finding challenged the conventional wisdom about job creation at the time and, accordingly, had an enormous influence on policymakers and researchers.

Some economists soon began to challenge Birch's findings. Using the same data as Birch, Catherine Armington and Marjorie Odle found in 1982 that businesses with 100 or fewer employees accounted for only 39 per cent of net new jobs. Several years later, Charles Brown, James Hamilton, and James Meddoff pointed out that 40 percent of jobs created in small businesses in 1980 no longer existed in 1986. A more up-to-date assessment of the job-creation characteristic of small businesses can be found in work published by Stephen Davis, John Haltiwanger, and Scott Schuh in 1996.

These authors noted that 'a common confusion between net and gross job creation distorts the overall job creation picture and hides the enormous number of new jobs created by large employers'. The authors found that although gross job creation is high for smaller firms (100 or fewer employees), so is job destruction. Slowly, researchers concluded that small businesses did create a lot of new jobs, but the high failure rate of these businesses suggested that their net job creation was much lower.

Earlier this year, a study designed to look at the entire economy was published. The researchers found that small firms create more net jobs than do large firms, which is consistent with the conventional wisdom but generally not the thrust of past research. However, they concede that Birch overestimated the importance of small businesses in job creation and found a much smaller difference between the net number of new jobs created by large firms and small firms than Birch originally suggested.

1. Which of the following best summarises the first paragraph of the passage?
 - (A) Small businesses generate a significantly larger share of new jobs.
 - (B) Small businesses generate a significantly smaller share of new jobs.



- (C) Whether or not small businesses generate a large percentage of new jobs should be scrutinised.
- (D) The claim that small businesses generate a large percentage of new jobs is false.
2. From the passage, it can be concluded that:
- (A) Birch's estimation regarding the number of new jobs created by small firms was more accurate than that of the later economists.
- (B) Birch's estimation regarding the number of new jobs created by small firms was slightly exaggerated.
- (C) Birch's estimation regarding the number of new jobs created by small firms was false.
- (D) Birch's estimation regarding the number of new jobs created by small firms was not per the conventional wisdom.
3. All of the following have been cited in the passage to strengthen the claim that small firms generate a large share of new jobs than big firms, except:
- (A) Global companies like Wal-Mart, Microsoft, and Google started small but became some of the most successful companies in the world.
- (B) Firms with 20 or fewer employees accounted for two-thirds of all new jobs created between 1969 and 1976.
- (C) Charles Brown, James Hamilton, and James Meddoff pointed out that 40 percent of jobs created in small businesses in 1980 no longer existed in 1986.
- (D) Birch found that large firms (500 or more employees) accounted for only 15 per cent of net job growth.
4. Which of the following defines the tone of the author in the passage?
- (A) Analytical
- (B) Curious
- (C) Concerned
- (D) Assertive
5. Choose the most appropriate title for the passage.
- (A) Small firms: job generators or job destructors
- (B) Small firms give more jobs than big firms
- (C) Role of small firms in job creation
- (D) Job creation: small firms versus big firms

Solutions

1. (C)
In the first half of the first paragraph, the author states that it is often claimed that small businesses generate a significantly large share of new jobs and gives examples that strengthen this claim. In the second half of the paragraph, the author mentions the possibility of these new businesses being responsible for job losses as well. And hence the net new job creation by the new businesses might be low.
To balance these two ideas, he says that the claim that small businesses generate a large percentage of new jobs must be evaluated carefully. This is exactly what is written in option C. Hence, C is the best way to summarise the first paragraph.
2. (B)
The last paragraph of the passage should be read in relation to the second paragraph. And it can be observed that, though Birch was right in saying that the small firms generated more jobs than big firms, he had overestimated the number of jobs generated by small firms. Hence, option B is the best conclusion.



3. (C)

Options B and D are Birch's findings in his research. He has supported the claim that small firms generate more jobs than big firms. Option A is the author's argument to highlight the importance and scope of new firms.

Option C states that new jobs created by small and new firms do not last long. Hence, it weakens the claim. So, C is the correct answer here.

4. (A)

As the author has compared two possibilities of the impact of the small firms on job creation, the tone and style adopted by him are analytical. He has not shown his inclination towards any of the claims discussed in the passage; hence, assertive should not be chosen

as the answer. His tone is far from being curious or concerned.

5. (C)

The role and importance of small firms have been analysed in the passage. Hence, option C is the most suitable choice to be the title of the passage.

Big firms have not been discussed in length; hence, it would be incorrect to assume that the passage compares small firms and big firms. So, option D should not be chosen.

The passage has not claimed that small firms give more jobs than big firms; hence B cannot be the answer.

The passage is not about discussing the small firms as job creators or destructors. It is about analysing the claim that they generate more jobs than big firms or not. Hence, A should not be chosen.

Passage 13

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

'The problem is that in economics two wrongs do not make a right'. —Paul Krugman, Economist, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Krugman's observation about economics would ring true in any number of economic policy debates. But it is especially appropriate in the current debate on whether the United States needs an industrial policy. Faced with increasing global competition and government activism abroad, many U.S. business interests have been calling on the federal government to take a more active role in the U.S. economy. Right now, Washington seems inclined to listen.

While there is no formal definition of industrial policy, it usually refers to a set of policies designed to promote promising industries while propping up or easing the fall of declining industries. Defined that way, industrial policy is often described as

the government picking winners and losers. Implicit in the argument for a U.S. industrial policy is the belief that market forces alone cannot or will not produce economic growth and rising living standards.

Proponents of industrial policy offer two propositions to support their cause. The first is that the United States is deindustrializing and becoming less competitive in world markets. They argue that the country has lost much of its manufacturing base and is no longer at the cutting edge in newer, high-technology industries. The government, proponents say, needs to step in and promote the development of new technology with commercial possibilities and retrain workers displaced in declining industries.

The second proposition is that other countries—especially Japan—have successfully enacted policies to promote new industries and protect older, less profitable, but essential industries. Thus, the United States is losing not only through its inaction but also



as a result of successful market interventions by competing nations. The pervasive belief is that the United States must emulate these countries to maintain its economic superpower status.

According to economist Charles Schultze, both propositions are flawed. First, he says, the United States is not deindustrialising. Those who make this argument point to the relative decline in U.S. manufacturing workers since World War II and the absolute decline in manufacturing workers during the 1980s; what they ignore is that manufacturing output as a percent of the gross domestic product has remained relatively constant, as both have grown at roughly the same rates.

The bottom line is that the nation produces more goods with fewer workers. During the 1980s, U.S. manufacturing productivity rose 2.9 per cent per year. This is good news from an economic standpoint because it means resources are being freed up for other productive activities. While the adjustments of workers in old industries to new positions can be painful initially, increasing productivity benefits the economy as a whole, setting the stage for increased growth and efficiency.

Moreover, the notion that industrial policy is primarily responsible for economic success in Japan is disputable. While Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) makes direct investments in certain sectors and industries, these investments do not always pay off. Steel and oil—two of the many industries that have received financial support from MITI—are largely viewed as a drag on the Japanese economy. Some of MITI's past initiatives, had they been successful, would have proved very foolish for Japan: MITI actively discouraged Honda from getting into the automobile business and Sony from getting into the consumer electronics business.

If the industrial policy was not responsible for Japan's economic strength in the

post-war period, what it was? Much of Japan's early post-war growth was simply a recovery from near-total destruction. After that, the evidence points to Japan's macro-economic policies and business practices. In the 1960s and 1970s, Japanese economic policies encouraged private savings, which were channelled into investment equivalent to 30 to 35 percent of Japan's national output; the U.S. figure was about half that. At the same time, the Japanese developed co-operative relationships between labour and management that encouraged high-quality work and rapid productivity growth. Finally, they took existing technologies, such as consumer electronics, and produced higher-quality goods at lower costs than their foreign competitors.

1. From the passage, it can be inferred regarding the characteristics of industrial policy that:
 - (A) Industrial policy is generally made in such a way that it supports growing industries and ignores declining ones.
 - (B) Industrial policy is largely targeted at supporting declining industries while ignoring the best interests of promising industries.
 - (C) Industrial policy is a mechanism through which governments promote promising industries while supporting less profitable but essential industries.
 - (D) Industrial policy is a stringent set of laws governing small, often unprofitable, businesses in a country.
2. Industries are demanding a new industrial policy in the United States because:
 - (A) They fear that the United States is deindustrialising, and the global competitors have implemented the industrial policies successfully.
 - (B) Older and less profitable industries are being challenged by new and technologically advanced industries.



- (C) Market forces alone cannot or will not produce economic growth and rising living standards.
- (D) The United States, to remain a leader in the global market, needs to support its struggling industries.
3. The main purpose of the passage is:
- (A) To highlight the need for industrial policy to support American businesses.
- (B) To negate the need for industrial policy in America, as the business conditions in America are still better.
- (C) To analyse the need for industrial policy in the U.S.A in the context of a successful Japanese economic model.
- (D) To assert that American businesses cannot be compared with Japanese businesses, as they both have distinct characteristics.
4. According to the passage, which of the following is /are responsible for Japan's economic strength?
- I. Japan's economic policies and business practices that encouraged private savings.
- II. Inclusion of technology in businesses to produce high-quality consumer products.
- (A) Only I
- (B) Only II
- (C) Both I and II
- (D) Neither I nor II.
5. All the following are true according to the passage, except:
- (A) Japan's economic policies are responsible for the economic success of Japan.
- (B) Failure of some of MITI's initiatives proved to be a boon for Japan.
- (C) Even a direct investment by the government in some of the sectors and industries does not guarantee growth in those sectors.
- (D) The United States is likely to accept the demand for industrial policy this time.

Solutions

1. **(C)**
To say that industrial policy is mainly concerned with either profitable businesses or declining industries is incorrect. A good industrial policy takes both segments seriously. This theme is visible in option C. Hence, C is the correct statement regarding industrial policy.
Other options represent a distorted picture of industrial policy.
2. **(A)**
The passage clearly states in the third and fourth paragraphs that the proponents of industrial policy have two major concerns. Those concerns correspond to the statement written in option A. Hence, it is the correct answer.
3. **(C)**
In the first part of the passage, the author discusses the point of view of the proponents of industrial policy. And in the second part, he discusses the economist Charles Schultze's view, which nullifies the need for industrial policy and negates the grounds for the demand for industrial policy.
Thus, the author has maintained a balance in representing two contradictory views. Hence the passage is analytical, and option C aptly defines the purpose of writing such an analytical piece.
Other options cover only one aspect of the discussion; hence they do not



represent the correct purpose of the passage.

4. (C)

In the last paragraph of the passage, both the reasons mentioned in statements I and II are given for Japan's economic strength, though Japan's natural recovery after destruction in the World War was responsible for its early economic growth.

Hence, option C is the answer here.

5. (A)

Option D can be inferred from the last sentence of the first paragraph. Options B and C are written in the penultimate paragraph.

It is written in the first sentence of the penultimate paragraph that the notion that industrial policy is primarily responsible for economic success in Japan is disputable. Hence option A cannot be said to be true. Hence, A is the answer here.

Passage 14

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

In the past few years, Americans have begun to recognise that the United States, with fewer than 5 percent of the world's population and more than 20 percent of its prison population, has a mass incarceration problem. People from across the political spectrum agree that criminal law has been the solution to too many social problems, that the state cages too many people, and that the penal system—from patrol to parole—is infused with racism.

There's a real question of whether Americans' nascent turn against incarceration can be squared with MeToo, the progressive social movement that became so popular in recent years that the press dubbed it a new civil rights movement and the country's 'cultural revolution'. The MeToo chapter of feminism came to prominence following reports of the movie mogul Harvey Weinstein's decades-long abuse of female celebrities, and it calls for zero tolerance of violence against women. Reflecting the tension between anti-incarceration and MeToo sentiments, many have responded to Black Lives Matter protesters' calls to defund the police by asking: 'What about rape and domestic violence'? The main messages of the two movements can't easily be reconciled.

MeToo, like the feminist anti-violence movements that preceded it, is at its core 'carceral', or incarceration-centric, while Black Lives Matter and associated movements are anti-carceral. The latter maintains that the U.S. criminal system is not 'broken' but functions as intended: protecting landowners' property interests, maintaining racial hierarchy, legitimating state violence and neoliberal governance, and vindicating regressive moral codes. The tide is finally turning against mass incarceration, and MeToo movement feminists should get on board. They should rescue their important anti-violence agenda from the U.S. policing, prosecution, and punishment apparatus that has captured it.

The sociologist Elizabeth Bernstein coined the term carceral feminism to describe some late-20th-century feminists' unyielding commitment to law and order, and feminism's larger 'drift from the welfare state to the carceral state as the enforcement apparatus for feminist goals'. Of course, many in the MeToo movement focus on workplace equality and women's political empowerment, but the movement generally remains committed to the criminal law response to violence against women. Its early formative achievement was Weinstein's sentence of 23 years behind bars. Feminist reformers continue to propose broad criminalisation programmes, despite their recognition that



they're enforced by anti-Black masculinist police officers and condemn individuals to prisons to suffer sexual and other violence—and now coronavirus. Across the political spectrum, this carceral impulse is powerful. When I was a law student and aspiring public defender, I instinctively equated prosecution of gender crimes with justice, so much so that I worried more about defending a man charged with a misdemeanour crime of domestic violence than someone charged with murder. But then I practised in a specialised domestic violence court that feminism built and received a stark education on how criminal reforms made in the name of gender justice often produce neither gender equality nor justice. I saw a revolving door of incarceration for poor people of colour that didn't serve victims very well—many called me to help them stop prosecutions. I saw prosecutors proceed with cases against women's wishes, and judges refuse to lift stay-away orders, imposing de facto divorce on families. I saw immigrant women lamenting that their call for help triggered an unstoppable penal machine that made their spouse deportable. My experience working as a cog in the great wheel of U.S. criminal punishment made me wonder why, for all those years, I indulged the false equivalence between prosecution and gender justice.

In the fight against gender violence, criminal law should be a last, not first, resort. Many feminists embrace criminal law because of a set of presumptions: law always tolerated, if not encouraged, crimes against women; few alternatives outside of criminal law have been available to feminists; and feminist engagement can transform the uncaring, racist, sexist criminal justice system from within. However, in researching a variety of feminist criminal law reform efforts in the U.S. through the ages, from the anti-'white slavery' crusade at the turn of the century to the Brock Turner saga of a few years ago, I discovered that these presumptions are not warranted.

1. From the passage, it can be inferred that:
 - (A) MeToo and Black Lives Matter movements are incarceration-centric.
 - (B) MeToo movement is carceral and Black Lives Matter movement is anti-carceral.
 - (C) Both MeToo and Black Lives Matters are anti-carceral movements.
 - (D) MeToo movement is anti-carceral and Black Lives Matter movement is carceral.
2. Incarceration seems to be a problem in the United States; and in recent years, there have been two famous movements—MeToo and Black Lives Matter. According to the author:
 - (A) Both are likely to alleviate the situation.
 - (B) Both are likely to aggravate the situation.
 - (C) One is likely to alleviate the situation, and the other will aggravate it.
 - (D) Both will neither alleviate nor aggravate the situation.
3. The author of this passage is more likely to support:
 - (A) MeToo movement.
 - (B) Black Lives Matter movement.
 - (C) Both MeToo and Black Lives Matter
 - (D) Neither MeToo nor Black Lives Matter
4. The main purpose of the passage is:
 - (A) To address the problem of incarceration in America and provide a solution for it.
 - (B) To highlight the contrast between MeToo and Black Lives Matter movements.
 - (C) To support Black Lives Matter movement and oppose the MeToo movement.
 - (D) To highlight the impact of two movements on the incarceration problem in America.
5. Which of the following can be regarded as the summary of the fifth paragraph?



- (A) There is prevalent racial discrimination in the American judicial system, and the author is not happy with it.
- (B) There is prevalent gender discrimination in the American judicial system, and the author is not happy with it.

- (C) There is racial discrimination in the American judicial system, and the Black Lives Matter is the need of the hour.
- (D) There is gender discrimination in the American judicial system, and MeToo movement is the need of the hour.

Solutions

1. (B)

Reading the first sentence of the third paragraph makes it evident that the correct answer is option B.

‘MeToo, like the feminist anti-violence movements that preceded it, is at its core ‘carceral’, or incarceration-centric, while Black Lives Matter and associated movements are anti-carceral’.

2. (C)

As the MeToo movement has been termed carceral by the author, i.e., it will support more and more people who commit violence against women being incarcerated; it will aggravate the incarceration problem in the U.S.A.

On the other hand, Black Lives Matter is anti-carceral, i.e., it will oppose people being incarcerated. Hence, it will alleviate the problem of incarceration in the U.S.A.

Hence, the answer is option C.

3. (B)

The author has called incarceration a problem in America. Plus, at several instances, the author’s tone has indicated that he might be a bit inclined in favour of the Black Lives Matter movement.

Points of reference:

‘The tide is finally turning against mass incarceration, and MeToo movement feminists should get on board’. (Third paragraph)

‘I saw a revolving door of incarceration for poor people of colour that didn’t serve victims very well’.—This sentence from the fifth paragraph (and the rest of the paragraph) is a clear indication that the author believed that in America, justice and law are inclined in favour of a particular race.

The last paragraph (especially the last sentence) also indicates that the author is not very happy with the ideology that drives feminist movements.

4. (D)

The author has not provided any solution for the incarceration problem in America; hence, option A can be easily cancelled.

Generally, authors do not write to support or oppose two contradictory ideas. They simply highlight the differences between them and let the readers decide on which side they want to be. Hence, option C has a slightly negative connotation attached to it, and it should not be chosen as the answer to this question.

Option B states only half the truth. It does not address the issue of the incarceration problem, which the author has addressed in the first paragraph.

Hence, option D is the most accurate choice for this question.

5. (A)

Nothing has been said about the Black Lives Matter and MeToo movements in



the concerned paragraph; hence options C and D can be easily discarded.

The sentence—I saw a revolving door of incarceration for poor people of colour

that didn't serve victims very well—clearly points towards racial discrimination. Hence, A is the answer.

Passage 15

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Researchers from China have claimed to have found an ancient human skull that could belong to an altogether new species of humans. The researchers have published their findings in the journal 'The Innovation', in which they note that the cranium (the portion that encloses the brain) could be over 146,000 years old. The skull was found in the Songhua River in northeast China's Harbin city.

Separately, news came this week from researchers working in Israel, who said they had identified a previously unknown kind of ancient human called 'Nesher Ramla Homo' that co-existed with *Homo sapiens* nearly 100,000 years ago when several species of humans co-existed in Asia, Europe, and Africa. These include *Homo sapiens*, the Neanderthals, and the Denisovans.

Homo sapiens, the species to which all existing humans belong, evolved in Africa nearly 300,000 years ago due to some dramatic climate change events. Neanderthals (*Homo neanderthalensis*) are believed to be the closest extinct human relatives and lived about 400,000–40,000 years ago in Europe and southwestern to central Asia.

The findings from the site in Israel dated to 140,000–120,000 years ago have been published in the journal 'Science'. These researchers note that this archaic Homo population had mastered the use of technology that until recently was linked only to *Homo sapiens* or Neanderthals. Members of the species Nesher Ramla Homo could hunt small and large game; they used wood for fuel, cooked and roasted meat, and maintained fires.

These findings are important because they provide evidence of cultural interactions between different human lineages. The cranium found in China has been dubbed the 'Dragon Man' or *Homo longi*, a name that has been derived from the Long Jiang or Dragon River in the Heilongjiang province of China, where the city of Harbin is located. The skull was reportedly discovered in 1933 when a bridge was built over the Songhua River. For thousands of years, the skull remained buried in sediments.

The U.K.'s Natural History Museum notes that because of the distinctive shape of the skull, which was found almost complete, some team members have suggested that it be declared a part of a new species of the genus Homo. Significantly, the size of the skull, which has a considerable brain capacity, is comparable to that of modern humans and Neanderthals.

Modern humans are considered to have very large brains. While sizes can vary between populations and males and females, the average capacity of a human brain is about 1,300 cubic centimetres, and it can weigh anywhere between 1,300 and 1,400 grams. In comparison, a cat's brain weighs just about 30 grams.

1. Which of the following correctly describes the similarity between the findings in China and Israel?
 - (A) Both the findings have been published in the same journal.
 - (B) Both are craniums belonging to Nesher Ramla Homo.
 - (C) The estimated ages of both the findings are nearly the same.
 - (D) Both have been declared to be a part of a new species-genus Homo.



2. The passage mainly highlights:
- (A) Two different findings, on two different locations, belonging to Neanderthals that coexisted with *Homo sapiens*.
 - (B) The discovery of a cranium in China that has similar features as those of the modern human skull.
 - (C) The discovery of two previously unknown species of ancient humans that might have coexisted with *Homo sapiens*.
 - (D) The discovery of a cranium in China and that of a previously unknown kind of ancient humans in Israel.
3. All of the following can be inferred from the passage, except:
- (A) Neanderthals used wood for fuel, cooked and roasted meat, and maintained fires.
 - (B) Because of the shape and size of the cranium found in China, some scientists have suggested that it be declared a part of the genus *Homo*.
 - (C) The discovery of the skull in China was accidental, while the findings in Israel were part of planned research and survey.
 - (D) The 'Dragon Man' or *Homo longi* might have been smarter than *Homo sapiens*, as they had larger skulls than *Homo sapiens*.
4. Choose the correct statement.
- (A) A human brain cannot weigh less than 1300 grams and more than 1400 grams.
 - (B) Only the Neanderthals and the Denisovans coexisted with *Homo sapiens*; other species of humans existed before that.
 - (C) Existing humans belong to *Homo sapiens* only; other ancient species of humans are extinct now.
 - (D) Nesher Ramla Homo are the closest extinct human relatives and lived about 400,000 to 40,000 years ago.

Solutions

1. (C)
The cranium found in China is estimated to be about 146,000 years old, and the finding in Israel is estimated to be about 140,000–120,000 years old. Hence, it can be said that they both belong to nearly the same age.
Other options are incorrect; the cranium found in China was published in 'The Innovation' and the findings in Israel were published in 'Science'. Hence, A is incorrect.
The cranium found in China belongs to *Homo longi* and the findings in Israel belong to Nesher Ramla Homo. Hence, B is incorrect.
2. (C)
Option A is incorrect, as the passage is not about Neanderthals. Option B mentions only one part of the passage; it does not cover the range of discussion in the passage.
Option D represents a distorted truth. Both species have been claimed to be previously unknown; hence, they could be new. Option C aptly represents this fact. So, it is the correct choice.
3. (D)
Option A can be inferred from the fourth paragraph. The paragraph states that Nesher Ramla Homo had mastered the use of technology that until recently was linked only to *Homo sapiens* or



Neanderthals. Then it mentions that Nesher Ramla Homo used wood for fuel, cooked and roasted meat, and maintained fires. This implies that only *Homo sapiens* and Neanderthals were earlier known to have used these technologies.

Option B can be inferred from the sixth paragraph.

The 5th paragraph mentions that the skull was reportedly discovered in 1933 when a bridge was built over the Songhua River. This means it was not a part of a proper archaeological survey. Hence, option C can be inferred.

It has not been indicated anywhere in the passage that *Homo longi* were smarter than *Homo sapiens*. Hence, option D is a wrong inference.

4. (C)

It is stated in the last paragraph that the average human brain weighs between 1,300 and 1,400 grams. But it is also stated that the brain size varies according to location and gender. Hence, it cannot be said that it cannot weigh less than 1,300 grams and more than 1,400 grams.

Several species of ancient humans co-existed with *Homo sapiens*, but only *Homo sapiens* survived. Even the two newly discovered species discussed in the passage coexisted with *Homo sapiens*. Hence, B is incorrect.

The closest human relatives were the Neanderthals; hence, D is incorrect.

C is the correct answer as it is a fact that only *Homo sapiens* survived and became modern human beings.

Passage 16

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Last week, the U.S. government released an unclassified report that concerns the assessment of the threat posed by unidentified aerial phenomena (UAPs)—known in popular culture as unidentified flying objects (UFOs)—and the progress that the Department of Defence (DoD) Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force (UAPTF) has made in understanding this threat.

The report, which is largely inconclusive, looks at instances of apparent UFO sightings noticed between November 2004 and March 2021. While there is no evidence that the sightings were UFOs, there is no other explanation either for what these sightings were. Recently, former U.S. President Barack Obama said on James Corden's *The Late Late Show* that there is evidence of objects in the sky 'we don't know exactly what they are'.

The concept of 'flying saucers' has captured the American imagination since the

1940s and 1950s. This has been connected to their ideas about life on the Moon, canals on the Red planet, and Martian civilisations, notes an article published by the Library of Congress.

Such ideas inspired films from *The Day the Earth Stood Still* (1951) to Steven Spielberg's *ET the Extra-Terrestrial* (1982) and the more recent *Arrival* (2016), all depicting alien spacecraft visiting Earth. Before these, Warner Brothers' series *Looney Tunes* had introduced an animated version of an extra-terrestrial character, Marvin the Martian.

America's fixation with flying saucers, aliens, and UFOs is not limited to just films and literature. In September 2019, some 2 million people joined a Facebook event called 'Storm Area 51, They Can't Stop All of Us'. *Area 51* is a heavily guarded Air Force facility in Southern Nevada that has been the subject of several conspiracy theories because of the secrecy it is shrouded in. Many Americans believe the government hid



bodies of aliens and UFOs here, and held meetings with extra-terrestrials.

According to a poll Gallup in 2019, nearly two-thirds of Americans believed that the U.S. government had more knowledge on UFOs than they claim to disclose, while one-third believed that some apparent UFOs were actual sightings of alien spacecraft. Yet 60% also believed that these sightings could be explained by human activity or natural phenomena. One-sixth of Americans claimed they had personally witnessed something they thought was a UFO.

NASA acknowledges that there is a possibility that life exists beyond Earth. One of its central goals, in fact, is to look for evidence of such life, but it has not found credible evidence yet. As of now, NASA does not actively look for UAPs.

In August 2020, Deputy Secretary of Defense David L Norquist authorised the establishment of the UAPTF. The purpose of this task force is to gain an understanding of the nature and origin of various mysterious sightings that have been made, mostly around U.S. military and air bases, in recent years.

These sightings, in videos taken by Air Force and Navy pilots, were of some unidentified objects that were travelling at considerable speed, surprisingly, without any propulsion, while others performed aerial manoeuvres that could not be explained. In April 2020, the DoD authorised the release of three Navy videos, one taken in 2004 and two in January 2015, and noted that the aerial phenomena seen in them remain 'unidentified'. Therefore, UAPs were considered a threat to national security, and finding out what they were, became a priority.

1. Which of the following is true regarding the report discussed in the passage?
- (A) The report confirms the sighting of UFOs between November 2004 and March 2021.

- (B) The report was released by the Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force (UAPTF).
- (C) Former U.S. president Barack Obama has confirmed the findings of the report.
- (D) The report is highly ambiguous and gives a mysterious account of the sightings of UFOs.

2. Which of the following can be inferred about the Americans' fascination with the flying saucers.

- (A) Americans did not have any fascination with the flying saucers before 1940.
- (B) The inclusion of the concept of flying saucers in films and literature caused America's fixation with the UFOs.
- (C) The concept of flying saucers has inspired the making of many Hollywood movies and books.
- (D) Americans' ideas about life on the Moon and Martian civilisations cannot be linked with their fascination with UFOs.

3. Which of the following cannot be inferred about Area 51?

- (A) It is a heavily guarded military base, and normal citizens cannot access it easily.
- (B) Many inquisitive Americans want to enter the area and discover its truth.
- (C) In this area, the government hides bodies of aliens and UFOs and holds meetings with extra-terrestrials.
- (D) Area 51 has constantly been a centre of attraction for conspiracy theorists and hides many secrets.

4. What might have encouraged the author to write this article about UFOs?

- (A) NASA's acknowledging that there is a possibility that life exists beyond Earth.



- (B) The Facebook event called ‘Storm Area 51, They Can’t Stop All of Us’ by some inquisitive Americans.
 - (C) The establishment of the UAPTF by Deputy Secretary of Defense David L Norquist.
 - (D) Release of an unclassified report, by the U.S. government, which concerns the assessment of the threat posed by unidentified aerial phenomena.
5. Which of the following is not true about the UFO sightings by the UAPTF?
- (A) The UAPTF has been established to understand the nature and origin of various mysterious sightings, mostly around the U.S. military and air bases.
 - (B) The UAPTF made some sightings of the UFOs travelling at considerable speed without any propulsion.
 - (C) The UAPTF failed to explain some of the mysterious movements made by the UFOs and classified them as ‘unidentified’.
 - (D) Most of the sightings of UAPs made by the UAPTF happened in 2020, and now these UAPs are considered a threat to national security.

Solutions

1. (D)

The first sentence of the second paragraph states that the report was inconclusive; hence, it cannot be said that it confirmed anything. So, A is incorrect.

The U.S. government released the report under discussion; hence B is incorrect.

Former U.S. president Barack Obama did not say anything regarding the report being discussed; hence, C is incorrect.

‘While there is no evidence that the sightings were UFOs, there is no other explanation either for what these sightings were’—from this sentence of the second paragraph, option D can be inferred.

2. (C)

Though the second paragraph states that the concept of flying saucers has captured America’s fascination since the 1940s, it would be wrong to infer that they did not have any fascination before 1940.

The first sentence of the fifth paragraph states that America’s fascination with the flying saucers was not limited to movies and literature; hence it would

be incorrect to assume that only movies and literature caused this fascination.

The fourth paragraph has mentioned the names of some movies based on the concept of aliens and flying saucers. Hence, C is correct.

D is also a wrong inference, as the third paragraph has stated otherwise.

3. (C)

Options A, B, and D, can be inferred from the fifth paragraph. The Facebook event called ‘Storm Area 51, They Can’t Stop All of Us’ suggests that B can be inferred.

Though it is written in the fifth paragraph that many people believe that the government hid bodies of aliens and UFOs here and held meetings with extra-terrestrials, the passage has not confirmed it. Hence, it should not be inferred. The answer is option C.

4. (D)

The author has started the passage by citing the unclassified report published just the previous week. Clearly, this report propelled him to dive deep into this matter and write an article about it.



Other options do not address the reason that could have urged the writing of the article. They are mentioned as the result of the research done by the author.

5. (D)

A can be inferred from the penultimate paragraph. B and C are written in the last paragraph.

D is incorrect, as the sightings reported in the passage happened between 2004 and 2020. Hence, it cannot be said that most of them happened in 2020.

Passage 17

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

The Digital Millennium Copyright Act, or DMCA, is a 1998 law passed in the U.S. and is among the world's first laws recognising intellectual property on the internet. Signed into law by the then U.S. President Bill Clinton, the law oversees the implementation of the two treaties signed and agreed upon by member nations of the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) in 1996.

WIPO members had in December 1996 agreed upon two treaties, namely the WIPO Copyright Treaty and the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty. Both the treaties require member nations and signatories to provide in their respective jurisdictions, protection to intellectual property that may have been created by citizens of different nations who are also co-signatories to the treaty.

The said protection, accorded by each member state, must not be any less in any way than the one being given to a domestic copyright holder. Further, it also obligates that signatories to the treaty ensure ways to prevent circumvention of the technical measures used to protect copyrighted work. It also provides the necessary international legal protection to digital content.

With the rapid commercialisation of the internet in the late 1990s, which started with static advertisement panels being displayed on the internet, it became important for

website owners to get the user to spend more time on their webpage. For this, fresh content was generated by creators and shared over the Internet. The problem started when the content would be copied by unscrupulous websites or users, who did not generate content on their own. Further, as the Internet expanded worldwide, websites from countries other than the one where the content originated also started to copy the unique content generated by the websites.

To avoid this and bring to task the unauthorised copiers, the members of WIPO, which was established in 1967, also agreed to extend the copyright and intellectual property protection to digital content. As of date, 193 nations worldwide, including India, are members of WIPO.

Any content creator who believes that their original content has been copied by a user or a website without authorisation can file an application citing their intellectual property has been stolen or violated.

Users can either approach the website on which the content has been hosted, or third-party service providers like DMCA.com, which utilise a team of experts to help take down the stolen content for a small fee.

In the case of social media intermediaries like Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter, content creators can directly approach the platform with a proof of them being original creators. Since these companies operate in nations which are signatories to the WIPO treaty, they are obligated to remove the said content if



they receive a valid and legal DMCA take-down notice.

Platforms, however, also give the other users against whom allegations of content cheating have been made, a chance to reply to the DMCA notice by filing a counter-notice. The platform shall then decide which party is telling the truth and shall accordingly, either restore the content or keep it hidden.

1. Which of the following can be inferred about the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA)?
 - (A) Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) was the world's first law recognising intellectual property on the internet.
 - (B) Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) applies only to the content produced and developed in the U.S.A.
 - (C) Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) applies only to member nations of the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO).
 - (D) Under the Digital Millennium Copyright Act, Domestic laws that give protection to a copyright holder do not apply to the protection of the copyright of a foreign holder.
2. Which of the following does not represent an obligation of the signatory members of WIPO concerning the DMCA?
 - (A) The domestic laws for the protection of copyright apply to other members of the WIPO as well.
 - (B) Signatories to the treaty ensure ways to prevent circumvention of the technical measures used to protect copyrighted work.
 - (C) Signatories will accept the two treaties signed and agreed upon by the member nations of the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) in 1996.
 - (D) Websites from countries other than the one where the content originated will not come under the DMCA.
3. Which of the following can be inferred from the fourth paragraph?
 - (A) The companies that wanted to advertise on the internet demanded the website owners create fresh content every time.
 - (B) To boost their advertisement business, the website owners needed more and more fresh content.
 - (C) Only static advertisement panels were displayed on the Internet in the 1990s.
 - (D) Copying content from other websites was not considered unscrupulous in the 1990s.
4. Which of the following is not true about WIPO?
 - (A) WIPO was established in 1967.
 - (B) WIPO is an organisation of 193 countries.
 - (C) WIPO enacted DMCA in 1998.
 - (D) China is not a part of WIPO.
5. Which of the following is true regarding the functioning of DMCA to protect the intellectual property rights of the users?
 - (A) Users who believe their content has been stolen or copied can approach only the website on which the disputed content has been hosted.
 - (B) Users who believe their content has been stolen or copied can approach only the DMCA authorities.
 - (C) Social media intermediaries take down the disputed content immediately once they receive a complaint regarding the ownership of the content.
 - (D) Social media intermediaries may restore the disputed content after a proper investigation of the true ownership of the content.



Solutions

1. (C)

It is written in the passage that DMCA was among the world's first laws... so, it cannot be inferred that it was the first law.

B is incorrect as it applies to all signatory members of WIPO.

C can be inferred as the law applies to the signatories of the WIPO.

The first sentence of the third paragraph states—The said protection, accorded by each member state, must not be any less in any way than the one given to a domestic copyright holder. This contradicts the statement in option D. Hence, D cannot be inferred.

2. (D)

The first sentence of the third paragraph implies what is written in option A. Hence, it represents an obligation.

Statement written in option B is written in the third paragraph; hence it is an obligation.

Option C is an obvious obligation, as the implementation of DMCA meant acceptance of the two treaties signed in 1996.

It is to counter the problem of the websites from countries other than the one where the content originated that the DMCA was passed. Hence, it will definitely apply to all the websites of signatory countries. So, option D is not true.

3. (B)

The first sentence of the fourth paragraph implies that website owners needed fresh content to lure users into spending more and more time on their websites. This would ultimately give

a boost to their advertising business. Hence, option B is the correct inference.

It is mentioned in the paragraph that static advertisement started in the 1990s. However, it cannot be inferred from this that moving advertisement panels did not start in the 1990s. Hence, C is incorrect.

It is clearly stated that unscrupulous websites copied content from other websites; hence, D is incorrect.

The companies that advertised on those websites did not force them to create fresh content. It was the choice of website owners. Hence, A cannot be inferred.

4. (D)

Option C can be confirmed from the first paragraph. Options A and B can be confirmed from the fifth paragraph.

Nothing in the passage has been said about China being or not being a part of WIPO. Hence, option D cannot be said to be true or untrue. Hence, D is the answer here.

5. (D)

After reading the seventh paragraph, it is evident that the statements written in options A and B are incorrect.

Social media intermediaries do not remove the content after being challenged by a user, but after getting a valid and legal DMCA takedown notice. So C is incorrect.

D can be inferred from the last paragraph of the passage, as social media intermediaries give a chance to prove their ownership to the users against whom the claim of content cheating has been made. Hence, D is the answer here.



Passage 18

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

In 1982, the economist Mancur Olson set out to explain a paradox. West Germany and Japan endured widespread devastation during World War II, yet in the years after the war, both countries experienced miraculous economic growth. Britain, on the other hand, emerged victorious from the war, with its institutions more intact, and yet it immediately entered a period of slow economic growth that left it lagging behind other European democracies. What happened?

In his book ‘The Rise and Decline of Nations,’ Olson concluded that Germany and Japan enjoyed explosive growth precisely because their old arrangements had been disrupted. The devastation itself, and the forces of American occupation and reconstruction, dislodged the interest groups that had held back innovation. The old patterns that stifled experimentation were swept away. The disruption opened space for something new.

Something similar may be happening today. COVID-19 has disrupted daily American life in a way few emergencies have before. But it has also shaken things up and cleared the way for an economic boom and social revival. Millions of Americans endured grievous loss and anxiety during this pandemic, but many also used this time as a preparation period, so they could burst out of the gate when things opened up. After decades of slowing entrepreneurial dynamism, 4.4 million new businesses were started in 2020, by far a modern record. A report from Udemy, an online course provider, says that 38 percent of workers took some additional training during 2020, up from only 14 percent in 2019.

After decades in which consumption took preference over savings, Americans socked away trillions of dollars in 2020, reducing their debt burdens to lows not seen since

1980 and putting themselves in a position to spend lavishly as things open up.

The biggest shifts, though, may be mental. People have been reminded that life is short. For over a year, many experienced daily routines that were slower-paced, more rooted, and more domestic. Millions of Americans seem ready to change their lives to be more in touch with their values.

The economy has already taken off. Global economic growth is expected to be north of 6 per cent this year, and strong growth is expected to last at least through 2022. In late April, Tom Gimbel, who runs the recruiting and staffing firm LaSalle Network, told The Times: ‘It’s the best job market I’ve seen in 25 years. We have 50 per cent more openings now than we did pre-COVID’. Investors are pouring money into new ventures. During the first quarter of this year, U.S. start-ups raised \$69 billion, 41 per cent more than the previous record, set in 2018.

Already, this era of new creation seems to be rebalancing society in at least three ways: First, power has begun shifting from employers to workers. In March, U.S. manufacturing, for example, expanded at the fastest pace in nearly four decades. Companies are desperate for new workers. Between April 2020 and March 2021, the number of unemployed people per opening plummeted to 1.2 from 5.

Workers are in the driver’s seat, for now, and they know it. The ‘quit rate’—the number of workers who quit their jobs because they are confident they can get a better one—is at the highest in two decades. Employers are raising wages and benefits to try to lure workers back.

Second, there seems to be a rebalancing between cities and suburbs. COVID-19 accelerated trends that had been underway for a few years, with people moving out of big cities like New York and San Francisco



to suburbs, and to rural places like Idaho and the Hudson Valley in New York. Many are moving to get work or because of economic distress, but others say they moved so they could have more space, lead slower-paced lives, be closer to family or interact more with their neighbours.

Finally, there seems to be a rebalancing between work and domestic life. Stanford economist Nicholas Bloom expects that even when the pandemic is over, the number of working days spent at home will increase to 20 percent from 5 percent in the pre-pandemic era.

While this has increased pressure on many women, millions of Americans who could work remotely found that they liked being home, dining every night with their kids, and not hassling with the commute. We are apparently becoming a less work-obsessed and more domestic society.

In 1910 the educator Henry Van Dyke wrote, 'The Spirit of America is best known in Europe by one of its qualities—energy'. That energy seemed to be fading away in recent years, as Americans came to move less and start new businesses less frequently. But the challenge of COVID-19 has summoned forth great dynamism, movement, and innovation. Labour productivity rates have surged upward recently.

People are shifting their personal lives to address common problems—loneliness and loss of community. Nobody knows where this national journey of discovery will take us, but the voyage has begun.

1. All of the following have been cited as the reasons behind Germany's and Japan's rapid growth after WW-II, except:
 - (A) World War disrupted the established political and industrial arrangements in these countries.
 - (B) The devastation caused by the World War dislodged the interest groups that held back the innovations.

- (C) The disruption caused by the World War opened space for new opportunities and ideas.
 - (D) The loss in the World War instilled a sense of responsibility and patriotism in the citizens of these countries.

2. Which of the following can be regarded as the theme of the passage?

- (A) After suffering devastation and disruption of grave intensity, the nations are likely to grow exceptionally.
 - (B) America, unlike other countries, has recovered quickly from the setback caused by the pandemic.
 - (C) Americans are people with great zeal and energy, and due to their willpower, they always emerge victorious after a disaster.
 - (D) The pandemic of 2020 caused many Americans to quit their old habits and adopt new, effective ways of life.

3. All of the following have been mentioned to highlight the positive changes that occurred in the American society due to the pandemic, except:

- (A) Many American workers took some additional training courses and used this time to prepare themselves for future opportunities.
 - (B) Previously consumption-centric Americans have shifted their focus to saving, and this has helped them in reducing their debt burdens.
 - (C) The employment rate has surged from 1.2 to 5 in the aftermath of the pandemic and the power has shifted from employers to workers.
 - (D) The pandemic has made Americans realise their value system and has brought about positive changes in their lifestyle.

4. Which of the following can be regarded as the most prevalent style of writing in the passage?

- (A) Descriptive
 - (B) Analytical



- (C) Factual
(D) Narrative
5. In the twelfth paragraph of the passage, the author says, “While this has increased pressures on many women”—What can be inferred from this sentence.
- (A) More and more women have started getting jobs in the post-pandemic era and this has made it difficult for them to maintain balance in their professional and domestic life.
- (B) Women have responsibilities to take care of their children and spouse, and hence they face more challenges in balancing their professional and personal life.
- (C) In the post-pandemic era, more and more people have started working from home; and this has increased challenges for women at home.
- (D) Male partners do not share the workload in doing the household chores, and women have to take care of the family on their own.

Solutions

1. **(D)**
In the second paragraph of the passage, the author has mentioned A, B, and C as the reasons behind the explosive growth in Japan and Germany. D has not been mentioned anywhere in the passage. Hence, D is the answer here.
2. **(A)**
Had the first two paragraphs not been there, options C and D could have been the answer. But the author has compared America’s recovery after the pandemic with Japan’s and Germany’s quick growth after their devastation in World War II. This means that the author wants to prove the fact that after any vast destruction, nations are likely to come back and grow even quicker.
- Option B is incorrect as the author has not compared America’s recovery after the pandemic with that of any other country. Moreover, he has not claimed that other countries have not registered any growth.
- Options C and D are not the main arguments of the author; they serve only as examples given by the author to support his main claim.
- Hence A is the most accurate choice for the theme.
3. **(C)**
Option A can be inferred from the fourth paragraph. Option B is mentioned in the fifth paragraph.
- The second half of option C is correct, but the first half is incorrect. In the passage, it has been mentioned that the unemployment plummeted to 1.2 from 5. And the option states that the employment surged from 1.2 to 5; which is quite a different thing.
- Hence, C has not been mentioned in the paragraph.
- D has been mentioned in the sixth paragraph.
4. **(C)**
In a factual piece of writing, the author provides data to support the claims made by him; this is exactly the case in the given passage. Hence it can be said that the style adopted by the author is factual.
- In an analytical piece of writing, generally, a balanced approach is adopted to highlight the positive and negative aspects of the subject matter.



5. (C)

On reading the eleventh paragraph, it is evident that the author has cited men working from home as the reason behind

women's increased pressure. Hence, C is the correct answer. Other options do not address the concern raised in the passage; hence, they cannot be inferred.

Passage 19

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

If you're under 50, you probably don't remember when Japan was going to take over the world. But in the late 1980s and early 1990s, many people were obsessed with Japan's economic success and feared American decline. The supposed nonfiction sections of airport bookstores were filled with volumes featuring samurai warriors on their covers, promising to teach you the secrets of Japanese management. Michael Crichton had a best-selling novel, 'Rising Sun,' about the looming threat of Japanese domination before he moved on to dinosaurs.

The policy side of Japanophilia/Japanophobia took the form of widespread calls for a national industrial policy: Government spending and maybe protectionism to foster industries of the future, notably semiconductor production.

Then Japan largely disappeared from America's conversation—cited, if at all, as a cautionary tale of economic stagnation and lost decades. And we entered an era of self-satisfied arrogance, buoyed by the dominance of U.S.-based technology companies. Now the truth is that Japan's failures have, in their own way, been overhyped as much as the country's previous successes. The island nation remains wealthy and technologically sophisticated; its slow economic growth mainly reflects low fertility and immigration, which have led to a shrinking working-age population. Adjusting for demography, the economies of Japan and the United States have grown at about the same rate over the past 30 years.

In any case, however, we seem to be entering a new era of worries about the role of the

United States in the world economy, this time driven by fears of China. And we're hearing new calls for industrial policy. I have to admit that I'm not entirely persuaded by these calls. But the rationales for government action are a lot smarter this time around than they were in the 1980s—and, of course, immensely smarter than the economic nationalism of the Trump era, which they superficially resemble. This brings me to the 250-page report on supply chains that the Biden-Harris administration released a few days ago. This was one of those reports that may turn out to be important, even though few people will read it. Why? Because it offers a sort of intellectual template for policy making; when legislation and rules are being drafted, that report and its analysis will be lurking in the background, helping to shape details of spending and regulations.

Now, the world economy has changed a lot since the days when American executives were trying to reinvent themselves as samurai. Countries used to make things like cars and aeroplanes; nowadays they make parts of things, which are combined with other parts of things that are made in other countries and eventually assembled into something consumers want. The classic—and at this point somewhat tired—an example is the iPhone, assembled in China from bits and pieces from all over. Last year's World Development Report from the World Bank, obviously written pre-pandemic, was devoted to global value chains and had a nice alternative example: bicycles.

I'm a bit surprised, by the way, to learn that Japan and Singapore have so much of the market for pedals and cranks. I thought America really led the world in cranks



(charlatans, too). Anyway, the World Bank offers a measure of the global value chain of world trade—the share of exports that cross at least two borders on the way to their final buyers.

1. Which of the following can be regarded as the prevalent tone of the author throughout the passage?
 - (A) Analytical
 - (B) Sarcastic
 - (C) Critical
 - (D) Pragmatic
2. In the last sentence of the first paragraph, the author says, “Michael Crichton had a best-selling novel, ‘Rising Sun,’ about the looming threat of Japanese domination before he moved on to dinosaurs”.—which of the following best describes the purpose of this sentence?
 - (A) The author considers Michael Crichton a versatile author and wants to highlight the diversity of the subjects he covered in his books.
 - (B) The author is trying to ridicule Michael Crichton for trying his hands at such diverse subject matters without having expertise in any of them.
 - (C) The author is trying to highlight the fact that people made an unnecessary hype about Japanese dominance.
 - (D) The author is highlighting the fact that in the 1980s and 1990s, people were obsessed with the subject of Japanese dominance.
3. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?
 - (A) Japan’s economic success was overhyped in the U.S.A; though, in fact, it was an example of economic failure.
 - (B) Americans’ obsession with the theory of Japanese dominance did not have any impact on the national industrial policy of America.
 - (C) The economy of the United States has grown faster because of the new industrial policies adopted by the country.
 - (D) The stagnation in Japan’s economy may be attributed to the shrinking working-age population of the country.
4. In the fourth paragraph, the author has mentioned ‘fears of China’; which of the following best summarises his views about that fear?
 - (A) The fear of China is a sham, just as the fear of Japan was.
 - (B) To tackle this new fear of China, America once again needs a new set of industrial policies.
 - (C) The report released by the Biden-Harris administration should work as a guide in drafting new legislation and rules.
 - (D) Nationalistic economic policies are the need of the hour to counter China’s economic growth.
5. Which of the following can be regarded as the main argument made by the author in the passage?
 - (A) In the 1980s and 1990s, Japan’s economic success was overhyped.
 - (B) Just like their obsession with Japan’s economic success, Americans are now obsessed with China.
 - (C) The world economy has changed a lot, and the U.S.A needs to be rational and intelligent in its policymaking.
 - (D) Global value chains play a very important role in deciding the direction of the economic growth of countries.



Solutions

1. (A)

The characteristic of an analytical tone is the presence of reasons or logic/ justifications to support something. In such passages, the author tries to analyse an issue, presenting the pros and cons, or compares two or more things and tells us why he feels something is better than the other. Clearly, in the given passage, the tone is analytical.

A critical tone relates to the criticism of something or someone. A sarcastic tone is used to ridicule or mock the subject matter.

Pragmatic is being practical and reasonable, which is certainly the case in the given passage. But the analytical tone of the author is more dominant. Hence, analytical should be chosen as the answer to this question.

2. (C)

Options A and B are just distractions. They do not cover the concerned subject matter of the passage. Michael Crichton is not the subject of discussion; he is just an example. And the author has given his example just to highlight how people were obsessed with the subject of Japanese dominance.

Option D represents only half the truth. It does not cover the author's true intention behind that sentence. The second part of the given sentence—before he moved to dinosaurs—is aimed to highlight that Japanese dominance was overhyped.

Hence, C is the correct answer here.

3. (D)

Refer to the third paragraph of the passage. The author has not considered Japan's economy a failure. In fact, he

believes that its failure was also overhyped like its success. Hence, option A should not be inferred.

The second paragraph goes against the statement given in option B. Hence, it cannot be inferred as well.

The last sentence of the third paragraph states that the economies of Japan and the United States have grown at about the same rate over the last 30 years. Hence, C is also incorrect.

In the third paragraph itself, the lowering working population of Japan has been held responsible for the stagnation in its economy. Hence, D is the correct answer.

4. (C)

Nowhere in the passage, the author has indicated that he believes the so-called 'fear of China' to be a sham. So, option A is very far-fetched, and it cannot be considered correct.

In the fourth paragraph, the author has said, '... I'm not entirely persuaded by these calls'. Here, these calls refer to the calls for new industrial policies. Hence, option B does not represent the author's view.

Though, he believes that the government should respond intelligently and rationally. And for that, he has praised the Biden-Harris administration's report on the supply chain. And he also asserts that if new policies have to be formulated, this report must be taken into consideration. Hence C is the correct answer.

The author has slammed the economic nationalism of Trump's era. Hence, D cannot be the answer.



5. (C)

Option A serves only as an example to prove the author's main argument. It is not the main argument in itself.

Option B is also incorrect as the author has not compared the Americans' obsession with the two countries. Rather, he has mentioned that time has changed, and things are different now.

By giving the example of Japan's economic growth and how the Americans reacted to it, the author wants to convey that the U.S.A needs to be rational and intelligent in its policymaking—considering the global value chain and other changing scenarios. Hence, C is the correct answer.

Passage 20

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

Nuclear clocks could be the GOAT: Greatest of all timepieces. If physicists can build them, nuclear clocks would be a brand-new type of clock, one that would keep time, based on the physics of atoms' hearts. Today's most precise clocks, called atomic clocks, rely on the behaviour of atoms' electrons. But a clock based on atomic nuclei could reach 10 times the precision of those atomic clocks, researchers estimate. Better clocks could improve technologies that depend on them, such as GPS navigation, physicist Peter Thirolf said on June 3 during an online meeting of the American Physical Society Division of Atomic, Molecular, and Optical Physics. But 'it's not just about time-keeping'. Unlike atoms' electrons, atomic nuclei are subject to a strong nuclear force, which holds protons and neutrons together. 'A nuclear clock sees a different part of the world', said Thirolf, of Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München in Germany. That means nuclear clocks could allow new tests of fundamental ideas in physics, including whether supposedly immutable numbers in physics known as fundamental constants are, in fact, constant.

Atomic clocks tally time using the energy jumps of atoms' electrons. According to quantum physics, electrons in atoms can carry only certain amounts of energy, at specific energy levels. To bump electrons in

an atom from one energy level to another, an atomic clock's atoms must be hit with laser light of just the right frequency. That frequency—the rate of oscillation of the light's electromagnetic waves—serves as a highly precise timekeeper. Like the electrons in an atom, the protons and neutrons within atomic nuclei also occupy discrete energy levels. Nuclear clocks would be based on jumps between those nuclear energy levels, rather than those of electrons. Notably, nuclei are resistant to the effects of stray electric or magnetic fields that can hinder atomic clocks. As a result, nuclear clocks 'would be more stable' says theoretical physicist Adriana Pálffy of Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg in Germany.

But there is a problem. To tally time with nuclei, scientists need to be able to set off the jump between nuclear energy levels with a laser. 'Nuclear levels are not normally accessible with lasers', said theoretical physicist Marianna Safronova of the University of Delaware in a June talk at the meeting. For most nuclei, that would require light of higher energy than suitable lasers can achieve. Luckily, there is one lone exception in all of the known nuclei, Safronova said, 'a freak-of-nature thing'. A variety of thorium called thorium-229 has a pair of energy levels close enough in energy that a laser could potentially set off the jump. Recent measurements have more precisely



pinpointed the energy of that jump, a crucial step towards building a thorium nuclear clock. Thirolf and colleagues estimated the energy by measuring electrons emitted when the nucleus jumps between the two levels, as reported in *Nature* in 2019. And in a 2020 paper in *Physical Review Letters*, physicist Andreas Fleischmann and colleagues measured other energy jumps the thorium nucleus can make, subtracting them to deduce the energy of the nuclear clock jump.

The teams agree that the jump is just over 8 electron volts in energy. That energy corresponds to ultraviolet light in a range for which setting off the jump with a laser is possible, but at the edge of scientists' capabilities. Now that physicists know the size of the energy jump, they are aiming to trigger it with lasers. At the meeting, physicist Chuankun Zhang of the research institute JILA in Boulder, Colo., reported efforts to use a frequency comb—a method of creating an array of discrete frequencies of laser light—to initiate the jump and measure its energy even better. 'If it's a success, we can directly build a nuclear-based optical clock from that,' he said at the meeting. Thirolf's team also is working with frequency combs, aiming for a working nuclear clock within the next five years. Meanwhile, Pálffy is looking into using what is called an 'electronic bridge'. Rather than using a laser to directly initiate an energy jump by the nucleus, the laser would first excite the electrons, which would then transfer energy to the nucleus, Pálffy reported at the meeting.

Nuclear clocks could let researchers devise new tests to determine if fundamental constants of nature vary over time. For example, some studies have suggested that the fine-structure constant, a number that sets the strength of electromagnetic interactions, could change. 'This nuclear clock is a perfect system to search for a variation of

fundamental constants', Victor Flambaum of the University of New South Wales in Sydney said at the meeting. The devices could also test a foundation of Einstein's general theory of relativity called the equivalence principle. Or they could search for dark matter, elusive undetected particles that physicists believe account for most of the universe's matter, which could tweak the ticking of the clock.

1. Why could the nuclear clocks potentially be the GOAT?
 - (A) Because they rely on the physics of Atoms' hearts compared to atoms' electrons.
 - (B) A clock measuring the atoms' heart movements is more accurate than atomic clocks.
 - (C) Since it is a much better clock, it can vastly improve all the technologies based on clocks such as GPS navigation.
 - (D) Apart from timekeeping functions, it can quite literally take part in the totality of examining the preliminaries of Atomic Physics.
2. Why has the author used the words 'a freak of nature thing' for Thorium?
 - (A) There is a certain difficulty in assessing the nuclear clock of Thorium that cannot be resolved.
 - (B) Thorium is only one element that is an anomaly and requires special methods to deduce the nuclear clock jump.
 - (C) Thorium-229 has a pair of energy levels close enough in energy that a mere laser can set off the jump.
 - (D) Nuclear levels are not accessible by lasers, but this does not apply to Thorium.
3. What is the reason behind the supreme accuracy of the nuclear clock?
 - (A) Solely because it measures time based on the heart of the atom: the nucleus.



- (B) Because they do not rely on the behaviour of electrons to measure time compared to atomic clocks.
 - (C) Since nuclei are more immune to the effects of drifting electric or magnetic fields, they are more accurate and stable.
 - (D) The rate of oscillation required for the electromagnetic waves are more precise in nuclear clocks.
4. Apart from its accuracy, the final paragraph highlights the secondary purpose of the nuclear clock as:
- (A) An effective tool to test the foundation of Einstein's general theory of relativity.
 - (B) A perfect system to search for a variation of fundamental constants.
 - (C) A beneficial compass to guide us towards the elusive undetected dark matter.
 - (D) A key component to creating new tests to test the credibility of constants and their variance over time.
5. The research teams have created a frequency comb. What was the true intention behind this, even though the energy required for the jump to occur was known to the team?
- (A) The electron jump of 8 EV, was at the very max of the scientists' ability.
 - (B) Thorium-299 has pairs having identical energy, which makes it difficult to separate the pair by using a laser.
 - (C) This method would excite the electrons first, eliminating all variable hindrances in the experiment.
 - (D) None of the above.

Solutions

1. (D)

The reference to the word GOAT can be observed in the opening sentence of the passage. However, why the clocks are given such a title can be inferred only after reading the first paragraph. With this vision in place, the answer to the above question can be observed in the final line of the first paragraph. In the closing lines, the reader is made aware of the new 'worlds' it touches upon. It can be safe to say that the only alternative that covers the reason why the nuclear clocks are GOAT is option D.

Point of reference: Sixth line, first paragraph.

'But 'it's not just about timekeeping'. Unlike atoms' electrons, atomic nuclei are subject to a strong nuclear force, which holds protons and neutrons together. 'A nuclear clock sees a different

part of the world', said Thierolf, of Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München in Germany. That means nuclear clocks could allow new tests of fundamental ideas in physics, including whether supposedly immutable numbers in physics known as fundamental constants are, in fact, constant'.

Options A, B, and C are inaccurate choices. Option C might seem to be the obvious choice to take. However, it, too, is limited like the rest of them. All of these options are only concerned with the timekeeping functions, not the new fields of inquiry and examination that come with this clock.

2. (B)

The use of the words 'A freak of nature thing' is observed in the third paragraph. Literally, the words mean an occurrence which is against the rules or patterns



of the said occurrence. However, in the context of the passage, the writer wants to suggest that thorium's nuclear clock cannot be easily accounted for. The only alternative that comes close to this concept is option B.

Point of reference: Sixth line, third paragraph.

'A variety of thorium called thorium-229 has a pair of energy levels close enough in energy that a laser could potentially set off the jump. Recent measurements have more precisely pinpointed the energy of that jump, a crucial step towards building a thorium nuclear clock. Thirolf and colleagues estimated the energy by measuring electrons emitted when the nucleus jumps between the two levels, as reported in Nature in 2019. And in a 2020 paper in Physical Review Letters, physicist Andreas Fleischmann and colleagues measured other energy jumps the thorium nucleus can make, subtracting them to deduce the energy of the nuclear clock jump'.

Options A, C, and D can be rejected. The reason behind the application of words is not adequately described in them.

3. (C)

To get the complete context of this, the readers have to direct their crosshairs to the second paragraph. In the closing lines of the paragraph, the physicist explains the reason why the nuclear clocks are more stable. Hence by this consideration, the reason behind the accuracy of the nuclear clock can be pinpointed to option C.

Point of reference: Second last line, second paragraph.

'Notably, nuclei are resistant to the effects of stray electric or magnetic fields that can hinder atomic clocks. As a

result, nuclear clocks 'would be more stable' says theoretical physicist Adriana Pálffy of Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg in Germany'.

Options A, B, and D are not the correct reasons. They do not address the main reason why nuclear clocks are superior.

4. (D)

The secondary purpose of the nuclear clock becomes clear on reading the first line of the final paragraph. From this reference, the secondary purpose of the nuclear clock is explained in option D.

Point of reference: First line, final paragraph.

'Nuclear clocks could let researchers devise new tests to determine if fundamental constants of nature vary over time'.

Options A, B, and C are the answers to be rejected. These cover only some of the instances where the nuclear clocks can be utilised. As a result, these are incomplete answers.

5. (A)

The value of 8 EV corresponds to ultraviolet light in a range which is very possible but is at the edge of scientists' capabilities. Hence to compensate for this limitation the frequency combs were made. The answer is option A.

Point of reference: second line, fourth paragraph.

'That energy corresponds to ultraviolet light in a range for which setting off the jump with a laser is possible, but at the edge of scientists' capabilities'.

Options B, C, and D are inaccurate choices. Options B and C are not the key reasons for which the frequency combs method was invented to initiate the energy jump.



Passage 21

Read the following passage and answer questions accordingly.

Bharata declares that Natya is an anukarana (imitation) of life and the entire enterprise of Bharata in Natyashastra is aimed at instructing the practitioners to 'recreate' or 'reproduce' life by putting up production through their enactment and several other theatrical elements. All this is aimed to create an aesthetically relishable unique experience called Rasa. What is this unique relishable experience called Rasa? Let us see.

Bharata opens his Rasadhyaya by asking these questions 'what constitutes Rasa?' 'What is the Rasas expert speak of?' A little while after he introduces a simile drawn from the word of cuisine to explain what he means by Rasa, he explains, Rasa is said so because it is something to be relished. Like various condiments, spices, herbs, and other food items are blended and cooked to prepare a delicacy which is ready for a relishable tasting, similarly, performers produce rasa out of the union of vibhava, anubhava, and vyabhicari bhavas. What comes out after this unifying, creative, assimilative, and engaging enterprise is an aesthetical state for the spectators to be relished and known as Rasa. Bharata did not elaborate much on Rasa, like a good chef, he was more concerned with giving a good recipe for a good delicacy. Chefs do not talk of good flavour and good taste they are sure of it. So was Bharata of his Rasa. His recipe of allowing a prescribed union of vibhava, anubhava, and vyabhicaris to arouse sthayi so well worked out that Rasa has to emerge to enchant the refined spectators. One can easily make out his Rasa is a state of mind, nothing like any mundane states it, a state of intense absorption which is emotionally charged and an essentially delightful savouring experience.

Bharata never attempted writing or even working out a formal theory of rasa. It is probably later thinkers, more so his commentators, who were rather amusingly inspired by

the ambivalence of some of his concepts that they started looking for a theory of Rasa in an all-out practical treatise. In the rasa-sutra you must have noticed how Bharata talks of the production of Rasa. The union of all the three vital ingredients unitedly awaken the sthayibhavas of the refined and involved spectators. The awakened sthayibhava gets metamorphosed into rasa—an experience which is pure pleasure par excellence. For theoretical interest, two problems of this theory are of great interest. i) How the Rasa is Manifested (Rasa-niṣpatti). ii) How the Rasa emerges from the union of the three vital elements of natya (Samyoga) of Vibhava, Anubhava, and Vyabhicari Bhavas. As said earlier, many of later commentators based their commentaries on answering these questions.

Another issue of theoretical interest is what is the basis of Rasa? Nowhere does Bharata seem to mention that it is the sthayibhava that is going to evolve into a rasa but when he likens sthayi to a king he makes his intentions clear. Obviously out of all 49 Bhavas all bhavas cannot be portrayed, the artist has to focus somewhere. His observations were based on human psychology. Modern psychology has so much to speak on these issues today. It prompted him to select only those feelings which are more prominent, more dominant, more visible, and more live in the world. Hence, he considered only eight sthayibhavas. Since these sthayibhavas are just latent to the human psyche they need to have external manifestations through certain minor and transient emotions. He gives a whole list of such transient emotions and even works out their prescribed combination to depict the desired sthayi. But even this depiction cannot achieve the desired goal of achieving rasa, so he brings in the services of sattvika bhavas. These emotions lend vibrancy and truthfulness to the emotional depiction. Besides these emotional elements, he had a lot many theatrical devices



like costumes, stage, accessories, music, and dance which he integrated into the theatrical rendering. Rasa is realised only when all these elements are set according to the prescribed cannons which are based on observations of the way of word.

Although referred to as traditional this verse seems to sum up Bharata's idea of Rasa in a very vibrant manner. 'A meaning which touches the heart creates Rasa; the entire body feels the rasa like fire consuming a dry stick'. Rasa is what embodies Natya, Rasa is what the artists strive for, and Rasa is a state of consciousness wherein the spectators have not only apprehended the import of the artists but also felt its experiential aspects in a blissful state.

1. If jotted down in a mathematical form, what would constitute the blissful experience in Natyashastra known as Rasa?
(A) Vibhava + Sthayi Bhava + Sattvika = Rasa
(B) Vibhava + Anubhava + Vyabhichari Bhava = Rasa
(C) Vyabhichari Bhava + Vibhava + Sthayi Bhava = Rasa
(D) Sattvika + Anubhava + Vibhava + Vyabhichari Bhava = Rasa
2. Why did the author feel that Bharata's discourses on rasa were akin to a good chef?
(A) Bharata handed over the exact ingredients required for the relishing of Rasa.
(B) Bharata was sure that the recipe prescribed by him for Sthayi would undoubtedly yield amazing results.
(C) Chefs do spend a lot of time explaining the flavour to be attained; the same was done by Bharata.
(D) Rasa is an ambivalent concept, and for the author the relishing simile of it made the author present the comparison.
3. Since most of Bharata's discourses on Rasa are devoid of a formal theory, what

was the main point of interest to his commentators?

- (A) The manifestation of Rasa and the combination by which the three main elements of natya come together to attain Rasa.
 - (B) Rasa can only be obtained by a combination of three vital elements, and this exact combination and quantity of the three became a point of interest.
 - (C) The metamorphosis of Sthayi to Rasa in the spectators.
 - (D) The three elements are so ambivalent in nature that they require an exact formulation to work every time.
4. What is the limitation of Bhavas which can be inferred from the final paragraph?
(A) Bhavas alone cannot connect with the audience and need the aid of music, acting, and stage theatrics.
(B) They are quite vast in number, and modern psychology is trying to decipher them all to answer our question.
(C) Since they are too many in number, they cannot all be portrayed at once by the actor.
(D) Bhavas are latent to Human Psyche and need to have external aids through certain minor and transient involvement of emotions.
 5. The author would agree with all of the following, except:
(A) Sthayibhavas are hidden deep beneath the human psyche and need external aids such as music, and dance which are integrated into stage theatrics.
(B) There is a lack of formal theory of Rasa and the commentators who came afterwards, were not intrigued with this ambivalence of Bharata's theory.
(C) Only a union of Vibhava, Anubhava, and Vyabhichari Bhavas can result in



the blissful experience of Rasa in the spectators.

(D) Sattvika bhavas help the performers touch the hearts and emotions of the spectators in unbelievable ways.

Solutions

1. (B)

The answer to this question can only be obtained after understanding what is constituted in Rasa. On close observation of the second paragraph, it becomes clear that Bharata described Rasa as the mixture of Vibhava, Anubhava, and Vyabhichari Bhavas. That is mentioned in option B. Hence, option B is the answer.

Point of reference: Third line, second paragraph.

‘Like various condiments, spices, herbs, and other food items are blended and cooked to prepare a delicacy which is ready for a relishable tasting, similarly, performers produce rasa out of the union of vibhava, anubhava, and vyabhichari bhavas’.

Options A, C, and D are incorrect options. All these options do not contain the three essential components required for Rasa to be attained.

2. (B)

The solution to this query can be understood in the closing lines of the second paragraph. In the ending lines, the author has shared how good chefs work and share knowledge. In the context of Bharata’s thoughts on attaining Rasa, this similarity has been drawn keeping in mind Bharata’s prescribed Rasa being a sure way of arousing sthaya that Rasa was the output of. Therefore, option B is the answer.

Point of reference: Second last line, second paragraph.

‘His recipe of allowing a prescribed union of vibhava, anubhava, vyabhicharis to arouse sthaya so well worked out that

Rasa has to emerge to enchant the refined spectators’.

Options A, C, and D are inaccurate alternatives. They do not address the main reason why the author drew this similarity. Furthermore, option C is contradictory to what is mentioned in the passage about good chefs.

3. (A)

The main point of interest to Bharata’s commentators was born due to the ambivalence and lack of a formal theory behind his concept of Rasa. From this understanding, the commentators dedicated their hearts and soul to deciphering a formulation. In the final line of the third paragraph, the key point of interest for his commentators is revealed. Hence, option A is the answer.

Point of reference: Final line, third paragraph.

‘For theoretical interest, two problems of this theory are of great interest. (i) How the Rasa is Manifested (Rasa-nishpatti). (ii) How the Rasa emerges from the union of the three vital elements of natya (Samyoga) of Vibhava, Anubhava, and Vyabhichari Bhavas. As said earlier much of later commentators based their commentaries on answering these questions’.

Options B, C, and D should be discarded. They are limited in definition to answer the above query. None of them discusses the manifestation aspect of Rasa in the spectators.

4. (C)

The limitation of Bhavas becomes obvious in the third line of the final paragraph. Not only does it highlight the



number of Bhavas, but also provides the reader with insight into its limitation. All of them cannot be portrayed at once since the performer can only focus on one at a time. In conclusion, the answer is option C.

Point of reference: Third line, Final paragraph.

‘Obviously out of all 49 Bhavas all bhavas cannot be portrayed, the artist has to focus somewhere’

Options A, B, and D are incorrect alternatives. They do not highlight the limitation of Bhavas, made evident by the point of reference.

5. (B)

To answer this question, the reader initially needs to have a thorough and complete understanding of the entire passage. The question, out of the given alternatives, asks the reader to identify the one alternative which is either not mentioned in the passage or is contradictory to the notion mentioned in the passage. With the entirety of the passage in mind, only option B is contradictory to what is mentioned.

Point of reference: The complete passage.

Options A, C, and D are wrong choices. They are all mentioned in the passage and as a result, must not be considered as the answer.

Passage 22

Read the following passage and answer questions accordingly.

Many people have experienced sore arms and feeling wiped out for a couple of days after getting a COVID-19 vaccine. Some get fevers, chills, and headaches. Those familiar side effects have become widely accepted as the price of protection against the too-often-deadly coronavirus. But it's the rare, more serious side effects that have grabbed the headlines—and given some people pause about whether to get vaccinated or get the shots for their children. Such side effects include rare allergic reactions to an ingredient in the mRNA vaccines and rare blood clots in young women associated with Johnson & Johnson's vaccine. Now, a group that monitors vaccine safety for the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is investigating whether there is a link between Pfizer's mRNA vaccine and a few mild cases of heart inflammation, called myocarditis, in adolescents and young adults. So far, cases of myocarditis have not risen above the number normally expected in young people, and no one actually knows whether the vaccine triggers heart inflammation or not.

“We are seeing these potential side effects because we are looking for them, and that's a perfect example of how our safety system is supposed to work,” says Alexandra Yonts, a paediatric infectious disease doctor at Children's National Hospital in Washington, D.C. “We're being very aggressive and proactive, and that's good.” Here is what is known, the experts say: The risk of serious side effects from vaccination remains far smaller than its benefits. The vaccines are highly effective at preventing severe illness, hospitalisation, and death, even against variants. The vaccines can also help block infection and transmission of the coronavirus. As of May 28, worldwide, more than 1.8 billion doses of COVID-19 vaccines have been given, according to Johns Hopkins University. No vaccines are completely risk-free, says Yvonne Maldonado, an infectious diseases epidemiologist at Stanford University School of Medicine. But the side effects known to be caused by the vaccines are usually short-lived and clear up on their own or are treatable or reversible, she says.

Out of every million doses given of the mRNA vaccines, overall, about 2.5 to 11.1%, severe



allergic reactions to an ingredient called polyethylene glycol will happen. That is why people are typically monitored for at least 15 minutes after the shot. The risk is obviously highest for people who have known allergies to polyethylene glycol, and they should probably avoid taking the mRNA vaccines. If the jabs are broken down into smaller doses, people with rare allergies might still be able to get the shots safely, researchers reported in April in the *Annals of Internal Medicine*. A small number of people who have facial fillers made of hyaluronic acid may get swelling around their fillers a few days after a shot of an mRNA vaccine. The European Medicines Agency recommended that the vaccine makers warn people of the possible reaction. In Moderna's clinical trial, three people developed the swelling. Nine other cases were associated with either the Pfizer or Moderna shots, researchers reported on April 7 in the *Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology*.

"It's not a high number," says Herluf Lund, a plastic surgeon in St. Louis, Mo., and the immediate past president of the Aesthetic Society. "But it's also not unheard of, because it's not just the COVID vaccines that are tied to this; almost any vaccine can be tied to this swelling around fillers." Illnesses can also trigger swelling. The reaction is not an allergic reaction, it is a side effect of revving up the immune system. "The immune system when it first starts up is a bit like a shotgun; it fires and hopes it hits something," he says. Once the immune system recognises the vaccine or virus as its target, the swelling goes away. The swelling is not dangerous and usually clears up quickly, either on its own or after taking antihistamines or steroids. "It, of course, scares the heck out of the patient", Lund says. "But don't run to the emergency room", he says. "Just pick up the phone and call your doctor".

1. What has given some people a second thought about getting vaccinated?
 - (A) The side effect of sore arms, fever, and chills.
 - (B) The occurrence of rare blood clots in women.
 - (C) The price of protection to some do not weigh much against the virus.
 - (D) The link between Pfizer's mRNA vaccine and the cases of heart inflammation.
2. What can be inferred about the finding of CDCP from the first paragraph regarding the mRNA vaccine?
 - (A) The CDCP observed a normal number of people suffering from Myocarditis.
 - (B) The results of CDCP were inconclusive in creating any form of link between mRNA and Myocarditis.
 - (C) Rare blood clots were observed in young women after vaccination doses.
 - (D) The CDCP found mRNA vaccine had no relation to cases of Myocarditis since the number of cases was nothing out of the ordinarily observed.
3. What have the doctors pointed out as the reason behind the increasing observation of potential side effects?
 - (A) The increasing number of cases related to heart inflammation.
 - (B) The safety system inbuilt in the human brain gives preference to survival and proactively looks out for signs of danger.
 - (C) The risk of serious side effects from vaccination are yet to be seen.
 - (D) The increasing concern of the side effects of the vaccine being in some cases untreatable or irreversible.
4. What would the writer suggest to a person who is hesitant of taking a vaccine to convince him otherwise?
 - (A) To avoid Johnson and Johnson's vaccine and instead opt for Pfizer since it does not have any noticeable side effects.
 - (B) The safety system of the human brain is designed in such a way that



it proactively seeks signs of danger to ensure the survival of the body in which it resides.

- (C) The side effects of the vaccine are not fatal by nature and are easily treatable.
- (D) The companies are directly responsible for any side effects caused and if anyone happens to contract the side effect, they can hold the companies liable.

5. What has been identified as the main contributor to swelling in facial fillers after vaccination?

- (A) Bloating in facial fillers is a result of the allergic reaction occurring prior to vaccination.
- (B) It is a result of the immune system firing up and identifying any 'artificial enhancement' as a foreign object in the body.
- (C) It is one of the known reactions to polyethylene glycol.
- (D) None of the above.

Solutions

1. (B)

The answer to this question becomes clear in the opening of the passage. The third line of the first paragraph pretty much explains the reason why some people have second thoughts regarding vaccination doses. In the side effects listed, only one of them is mentioned in the alternatives. In light of this point, option B is the answer.

Point of reference: Third line, first paragraph.

'But it's the rare, more serious side effects that have grabbed the headlines—and given some people pause about whether to get vaccinated or get the shots for their children. Such side effects include rare allergic reactions to an ingredient in the mRNA vaccines and rare blood clots in young women associated with Johnson & Johnson's vaccine.'

Options A, C, and D should be discarded. These options do not address the main reason why some people are getting hesitant for getting their vaccination done.

2. (D)

The CDCP, in their research conducted regarding cases of Myocarditis, found no relation between the mRNA vaccine and

the number of cases of Myocarditis. The number of cases observed was not increasing as it would have if there had been a connection between the two. This inference is made more evident in the final line of the first paragraph. Therefore, option D is the answer.

Point of reference: Final line, first paragraph.

'So far, cases of myocarditis have not risen above the number normally expected in young people, and no one actually knows whether the vaccine triggers the heart inflammation or not'.

Options A, B, and C are incorrect. Options A and B cannot be inferred about the findings of CDCP regarding the mRNA vaccine. Option C may seem to be the answer but on a careful reading of the paragraph, the rare blood clots were observed with Johnson and Johnson's vaccine, not of Pfizer.

3. (B)

Alexandra Yonts, from Washington D.C, has shared the reason behind why there is increasing observation concerning potential side effects. Her insight becomes very clear in the first two lines of the second paragraph. After referring



to these two lines it becomes clear why these cases are being observed. From this understanding, option B is the answer, which can completely encapsulate the two views presented by the paediatric from Washington.

Point of reference: First line, second paragraph.

“We are seeing these potential side effects because we are looking for them, and that’s a perfect example of how our safety system is supposed to work”, says Alexandra Yonts, a paediatric infectious disease doctor at Children’s National Hospital in Washington, D.C. “We’re being very aggressive and proactive, and that’s good”.

Options A, C, and D are not to be considered as the answer. These options do not address the main reason.

4. (C)

To appropriately answer the above question, the reader needs to understand the main concern of the people who are having second thoughts about the vaccine and the possible solution that the author would suggest. From the passage,

it becomes clear that the main concern of the masses is about the potentially fatal side-effects of the vaccines. From this analysis of the passage, only option C can address and satisfy the burning query to resolve the hesitance surrounding the vaccination process.

Point of reference: The complete passage.

5. (B)

The solution can be taken from the final paragraph where the correct reason behind the swelling in facial fillers post-vaccination is discussed. In the fifth and sixth lines, it becomes clear that the reason behind the swelling is not allergic by nature, but instead, it occurs because of the immune system trying to recognise the virus present in the body.

Point of reference: Fifth line and Sixth line, fourth paragraph.

“The immune system, when it first starts up, is a bit like a shotgun; it fires and hopes it hits something,” he says. Once the immune system recognises the vaccine or virus as its target, the swelling goes away.

Passage 23

Read the following passage and answer questions accordingly.

A lot of sadness, oppression, and suffering can come in this world, simply because we cannot explain to other people what we actually mean, clearly and transparently enough. One of the philosophers who can help us with this predicament of communication, is Ludwig Wittgenstein. He suffered from communication problems of his own as he stuttered and had a habit of storming out whenever he found the discussion going on in the room not going according to his will. Strangely enough, it became the ideal background for a person who was intent on

understanding the hidden evils of language and conversation.

Wittgenstein was born in Vienna in 1889. He was the youngest child of a wealthy highly cultured and domineering steel magnate. Three of Wittgenstein’s brothers took their own lives and Ludwig himself was frequently troubled by suicidal thoughts. At a very young age he took an interest in engineering, but after studying it, his father died, and he ended up inheriting a huge sum of money. Wittgenstein gave it all away to his already rich relatives and went to live in spartan solitude in Norway. There he started writing a book, published in 1921 called Tractatus



Logico Philosophicus. It was a short, beautiful, and baffling work. The big question Wittgenstein asked in it is 'How do Human beings manage to communicate Ideas to one another?' and his answer which felt revolutionary at the time, is that language works by triggering within us pictures of how things are in the world. In Wittgenstein's view, words enable us to 'make pictures of facts'. For instance, to say the 'palm tree is by the shore', paints a rapid sketch in the mind of the reader, which then helps the other person see the situation in their mind and understand.

Language and communication, enable us to constantly swap pictures.

But the problem comes because we are bad at making pictures in the mind of others as same words can have different meaning (or pictures) in the mind of others. Communication typically goes wrong because other people have a different picture of what we mean. It can take ages for two people to realise divergences on quite basic things. Problems of communication typically start because we do not have a clear and accurate enough picture of what we mean in our own heads and we end up saying quite meaningless or muddled things, which therefore, can go nowhere in the minds of others. There is another danger as well, that we read more meaning in the words of others, than they ever intended or warranted. A good example of this, when a husband tells his wife, that he had a conversation with an 'interesting person' at the hotel reception. The image the husband might be having is a very genuine and innocent one, but the wife may end up forming a very different and negative impression. The Tractatus is a plea by a silent Austrian philosopher to speak more carefully and less impulsively. As he famously put it: 'Wovon man nicht sprechen kann, darüber muss man schweigen'. (Whereof one cannot speak, thereof one must be silent. English).

1. What, according to the author, can be a reason for bringing a lot of unhappiness in the world?
 - (A) We happen to complain about things and instead of addressing them head on we end up calling them by pejorative terms.
 - (B) Since we are bound to use vague terms to explain our situation and feelings to others, we cannot arrive at a convincing solution.
 - (C) We do not give credit where its due and do not respect the philosophers who can genuinely help us.
 - (D) We cannot really understand what instructions and ideas are being communicated between us.
2. Why has the author used the words 'ideal background' for Wittgenstein?
 - (A) Wittgenstein was born to a wealthy family of a steel magnate making his background to be nothing short of ideal.
 - (B) A person suffering from communication problems was able to understand the hidden evils of communication.
 - (C) Since Ludwig was the only surviving child in his family, he happened to inherit a lot of money from his father.
 - (D) Since Wittgenstein did not have any person to talk to, he was able to fully dedicate himself to begin his work on Tractatus Logico Philosophicus.
3. How does language and communication work as per the insight of Wittgenstein?
 - (A) Since our vocabulary of language is limited, we are using wrong words with right intentions.
 - (B) Language first forms pictures in our mind, and from these pictures we form facts of things around us in the world.
 - (C) Language is a tool which forms images and through communication, human beings swap pictures between them.



- (D) Words are textual representations of visual objects and only visually appealing language should be used.
4. What is the intention of the author to share the instance of a normal conversation between a couple?
- (A) To advise Husbands to avoid interesting people during vacations.
- (B) The writer believes that wives, have typically wrong impression of their husbands. Hence, staying silent in front of them is the best course.
- (C) To let the reader understand the danger of speaking impulsively and not giving it a second thought.
- (D) To let the reader become aware of the hidden peril that can come with innocent-looking words.
5. What is the meaning of the ending quote by Wittgenstein?
- (A) Though language can be daunting to master but knowing correct words and speaking with thought can make us much better in communicating ideas.
- (B) Our own language is severely limited in vocabulary. Hence, knowing more and more words can allow us to communicate efficiently.
- (C) Language is full of complications and flaws. It is better to remain silent in place of understanding this problem.
- (D) Only the differently abled person having speech problems, should remain silent.

Solutions

1. (D)

The answer to the above question can be observed in the opening line of the passage. The author points out that most of the misery in this world is there because we are inept in explaining our insights and ideas to others. The only alternative that is in the vein of this alternative is option D.

Point of reference: First line, first paragraph.

‘A lot of sadness, oppression, and suffering can come in this world, simply because we cannot explain to other people what we actually mean, clearly and transparently enough’.

Options A, B, and C are inaccurate choices. Option B might seem to be the obvious choice to take. However, it is limited because it is using vague terms.

2. (B)

The author has used the words ‘ideal background’ at the end of the first paragraph. On observing the background

of Wittgenstein in the first and second paragraphs, it can be inferred that Wittgenstein suffered from stuttering or communication problems. And after reading the big main idea in Wittgenstein’s book, it can be said with that the person suffering from communication problem was able to understand the hidden flaws of communication. Therefore, the answer is option B, which aptly explains the reason as to why the author has used the word ‘ideal background’.

Point of reference: The complete first and second paragraphs.

Options A, C, and D can be rejected. The reason behind the application of words is not adequately described in them. They are focused on the wealthy family background of Wittgenstein.

3. (C)

To get the complete context of this, the readers have to direct their cross-hairs at the second paragraph. The main idea as to how communication



works are mentioned in this paragraph by citing the main idea of the *Tractatus Logico Philosophicus*. With the main idea in place, it can be said that as per Wittgenstein, language works by triggering images in the mind of others; and communication enables swapping of the images from one person to another. Therefore, the answer is option C.

Point of reference: Eighth line, second paragraph.

‘The big question Wittgenstein asked in it is ‘How do Human beings manage to communicate Ideas to one another’? and his answer which felt revolutionary at the time, is that language works by triggering within us pictures of how things are in the world. In Wittgenstein’s view, words enable us to ‘make pictures of facts’. For instance, to say the ‘palm tree is by the shore’, paints a rapid sketch in the mind of the reader, which then helps the other person see the situation in their mind and understand. Language and communication, enable us to constantly swap pictures’.

Options A, B, and D are incorrect. The main idea as to how communication works as per Wittgenstein is inaccurately shared in them. Option B on the first glance may appear to be the most fitting choice to take. However, the hint here is that the question asks how language and communication work, while option B is discussing only language.

4. (D)

The instance of the conversation between a couple is observed in the closing lines of the final paragraph. The writer, before stating this instance, pointed out the danger that can come with communication. More specifically when others form too much meaning then what

is needed. Going by this analysis, the true intention of the author to use this instance is conveyed appropriately in option D.

Point of reference: Fourth line, final paragraph.

‘There is another danger as well, that we read more meaning in the words of others, then they ever intended or warranted.’

Options A, B, and C are the answers to be rejected. Options A and B are taking the literal meaning of the instance and are irrelevant to the entire passage. Option C might seem to be the answer at first. But the reader should note that the example of focus is not implying impulsive speaking, instead it lets the reader understand how innocent-looking words end up forming a different kind of image altogether in the mind of others.

5. (A)

The closing lines of the final paragraph serve as the curtain call of the concept explained in the entirety of the passage. With this being clear, the ending quote by Wittgenstein is to convey the importance of speaking carefully and using correct words. Hence, he says that the person must remain silent, only if he cannot speak. Otherwise, with the knowledge of right words and effective communication, silence should not be the case for the one well educated in language. From this analysis, the correct answer is option A.

Point of reference: The entire passage.

Options B, C, and D are not to be considered as the answer. They are not at all in line with the views of the author in general and Wittgenstein’s philosophy in particular.



Passage 24

Read the following passage and answer questions accordingly.

Soon after World War II, Winston Churchill was visiting the White House when he is said to have had an uncanny experience. Having had a long bath with a Scotch and cigar, he reportedly walked into the adjoining bedroom—only to be met by the ghost of Abraham Lincoln. Unflappable, Churchill apparently announced: ‘Good evening, Mr. President. You seem to have me at a disadvantage’. The spirit smiled and vanished. His supposed contact with the supernatural puts Churchill in illustrious company. Arthur Conan Doyle spoke to ghosts through mediums, while Alan Turing believed in telepathy. Three men who were all known for their razor-sharp thinking yet could not stop themselves from believing in the impossible. You may well join them. According to recent surveys, as many as three-quarters of Americans believe in the paranormal, in some form, while nearly one in five claim to have actually seen a ghost.

Intrigued by these persistent beliefs, psychologists have started to look at why some of us cannot shake off old superstitions and folklore. Their findings may suggest some hidden virtues to believing in the paranormal. At the very least, it should cause you to question whether you hold more insidious beliefs about the world. Paranormal experiences are easily explainable, based on faulty activity in the brain. Reports of poltergeists invisibly moving objects seem to be consistent with damage to certain regions of the right hemisphere that are responsible for visual processing; certain forms of epilepsy, meanwhile, can cause the spooky feeling that a presence is stalking you close by—perhaps underlying accounts of faceless ‘shadow people’ lurking in the surroundings. Out-of-body experiences, meanwhile, are now accepted neurological phenomena, while certain visual illusions could confound the healthy brain and create mythical beings.

For example, one young Italian psychologist looked in the mirror one morning to find a grizzled old man staring back at him. His later experiments confirmed that the illusion is surprisingly common when you look at your reflection in the half light, perhaps because the brain struggles to construct the contours of your face, so it begins to try to fill in the missing information—even if that leads to the appearance of skulls, old hags, or hideous animals. So, any combination of exhaustion, drugs, alcohol, and tricks of the light could contribute to single, isolated sightings, like that reported by Churchill. But what about the experiences of people like Conan Doyle, who seemed to see other-worldly actions on a day-to-day basis?

Psychologists studying religion have long suspected that a belief in the paranormal can be a kind of shield from the even harsher truths of the world. The idea is that when something unexpected happens—a death, natural disaster, or job loss—the brain scrambles around for answers, looking for meaning in the chaos. “It’s such an aversive state that if it can’t gain control objectively, we will get it by perceiving more structures around us, even if they don’t exist”, says Jennifer Whitson at the University of Texas, who studies pattern perception, and judgment and decision making. Even simply asking people to remember a time when they felt out of control, can make people see illusionary forces at work, she has found. That included seeing patterns in the random movements of the stock market, for example, but it could also manifest itself by linking two unconnected events, such as the belief that ‘knocking on wood’ for good luck would improve your chances in a job interview.

1. What is the main inference to be drawn from the first paragraph?
 - (A) Winston Churchill must have been under the influence of narcotics



when he had his proclaimed encounter with the spirit of President Lincoln.

- (B) The number of people who believe in the existence of the paranormal is quite abundant.
 - (C) It is no surprise that people of sound mental health and rational approach do seem to have beliefs based on the supernatural.
 - (D) Winston Churchill, Arthur Conan Doyle, and Alan Turing are among the high-profile people with strong critiques of shamans and charlatans.
2. 'Religious beliefs may appear false on paper, but they provide peace and can help us cope with the problems of life'. Which paragraph finds the most accurate resonance with the above thought?
- (A) Paragraph 1
 - (B) Paragraph 2
 - (C) Paragraph 3
 - (D) Paragraph 4
3. What did the writer finally contribute as the reason behind sightings of old withered paranormal entities?
- (A) Any combination of narcotics coupled with fatigue and exhaustion.
 - (B) People diagnosed with defects in the visual processing region of the right hemisphere are bound to experience this.
 - (C) Reflection emitted in the presence of partial or half light ends up pushing the brain to fill up missing pieces of information with skulls/faces.
 - (D) The appearance of these were chalked up to be figments of

imagination manifesting in the forms of reflection in the mirror.

4. How does neurology view the world and beliefs of superstition and the supernatural?
- (A) Some since childhood were made to fear the supernatural and because of this, their beliefs are profound even very later in adulthood.
 - (B) All supernatural experiences irrespective of their kind and behaviour are directly linked to encephalopathy rationally.
 - (C) The residents of 284 Green Street, who experienced the Enfield Poltergeist were diagnosed with Visual agnosia.
 - (D) The phenomenon of Shadow people is largely credited to epilepsy.
5. From a psychological viewpoint, what can be said as the contributing factor for the acceptance of superstitions?
- (A) The explanations provided by folklore have the underlying intention to protect the individual from the harsher truth of the world.
 - (B) The crisis brought in by science by casting doubt on faith is akin to the existential crisis a child goes through on realising that his parents are not the important component of the cosmos.
 - (C) The brain is always looking to make rational predictions from available facts.
 - (D) Situations of helplessness or powerlessness can push an individual to look for evil or non-existent powers at work.

Solutions

1. (C)

To arrive at the main inference of the first paragraph, that option must be selected which can convey the overarching

message and essence of the paragraph. With this method in sight, the only alternative which provides the correct inference of the first paragraph is option C.



Point of reference: The complete first paragraph.

Options A, B, and D are incorrect. They do cover some of the main highlights of the paragraph. But they fail to address the main deduction.

2. (D)

To arrive at the appropriate answer, the reader must first attempt to understand the meaning of the quote. With the meaning clear, the paragraph can be easily identified. The meaning of the quote is to form a link of reconciliation between religion and psychology. The purpose is not to falsify religion, but to identify everything that unifies the scepticism and reason of science with faith of religion. With this being said, the 4th paragraph is the only paragraph of the passage which talks about the study of religion from a point of view concerning psychology.

Point of reference: The complete passage.

Options A, B, and C are incorrect alternatives. They do not have the same concern as provided in the quote.

3. (C)

The main reason behind the occurrence of paranormal entities has been explained by psychologists in the third paragraph. In this paragraph, the psychologists carried on the experiment which provided the reason behind this supernatural occurrence. The appropriate reason behind this is conveyed in the third option. Reflections in partial light push the brain to pick up the pieces for missing information. As a result, the missing information is filled with skulls and faces which are not even there in the first place. Hence, option C is the answer.

Point of reference: Third line, third paragraph.

‘His later experiments confirmed that the illusion is surprisingly common when you look at your reflection in the half light, perhaps because the brain struggles to construct the contours of your face, so it begins to try to fill in the missing information—even if that leads to the appearance of skulls, old hags or hideous animals.’

Options A, B, and D should be discarded. They are limited in definition to answer the above query. Option A may appear to be the correct choice. However, it does not contain the main factor responsible for this occurrence.

4. (B)

The view of Neurology would be akin to the view of psychologists. They could link the known phenomena of the supernatural with defects of the brain. For instance, the poltergeist being linked to damages in the right hemisphere of the brain and ‘shadow people’ to epilepsy. So, the view of Neurology can be summed up to provide a rational view of the paranormal event by linking the said event to diseases of the brain or in medical terms, encephalopathy. Therefore, the correct answer is option B.

Point of reference: Fourth line, second paragraph.

‘Paranormal experiences are easily explainable, based on faulty activity in the brain’.

Options A, C, and D are inaccurate. These options do provide some rational view of the supernatural but are limited by nature as they individually cannot convey the entirety of the neurological view.

5. (D)

The solution to this question is discussed in the final paragraph of the passage. In the final paragraph, it is stated that Psychologists have observed that feelings of helplessness push an individual to see non-existent forces at work.



Point of reference: Fourth line, final paragraph.

‘Even simply asking people to remember a time when they felt out of control, can make people see illusionary forces at work, she has found.’

Options A, B, and C are inaccurate. The existential crisis, the underlying intentions of folklore and rational prediction from available facts are not concerned with the psychological viewpoints concerned with acceptance of superstitions.

Passage 25

Read the following passage and answer questions accordingly.

In the densely populated slums of Dhaka, Bangladesh, children survive on rice cooked with curry powder and cheap cookies and chips, packaged in appealing, colourful wrappers. These protein-poor foods provide scarce nutrients for growing bodies. Add in poor sanitation from multiple generations of a family often living in a single room and no access to health care, and these hardships are etched in these children’s malnourished bodies. “This is what life is like in these places”, says Tahmeed Ahmed, who heads the International Centre for Diarrheal Disease Research, Bangladesh. Dhaka is far from unique. According to UNICEF, more than 1 in 5 children under age 5, or 149.2 million, are coping with undernutrition—a form of malnutrition most common in low- and middle-income countries. Undernutrition leaves children stunted, or short for their age, and wasted, underweight for their height. And it can be deadly: Globally, 5.2 million children under age 5 died in 2019; 45 percent of those deaths are linked to nutrition-related issues, according to the World Health Organisation.

The COVID-19 pandemic was expected to make things worse, disrupting nutrition programs and families’ ability to find and afford food, researchers reported in May 2020 in the Lancet Global Health. It’s still too early to know the toll the pandemic has had on child malnutrition. But “we are not yet out of the woods in many countries”, says Denish Moorthy, a senior technical advisor on global nutrition initiatives for John Snow Inc., a

Boston-based public health management consulting and research organisation. Yet in Dhaka, there is a glimmer of hope. Children fed a new kind of food supplement, aimed at not only nourishing them but restoring helpful bacteria in their guts, gained more weight on average than children fed traditional high-caloric supplements, Ahmed and his colleagues reported in a preliminary study April 7 in the New England Journal of Medicine. In six months, the researchers hope to have results that determine whether those gains persist.

The approach is based on more than a decade of work, led by Jeffrey Gordon, a microbiologist at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, on whether disruptions in our gut microbiota could cause malnutrition. The team has found that malnourished babies lack beneficial gut microbes, and the problem lingers even after the babies are fed foods designed to boost their weight. Those gut microbes are important for metabolism, immunity, digestion and overall development, so the lack of them stymies efforts to help these kids catch up. In Bangladesh, Gordon’s team set out to create a microbiome-based food supplement by testing foods common to the local diet and seeing which foods boosted healthy bacteria. The team also tested a way to measure the food’s impact by characterizing the gut bacteria in healthy and malnourished children and developing a pattern of markers in the blood. This pattern let the team understand how undernutrition changes the body, and also track gut microbiome changes.



The researchers then put their food to the test in the Dhaka slum of Mirpur. There, 118 undernourished children ages 12 to 18 months received either the gut microbe-friendly food or a more traditional ready-to-use supplementary food twice a day for three months. The microbe-friendly food contained fewer calories than the commonly used supplementary food—204 calories per 50-gram daily dose compared with 247 calories. Even so, researchers used a specialised score to show that children on the microbe-friendly food increased weight-for-length by 0.011 points faster than those given the ready-to-use supplement. If this growth rate was projected out to a year, it would be good enough to move these children into the normal range, says Gordon. Blood markers linked to bone growth, nervous system development and overall health improved. And a stool comparison showed that these children's microbiomes looked like those of healthy Bangladeshi children. The results suggest the microbe-friendly food could help children's bodies turn back the clock on the ill effects of undernutrition, the researchers say.

1. What was observed to be the key factor behind the malnourishment in the children?
 - (A) Survival on rice cooked with cheap curry powder.
 - (B) Lack or absence of access to proper health care facilities in the slums of Bangladesh.
 - (C) Lack of personal space and social distancing required for healthy wellbeing.
 - (D) Protein-deficient diet, lack of essential nutrients and unsanitary conditions of living.
2. What was the contributing catalyst that gave the author a sliver of hope?
 - (A) High Caloric supplements aimed to gain weight in malnourished children.
 - (B) The food supplement helped to restore helpful gut bacteria in turn helping children gain weight.
 - (C) The study of microbiologists to establish the link of microbiota and malnutrition.
 - (D) None of the above.
3. Which of the following, if proved to be true, would weaken the argument of the writer?
 - (A) Children in the slums of Dhaka are not fed adequately, and lack essential nutrients required for proper wellbeing.
 - (B) Globally, 1 in every 5 children suffers from malnutrition.
 - (C) The wonder food supplement promotes healthy weight gain in children but at the cost of increasing dependence on the particular supplement.
 - (D) The microbiologist we are able to identify the direct relation between gut bacteria and undernutrition.
4. What would be a suitable heading for the passage?
 - (A) The rising cases of malnutrition.
 - (B) Restoring healthy gut bacteria can defeat global malnutrition.
 - (C) The effects of the pandemic on the global hunger.
 - (D) Difficulty faced by WHO's relief teams.
5. Which of the following is a suitable summary for the second paragraph?
 - (A) The case of Dhaka is not unique, since around 149.2 million children globally are coping with the issue of malnutrition.
 - (B) Undernutrition is a pest which slowly and gradually eats away the foundations of the future.
 - (C) The full effect of the pandemic on malnutrition numbers worldwide, is yet to be calculated.
 - (D) The number of deaths that happen globally due to malnutrition is astounding to say the least.



Solutions

1. (D)

There are a couple of reasons listed in the opening of the passage. The main factor of the malnourishment observed in the children is a mixture of protein-deficient diet, lack of essential nutrients, and unsanitary conditions. Considering this, option D is the answer.

Point of reference: The complete first paragraph.

Options A, B, and C should be discarded. These options are inadequate in highlighting the complete reason behind the rising cases of malnourishment.

2. (B)

The solution is available in the third paragraph. The third paragraph lets the reader know the reason behind the author's newfound hope in the face of the increasing adversity of global malnourishment. The new food supplement helps in restoring bacteria in the guts of the children. Through this restoration, the proper metabolic activities can be carried out in the children.

Point of reference: Second line, third paragraph.

'Children fed a new kind of food supplement, aimed at not only nourishing them but restoring helpful bacteria in their guts, gained more weight on average than children fed traditional high-caloric supplements, Ahmed and his colleagues reported in a preliminary study April 7 in the New England Journal of Medicine'.

Options A, C, and D are not to be considered as the answer. These options do not address the main reason.

3. (C)

To appropriately answer the above question, the reader needs to understand the main concept and connection observed

by the research team to battle malnutrition. From the understanding, if option C were to be true, it would weaken the argument of the author. Simply put, there is no mention of the food supplement causing increased dependence in the consumers.

Point of reference: The complete passage.

Options A, B, and D are wrong choices. If these were proven true, they would not hamper the writer's argument.

4. (B)

The alternative which covers the prevalent theme of the entire passage is the right choice. The repeated theme is placing high importance on the connection of gut bacteria and reversing malnutrition. It can be said with certainty, that option B is the answer.

Point of reference: The complete passage.

Options A, C, and D can be rejected as the answer. With the common theme in place, it can be said that these options are not addressing the main theme and are incorrect because of it.

5. (C)

To give the paragraph a suitable summary, the alternative that can cover the key notions discussed in the paragraph should be selected. With this understanding, the theme of global malnutrition cases and the uncounted effect of the pandemic on the said cases can be observed. From this analysis, option C is the answer.

Point of reference: Complete second paragraph.

Options A, B, and D are incorrect. They individually are inapt to fully summarise the paragraph.



Passage 26

Read the following passage and answer questions accordingly.

The first recognised example of a game machine was unveiled by Dr Edward Uhler Condon at the New York World's Fair in 1940. The game, based on the ancient mathematical game of Nim, was played by about 50,000 people during the six months it was on display, with the computer reportedly winning more than 90 percent of the games. However, the first game system designed for commercial home use did not emerge until nearly three decades later, when Ralph Baer and his team released his prototype, the 'Brown Box', in 1967. The 'Brown Box' was a vacuum tube-circuit that could be connected to a television set and unlike the previous one, allowed two users to control cubes that chased each other on the screen. The 'Brown Box' could be programmed to play a variety of games, including ping pong, checkers, and four sports games. Using advanced technology for this time, added accessories included a light gun for a target shooting game, and a special attachment used for a golf putting game.

According to the National Museum of American History, Baer recalled, 'The minute we played ping-pong, we knew we had a product. Before that we weren't too sure'. The 'Brown Box' was licensed to Magnavox, which released the system as the Magnavox Odyssey in 1972. It preceded Atari by a few months, which is often mistakenly thought of as the first games console. Between August 1972 and 1975, when the Magnavox was discontinued, around 300,000 consoles were sold. Poor sales were blamed on mismanaged in-store marketing campaigns and the fact that home gaming was a relatively alien concept to the average American at this time. Some of the games built for the system were imported from publishers abroad such as in Japan and China. However mismanaged it might have been, this was the birth of the digital gaming we know today.

Sega and Taito were the first companies to pique the public's interest in arcade gaming when they released the electro-mechanical games Periscope and Crown Special Soccer in 1966 and 1967. In 1972, Atari (founded by Nolan Bushnell, the godfather of gaming) became the first gaming company to really set the benchmark for a large-scale gaming community. Atari not only developed their games in-house, but they also created a whole new industry around the 'arcade,' and in 1973, retailing at \$1,095, Atari began to sell the first real electronic video game Pong, and arcade machines began emerging in bars, bowling alleys and shopping malls around the world. Tech-heads realised they were onto a big thing; between 1972 and 1985, more than 15 companies began to develop video games for the ever-expanding market.

During the late 1970s, a number of chain restaurants around the U.S. started to install video games to capitalise on the hot new craze. The nature of the games sparked competition among players, who could record their high scores with their initials and were determined to mark their space at the top of the list. At this point, multiplayer gaming was limited to players competing on the same screen. The first example of players competing on separate screens came in 1973 with 'Empire'—a strategic turn-based game for up to eight players—which was created for the PLATO network system. PLATO (Programmed Logic for Automatic Teaching Operation), was one of the first generalised computer-based teaching systems, originally built by the University of Illinois and later taken over by Control Data (CD), who built the machines on which the system ran.

1. Why has Nolan Bushnell received the title of 'Godfather of Gaming'?
(A) Atari was the first company that brought in the first ever gaming console in the U.S. market.



- (B) They sold the first real electronic video game Pong at a commercially successful venture.
- (C) Atari was the company which was able to create and set benchmarks for future gaming industries and communities.
- (D) Crown Special Soccer was the first of its kind in the field of interactive sports games.
- 2.** What is the most common misconception when people mention the 'First Gaming Consoles'?
- (A) The Brown Box had sold poorly in the U.S. with roughly managing up to 300,000 units sold during its entire lifetime.
- (B) Home gaming was an alien concept for the average American consumer.
- (C) Digital gaming, which is prevalent today, is the result of Magnavox Odyssey released in 1972.
- (D) Atari was the first company that brought gaming consoles to the American market.
- 3.** What was the difference between the first prototypes of gaming equipment that were introduced?
- (A) The game machine was only available for fairs and carnivals.
- (B) The first was introduced by Dr Edward Uhler and the latter by Ralph Baer.
- (C) The first machine had a computer to face against and did not allow for two users to interact simultaneously.
- (D) The former had a mathematical game of Nim, which at the time was not known to many.
- 4.** What can be listed as the reason as to why Atari was successful where Magnavox Odyssey failed?
- (A) Atari was able to properly micro-manage their campaign on a trusted formula of marketing.
- (B) Atari along with developing their games in-house created a whole new industry based on the arcade system.
- (C) The retail price of Atari consoles allowed it to earn huge profits on their investment.
- (D) The tech-heads at Atari were able to envision the future of gaming which Magnavox could not.
- 5.** What was the particular feature of gaming that led to the rise of gaming post '70s?
- (A) The fierce competition that was instilled by them to prove themselves the best.
- (B) The teaching interactivity that was available in this form of interactive media.
- (C) PLATO was the first computer system that brought the entertainment of arcades to American homes.
- (D) None of the above.

Solutions

1. (C)

To get the complete context of this, the reader has to go to the third paragraph. Atari was the company which popularised gaming in general and established benchmarks and standards for gaming communities and the interactive media

of gaming as a whole. Therefore, the answer is option C.

Point of reference: Second line, third paragraph.

'In 1972, Atari (founded by Nolan Bushnell, the godfather of gaming) became the first gaming company to really set the



benchmark for a large-scale gaming community. Atari not only developed their games in-house, but they also created a whole new industry around the 'arcade', and in 1973, retailing at \$1,095, Atari began to sell the first real electronic video game Pong, and arcade machines began emerging in bars, bowling alleys and shopping malls around the world'.

Options A, B, and D are incorrect. What made the author give this title to Nolan Bushnell, is not addressed in these alternatives. Option A is contradictory to what is stated in the passage and options B and D are not covering the overall impact Atari and Nolan had on the gaming industry.

2. (D)

The common misconception surrounding the first gaming consoles has been discussed by the author in the second paragraph. Notice that alongside talking about Magnavox Odyssey, the essayist mentioned Atari which is often mistakenly thought of as the first gaming console. Hence, the most common misconception of the first gaming console is only addressed in option D.

Point of reference: Fourth line, second paragraph.

'It preceded Atari by a few months, which is often mistakenly thought of as the first games console'.

Options A, B, and C are wrong choices. They discuss historical facts about the first gaming console and its failure in the U.S. The failure of addressing Atari is what makes these options incorrect.

3. (C)

The answer to the above question is observed in the opening paragraph of the passage. In the first paragraph, the author has discussed the features of the first machines that were introduced and

what made each of them stand out. The only alternative that can highlight this difference is option C. In the light of this, the correct answer is option C.

Point of reference: Fourth line, first paragraph.

'The 'Brown Box' was a vacuum tube-circuit that could be connected to a television set and unlike the previous one, allowed two users to control cubes that chased each other on the screen'.

Options A, B, and D are inaccurate choices. These alternatives have outlined differences between the two 'first machines' but they do not highlight the main difference that was observed by the author, which was mainly concerned with the interactivity the machines offered.

4. (B)

To provide a valid explanation for this, the reader needs to place their focus on the second and third paragraph. It can be observed that Magnavox had some of its games imported, while Atari not only created them in-house but were also able to create a whole new industry out of it. The correct answer is option B.

Point of reference: Complete second and third paragraph.

Options A, C, and D are the answers to be rejected. They do highlight some of the reasons behind Magnavox's failure but they are not able to compare what Atari did right to strive and establish the gaming market.

5. (A)

The final paragraph has the solution for the above. The reader can notice in the second line of this paragraph that to capitalise on the new craze introduced by gaming the hotel chains had installed arcade machines in their facilities. It



was the fierce sense of competition that came in the form of high scores, which could be later on recorded and saved in the machines.

Point of reference: Second line, fourth paragraph.

‘The nature of the games sparked competition among players, who could record

their high scores with their initials and were determined to mark their space at the top of the list’.

Options B, C, and D are not to be considered as the answer. All these options are irrelevant to the question and do not share the key reason behind their popularity.

Passage 27

Read the following passage and answer questions accordingly.

The appeal of Doom is eternal. From Id Software’s original sprint through Mars on PC, to the studio’s later efforts to bring demon-slaying into the modern era with the methodical Doom 3; from Universal’s critically panned box office bomb movie adaptation to Universal’s critically ignored direct-to-video re-imagining; from id Software’s universally acclaimed 2016 reboot to id Software’s universally acclaimed 2020 sequel of the same reboot—Doom’s appeal has never waned. While filmmakers have struggled to capture the magic of Id’s rip-and-tear formula, Doom’s interactive outings have been consistently successful. But have you ever wanted to read the story behind John Romero and John Carmack’s quest to bring Mars’s moon Phobos to Earth and beyond? You are in luck! Below, in all its glory, is the tale of how a few pizza-loving programmers sunk their meat hooks into the American zeitgeist and never let go.

Id Software’s work began when all of the key players were still employed by another company, Softdisk— a software developer in Shreveport, LA. After surgically skilled programmer John Carmack managed to get the first level of Super Mario Bros. 3 up and running on a PC, he and his co-workers dreamed of selling a PC port of the popular NES game to Nintendo. So, they ‘borrowed’ their work on computers and holed up in Carmack’s lake house for a few days, eating barbecue

and crunching out a full demo of the game in the span of a weekend. Despite the quality of their efforts, Nintendo politely rejected them. They were not interested in entering the PC market at that time (though, in a few years, the Big N would change its tune about getting into business with id). Instead of discarding their hard work, the id guys created a new platforming hero to show off Carmack’s engine: The Spaceman Spiff-like Commander Keen. Keen was a regular kid who happened to fight aliens and travel the galaxy. And he was Id’s ticket to success in shareware—a market whose model depended on giving out a portion of a game for free to lure potential buyers into purchasing the whole thing.

That same dynamic was still at play two years later when Id released Doom. The 1993 first-person shooter built on the lessons the team had learned while developing Wolfenstein 3D in 1992. Doom’s predecessor prioritised speed at all costs, with straightforward mazes of corridors and equally straightforward enemies. Doom, too, was speedy, but filled its newly non-orthogonal levels with distinctly weird demons and interesting weapons for a rock-paper-scissors approach to combat. Wolfenstein 3D drew on Silas Warner’s Castle Wolfenstein and paired it with id’s action sensibilities. Doom borrowed Wolfenstein 3D’s fast and violent foundation but took its aesthetic inspiration from Aliens and Evil Dead 2. Early on in the process, Hall created a lengthy



design document with a deeper story than what appears in the game. His version established the Marines as characters and opened with them playing cards when the portal to hell disrupted their game. Narrative elements were almost entirely stripped out by the time the game shipped in 1993—as was Hall himself; Id fired him during Doom’s development.

Instead of story, Doom focused on technological advancements. Wolfenstein’s levels were flat and barren, but Doom introduced texture mapped walls, sloping floors, and dynamic lighting. Carmack devised a way to create windows between rooms so players could see into chambers they could not yet access. Maybe most importantly, Doom was the first multiplayer FPS. Late in the game’s development, Carmack figured out how to network computers together, allowing communication between multiple PCs running copies of the game. The result? The creation of the Deathmatch, a staple of multiplayer gaming that has been with us since.

1. Which of the following can be credited as the reason behind the creation of Commander Keen?
 - (A) John Carmack’s attempt to make a port of Super Mario Bros for the PC.
 - (B) John Carmack’s ambition to create an interactive story about fighting aliens and traveling the galaxy.
 - (C) The borrowing of Computers to create a platform for the PC.
 - (D) Nintendo’s rejection and indifference towards entering the PC market.
2. How did DOOM improve upon Wolfenstein 3D?
 - (A) It had much better graphics compared to the engine applied by ID software.
 - (B) Doom improved upon Wolfenstein by adding a rock-paper-scissors dynamic and interesting weapons.
 - (C) Since DOOM’s aesthetics were borrowed from popular movies, it was more action packed than Wolfenstein.
 - (D) Tom Hall was not involved in the finished product of DOOM and without his interference the team could fulfil their intended vision.
3. What can be attributed as the DOOM’s contribution to popular battle royale multiplayer games like PUBG and FORTNITE?
 - (A) DOOM was the first to introduce textured mapped walls, sloping floors, and dynamic lighting.
 - (B) It was the first of its kind to employ windows in-between rooms providing visual access to the players.
 - (C) With the application of computer networking, deathmatches were created.
 - (D) DOOM’s primary focus on action and speed paved the way for multiple action games to come.
4. What is the main inference to be drawn from the first paragraph?
 - (A) The story of DOOM could not be completed without mentioning its founders John Romero and John Carmack.
 - (B) ID software’s 2016 reboot and 2020 sequel brought DOOM back from extinction.
 - (C) Doom as a series has forayed into multiple forms of popular media with varying degrees of success.
 - (D) DOOM did not have much success on the big screen.
5. Which of the following will not be agreed by the author?
 - (A) The DOOM engine was a technical powerhouse at the time, packing never before seen texture mapped walls.
 - (B) Though DOOM was the predecessor of Wolfenstein 3D, it stayed true to its roots and took no inspiration from successful movies.



(C) DOOM created multiplayer death-match, a feature which is still popular among gamers.

(D) The Shareware feature was quite critical and successful behind ID's earlier days of success.

Solutions

1. (D)

To arrive at the appropriate answer, the reader must first attempt to understand the true reason. The solution to this can be observed in the second paragraph. The reader can notice that after Nintendo's rejection the programmers at ID software were curious to not let their efforts go to waste. To satisfy this objective commander Keen was created. So, the reader can understand that it was Nintendo's rejection which led to the creation of Commander Keen. Hence the answer is option D.

Point of reference: Fourth line, second paragraph.

Options A, B, and C are incorrect alternatives. They do not address the key reason behind the creation of Commander Keen. All they end up doing is to pick up small bits of the second paragraph.

2. (B)

The true reason behind DOOM's superiority can be pointed out in the third paragraph. In the third paragraph, the author has mentioned that DOOM was speedier and more action packed than Wolfenstein, along with adding new enemy variety and interesting weapons. As a result, it can be said that the answer is option B.

Point of reference: Fourth line, third paragraph.

'Doom, too, was speedy, but filled its newly non-orthogonal levels with distinctly weird demons and interesting weapons for a rock-paper-scissors approach to combat'.

Options A, C, and D should be discarded. They are not covering the main reason as to why DOOM was superior to Wolfenstein 3D. Options A and D are irrelevant to the paragraph of focus while Option C may seem to be the answer at first glance. But the reader can observe that this is not what made DOOM vastly better than its predecessor.

3. (C)

The solution to this can be observed in the fourth paragraph. In the closing lines of it, the author has pointed out the creation of Deathmatch which became a staple for many multiplayer games. It can be said with confidence that DOOM's contribution to multiplayer games can be pinpointed to this aspect of DOOM's gameplay. From this analysis, the solution is option C.

Point of reference: Final line, fourth paragraph.

'The result? The creation of the Deathmatch, a staple of multiplayer gaming that has been with us since.'

Options A, B, and D are inaccurate. The most important contribution by DOOM is not addressed in these alternatives.

4. (C)

To arrive at the main inference of the first paragraph, that option must be selected which can convey the overarching message and essence of the paragraph. With this method in sight, the only alternative which provides the correct inference of the first paragraph is option C.

Point of reference: The complete first paragraph.



Options A, B, and D are incorrect. They do cover some of the main highlights of the paragraph. But they fail to address the main deduction.

5. (B)

The appropriate solution for this, can only be obtained after reading the complete passage and then selecting the alternative which is either not mentioned in the passage or is contradictory to what is mentioned in the passage.

With this method, option B is the one which the author would not agree with as DOOM had taken aesthetic inspiration from popular movies. Therefore, option B is the answer.

Point of reference: The complete passage Options A, C, and D are inaccurate. These points are present in the passage and as a result can be ignored. The writer of the passage would not have any point of contention with these assertions.

Passage 28

Read the following passage and answer questions accordingly.

Aristotle, the pupil of Plato, in his Poetics and Rhetoric, reconciles his position on the function and end of art, especially poetry and drama. He therefore begins by examining the theory of imitation as propagated by his teacher. Aristotle has not dealt with the philosophy of art distinctly like other sciences. By his logical distinctions and rigid demarcation he dealt with poetry and drama. We can gather some leading principles, especially in Poetics that forms the foundation of the development of all later theories of art. Therefore, we shall examine the work Poetics. He begins his Poetics with the proposition to enquire into the structure of the plot as a requisite to a good poem, then into the number and nature of the parts of which a poem is composed following the order of nature beginning with the fundamental principles.

Poetry, Drama, and Music are conceived as modes of imitation. But they differ in three respects, viz., the medium, the object, and the manner of imitation. The differences of the arts with respect to the medium of imitation are rhythm, tune, and language. The objects of imitation are men in action who are categorised with moral differences. Which follows that the representation must

be either better than real life, worse or as it is. Thus, the each of the modes of imitation will exhibit these differences and becomes a distinct kind in imitating objects that are thus distinct. The same distinction marks off Tragedy from Comedy. Comedy aims at representing men at worse, Tragedy as better than in actual life. A third difference is the manner in which each of these objects may be imitated. Thus, it can be concluded that the medium, the objects, and the manner are the three differences which distinguish the artistic imitation.

Imitation is one instinct of our nature and second pertains to the rhythm. Based on this the definition of Tragedy is formulated first. Tragedy is an imitation of an action that is serious, complete, and of a certain magnitude, in language embellished (language into which rhythm, harmony, and song enter) with each kind of artistic ornament, the several kinds being found in separate parts (some parts rendered in verse and others with the aid of song) of the play; in the form of action, not of narrative; through pity and fear effecting the proper katharsis or purgation of these emotions. Tragedy is an imitation of action that presupposes personal agents with distinctive qualities both of character and thought. The most powerful elements of emotional interest in Tragedy



are—Peripeteia or Reversal of the Situation, and Recognition Scenes—which are parts of the plot. Thus, every Tragedy must have six parts—namely, Plot, Character, Thought, Diction, Spectacle, Song. Poetics enjoined the Unity of Action for a successful tragic katharsis. The Greeks viewed tragedies as a source of entertainment that provided the audience with moments of self-reflection and acted as guides to life.

1. What is the object of emulation which distinguishes artistic imitation?
 - (A) The music, rhythm, and harmony involved in dramatisation.
 - (B) The representation of the characters involved in the play.
 - (C) Men (Characters) who are part of the action are categorised based on moral differences.
 - (D) The tool to mark the distinction between various genres of plays.
2. Based on your understanding of the third paragraph. What good can come out of Tragedies?
 - (A) They can become dry academic exercises that one can use to excel in the particular genre of Tragedy.
 - (B) Tragedy is nothing more than the imitation of serious actions that help understand how often we are at the mercy of fates.
 - (C) To keep the interest of the audience, the songs used in tragedies are generally of a happy tone. Entertaining music is a by-product of such plays.
 - (D) Tragedy in modern times can provide moments of introspection and act as a guide to life.
3. What can be said about Aristotle's approach to poetry and spectacles?
 - (A) Observance of similarity and bypassing of boundaries of the particular subjects.
 - (B) Observance of difference and bypassing of boundaries of the particular subjects.
 - (C) Observance of difference and limiting the boundaries of the particular subjects.
 - (D) Observance of similarity and limiting the boundaries of the particular subjects.
4. What is the utilisation of Aristotle's poetics to understand art (Ancient and Contemporary alike)?
 - (A) To understand the position of Aristotle on the solitary end of art.
 - (B) The principles in Poetics act as the foundation around which all later theories of art were fabricated.
 - (C) To understand the method of logical distinction and rigid demarcation to understand the difference in all forms of Art.
 - (D) To understand how Aristotle was different from his teacher Plato on the 'Art is all mimesis' assumption.
5. The writer would agree with all of the following, except:
 - (A) Aristotle's principles act as the foundation around which various theories of art were formulated.
 - (B) To form a good poem, one should have a good structure of the plot first and then subsequently form the number and nature of parts as per that.
 - (C) Tragedy and comedy are not different genres. Both aim at representing men.
 - (D) Tragedies are governed by two powerful moments: complete reversal of the protagonist's situation and scenes of recognition.



Solutions

1. (C)

The object of emulation or imitation can be observed in the passage's second paragraph. In the second paragraph, the reader can observe that Aristotle observed Poetry, Drama, and Music as different modes of imitation, but saw them differ in three aspects. The aspects being medium, object, and manner of imitation. From this understanding, Aristotle observed the objects of imitation to be men in action who are categorised by their moral differences.

Point of reference: Fourth line, second paragraph.

'The objects of imitation are men in action categorised with moral differences.'

Options A, B, and D are wrong choices. All these alternatives do not share the correct placement concerning the objects of imitation.

2. (D)

Careful observation is needed to understand what good the originators and dis-sectors of tragedy observed in the particular genre. The reader should direct their attention at the end of the third paragraph. In the final lines, we can deduce the key aspects of tragedy and its components. It can also be observed that Greeks saw it as a form of entertainment which helped educate about humility and self-reflection. This analysis conveys the good that can come out of tragedies in option D.

Point of reference: Last line, third paragraph.

'Greeks understood tragedy as a form of entertainment specialising in providing moments of self-reflection and humility.'

Options A, B, and C are to be rejected. The underlying good that can come out

of tragedies is not mentioned in these alternatives adequately.

3. (C)

Aristotle's approach towards poetry and drama becomes apparent in the first paragraph. In the fourth line, the author notes that Aristotle dealt with the subjects by observing differences between the two and simultaneously limiting the boundaries of the particular subjects.

Point of reference: Fourth line, first paragraph.

'By his logical distinctions and rigid demarcation, he deals with poetry and drama.'

Options A, B, and D are wrong choices. The process of dealing with poetry and arts is not accurately mentioned in these alternatives.

4. (B)

The purpose behind understanding Aristotle's view on art in Poetics becomes clear in the first paragraph itself. In the fifth line, the reader can observe that the principle established and discussed by Aristotle form the foundation behind the development of all later theories that came in art. Hence, the correct answer is option B.

Point of reference: Fifth line, first paragraph.

'We can gather some leading principles, especially in Poetics, that form the foundation of the development of all later theories of art.'

Options A, C, and D are incorrect. They do cover some of the main highlights that Aristotle stated in Poetics, but they do not discuss how Poetics is crucial in understanding modern and ancient art.



5. (C)

To answer this query appropriately, the reader has to understand the concepts introduced in it. Only from that one can understand the correct answer of this. From this understanding, the correct answer is C. Observe the second half of the second paragraph. Comedy and Tragedy differ significantly since

comedies represent men at their worst, and tragedy is the better version of men.

Point of reference: The complete passage.

Options A, B, and D are not to be considered as the answer. All these options are not diverting from what is already mentioned in the passage. Hence, the writer would not have any point of contention with them.

Passage 29

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

New research has revealed that people with the ability to visualise vividly have a stronger connection between their visual network and the regions of the brain linked to decision-making. The study also sheds light on memory and personality differences between those with strong visual imagery and those who cannot hold a picture in their mind's eye. The research, from the University of Exeter, published in *Cerebral Cortex Communications*, casts new light on why an estimated one-three per cent of the population lack the ability to visualise. This phenomenon was named 'aphantasia' by the University of Exeter's Professor Adam Zeman in 2015. Professor Zeman called those with highly developed visual imagery skills 'hyperphantasies'. Funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council, the study is the first systematic neuropsychological and brain imaging study of people with aphantasia and hyperphantasia. The team conducted fMRI scans on 24 people with aphantasia, 25 with hyperphantasia, and a control group of 20 people with mid-range imagery vividness. They combined the imaging data with detailed cognitive and personality tests.

The scans revealed that people with hyperphantasia have a stronger connection between the visual network which processes what we see, and which becomes active during visual imagery, and the prefrontal cortices, involved in decision-making and

attention. These stronger connections were apparent in scans performed during rest, while participants were relaxing -- and possibly mind-wandering. Despite equivalent scores on standard memory tests, Professor Zeman and the team found that people with hyperphantasia produce richer descriptions of imagined scenarios than controls, who in turn outperformed aphantasics. This also applied to autobiographical memory, or the ability to remember events that have taken place in the person's life. Aphantasics also had a lower ability to recognise faces.

Personality tests revealed that aphantasics tended to be more introverted and hyperphantasics more open. Professor Zeman said: 'Our research indicates for the first time that a weaker connection between the parts of the brain responsible for vision and frontal regions involved in decision-making and attention leads to aphantasia. However, this should not be viewed as a disadvantage—it is a different way of experiencing the world. Many aphantasics are extremely high-achieving, and we're now keen to explore whether the personality and memory differences we observed indicate contrasting ways of processing information, linked to visual imagery ability'.

1. Though both had scored equal on standard memory tests, what was the observation to differentiate hyperphantasics from aphantasics?



- (A) Hyperphantasiacs had demonstrated strong leadership skills, which was absent in aphantasics.
- (B) The fMRI scans for hyperphantasics revealed more blood flow in the temporal lobe.
- (C) Works of fantasy and fiction were produced with greater efficacy by people with hyperphantasia.
- (D) None of the above.
2. Which of the following was not the observed difference by the research team between hyperphantasics and aphantasics?
- (A) Aphantasics were generally shy and less social in social get-togethers.
- (B) Hyperphantasics showed the ability to recollect data from facial memory.
- (C) The hyperphantasics were able to learn and remember from personal experiences.
- (D) Aphantasics had performed exceptionally well in regular memory tests.
3. Apart from the strong connection between visual networks and decision-making regions, what else was revealed by the study concerning persons of strong visual imagery?
- (A) The astonishing revelation that one-third of the population lacks the ability to visualise.
- (B) The discovery of the phenomenon known as 'aphantasia', which is a lack of ability to visualise.
- (C) It was the first systematic attempt to combine imagining data with cognitive and personality tests.
- (D) Memory and personality differences compared to persons with weaker visual imagery.
4. What is Professor Zeman's view of people having Aphantasia?
- (A) Aphantasics are not reliable when it comes to high-risk situations or matters of life and death.
- (B) Aphantasics struggle when it comes to tasks that require imaginative thinking.
- (C) Prof Zeman does not want to demoralise Aphantasics but rather sees them as a different way to observe the world.
- (D) Zeman observed that Aphantasics have difficulty in recollecting data about people, since they are not good with facial recollection.
5. What makes the research carried out by Professor Zeman and his team unique?
- (A) The research was able to conclude and point out the reason behind the high-achieving attitude of Aphantasics.
- (B) The research activity was able to point out the personality differences between hyperphantasics and aphantasics.
- (C) The personality differences observed in the experiment could indicate different ways of processing information.
- (D) The research team was able to identify the main reason that leads to aphantasia.

Solutions

1. (C)

Multiple differences were observed in the two groups of hyperphantasia and aphantasia, namely creating imaginative scenarios, autobiographical memory, and facial memory. Out of the

given alternatives, only one observation is mentioned, which is the difference in efficiency in imaginative scenarios. In light of this point, option C is the answer.
Point of reference: Third line, second paragraph.



‘Despite equivalent scores on standard memory tests, Professor Zeman and the team found that people with hyperphantasia produce richer descriptions of imagined scenarios than controls, who in turn outperformed aphantasics’.

Options A, B, and D are inaccurate. These alternatives do not state the differences that were observed in the experiment.

2. (D)

The appropriate answer can be deduced after closely observing the second and third paragraphs. After understanding the difference, the reader can observe that both the groups had scored equivalent scores in standard memory tests. But option D, on the other hand, tells a different tale. It proclaims that the Aphantasics had outperformed Hyperphantasics in regular memory tests. This is contradictory to what is mentioned in the passage. As a result, option D is the correct answer.

Point of reference: Complete second and third paragraphs.

Options A, B, and C are incorrect. They all depict the differences observed between the two groups, which is not required by the query above.

3. (D)

Apart from the main revelation that individuals with a strong sense of visualisation have a strong connection between visual network and decision-making regions of the brain, it was also revealed that both groups differed in memory and personality traits. This is made evident in the second line of the first paragraph.

Point of reference: Second line, first paragraph.

‘The study also sheds light on memory and personality differences between those with strong visual imagery and those who cannot hold a picture in their mind’s eye’.

Options A, B, and C are incorrect. On observing these alternatives, the reader can observe that these options do not cover the secondary observation by this research.

4. (C)

Prof Zeman’s view on Aphantasics is not a demoralising one. This becomes evident in the third line of the final paragraph. It can be observed that Zeman said that these findings should not be viewed as a disadvantage for aphantasics, but instead, their view should be taken as a different perspective of observing the world. Therefore, option C is the correct answer.

Point of reference: Third line, final paragraph.

‘However, this should not be viewed as a disadvantage—it’s a different way of experiencing the world’.

Options A, B, and D are inaccurate. They do not adequately represent the view of the professor.

5. (D)

The research activity was one of a kind mainly because Professor Zeman and his team were able to identify the reason for what leads to aphasia. This is also apparent in the second line of the final paragraph. Hence, the answer is option D.

Point of reference: Second line, final paragraph.

‘Professor Zeman said: ‘Our research indicates for the first time that a weaker connection between the parts of the brain responsible for vision and frontal regions involved in decision-making and attention leads to aphasia’.

Options A, B, and C are incorrect alternatives. None of them mentions why the experiment is one of its kind.



Passage 30

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

Watch a group of lions yawn, and it may seem like nothing more than big, lazy cats acting sleepy, but new research suggests that these yawns may subtly communicate some important social cues. Yawning is not only contagious among lions, but it appears to help predators synchronise their movements, researchers report March 16 in *Animal Behaviour*. The discovery was partially made by chance, says Elisabetta Palagi, an ethologist at the University of Pisa in Italy. While studying play behaviour in spotted hyenas in South Africa, she and colleagues often had the opportunity to watch lions (*Panthera Leo*) at the same time. And she quickly noticed that lions yawn quite frequently, concentrating these yawns in short time periods.

Yawning is ubiquitous among vertebrates, possibly boosting blood flow to the skull, cooling the brain, and aiding alertness, especially when transitioning in and out of rest. Fish and reptiles will yawn, but more social vertebrates such as birds and mammals appear to have co-opted the behaviour for purposes conducive to group living. In many species—like humans, monkeys, and even parakeets—yawners can infect onlookers with their ‘yawn contagion’, leading onlookers to yawn shortly afterwards. Seeing the lions yawn reminded Palagi of her own work on contagious yawning in primates. Curious if the lions’ prodigious yawning was socially linked, Palagi and her team started recording videos of the big cats, analysing when they were yawning and any behaviours around those times.

Over four months in 2019, the researchers closely monitored 19 lions at the Greater Makalali Private Game Reserve, just west of Kruger National Park. The team found that lions that saw another member of the pride yawn were about 139 times as likely to yawn

themselves within the next three minutes. But the yawn contagion did not stop there. Lions that caught a yawn from another lion were 11 times as likely to mirror the movements of the original yawner than those that had not. This ‘motor synchrony’ involved one lion yawning, then another yawning, then the first getting up and walking around or laying back down and the other doing the same thing. Palagi says that contagious yawning might be important for maintaining social cohesion in lions. Yawns that help lions harmonise their group movements could help get the pride all on the same page, crucial behaviour for an animal that hunts, and rears offspring cooperatively.

“If yawn contagion has evolved to foster the creation of bonds”, says Palagi, “after a yawn contagion event, the two animals need to do something together [like getting up and walking] to increase their probability of interacting”. Other researchers have hypothesised that yawning could help coordinate group behaviour in some species, notes Andrew Gallup, a bio-psychologist at State University of New York Polytechnic Institute in Utica. “But this is the first study that I’m aware of that’s actually attempted to quantify that”, he says. “The spreading of [yawning] across the group via contagion could serve to enhance overall collective vigilance”, says Gallup. “I think as time continues; we’ll find that the contagious yawning is more common among some of these highly social species”. Palagi notes that yawning often marks a shift between different physiological or emotional states. So, a yawn could be a good way for an individual in a social species to communicate to group mates that it is experiencing some kind of internal change.

1. What was the new observation made regarding yawning in lions?
 - (A) The group of lions play possum to attract Hyenas to attack them. To



- achieve this, they yawn to exhibit their laziness.
- (B) Lions, through yawning, are able to signal a change in guard duty to watch over the cubs of the group.
- (C) Yawning is a subtle social cue among the lions that helps the group synchronise their movements together.
- (D) Yawning, like in human beings, is contagious in lions as well, implying that lions might be very close to being considered a social animal.
- 2.** What made Palagi remember her work on contagious yawning?
- (A) Palagi and her colleagues have observed moments of tiredness leading to yawning while observing lions.
- (B) Palagi, while carrying out her observation on lions, observed certain movements post yawning in the lions.
- (C) The simple-looking act of yawning in lions reminded Palagi of her own work on contagious primates.
- (D) Palagi was curious to see that social animals only exhibit yawning in the presence of social gatherings.
- 3.** What was Palagi's observation over the four months she closely observed 19 lions at Greater Makalali Private Game Reserve?
- (A) Lions that saw another member of the pride yawn were most likely to yawn themselves in the short duration of three minutes.
- (B) Lions, through yawning, were able to communicate and even mimic the movements of the original yawner.
- (C) Yawning helps lions keep the group on the same level of social cohesion when it comes to hunting prey and raising the cubs of the group.
- (D) All of the above.
- 4.** What makes Palagi think that a yawn could be a good way to communicate in a social species?
- (A) Because Yawn Contagion has evolved to foster and nurture the creation of social bonds between animals.
- (B) Since yawning is contagious, it can help the group to maintain vigilance.
- (C) Yawning is often marked by a shift between physiological or emotional states.
- (D) This is only a hypothesis until now that yawning can help coordinate behaviour in animals.
- 5.** The writer would agree with all of the following, except:
- (A) Yawning is a very common occurrence in humans, which cools the brain and aids alertness.
- (B) Lions frequently yawn in short time periods to maintain social cohesion and vigilance in the members of the pride.
- (C) Yawning is often accompanied by a shift in a physiological and emotional state.
- (D) Yawning is not a good way for an individual to communicate in group species about internal changes.

Solutions

1. (C)

The new findings of the research become clear in the opening line of the first paragraph. The discovery suggests that through yawns, lions can synchronise

group movements. The opening line makes this finding evident.

Point of reference: First line, first paragraph.

'Watch a group of lions yawn, and it may seem like nothing more than big, lazy



cats acting sleepy, but new research suggests that these yawns may be subtly communicating some important social cues’.

Options A, B, and D are not to be considered as these alternatives do not state what was discovered in the new study.

2. (C)

The answer to this question becomes apparent in observing the second paragraph. After explaining the Yawn contagion to the reader, the author, in the fourth line, explains that observing the lions’ yawn reminded Palagi of her own work.

Point of reference: Fourth line, second paragraph.

‘Seeing the lions yawn reminded Palagi of her own work on contagious yawning in primates’

Options A, B, and D can be discarded. Option B might seem to be the answer, but the passage clearly states that by looking at lions yawning, Palagi was reminded of her work on contagious yawning.

3. (D)

Palagi’s observation becomes clear in the third paragraph. On observing the third paragraph, it can be said with certainty that Palagi, over the tenure of 4 months, had observed all the assertions stated in options A, B, and C. From this understanding, option D is the answer.

Point of reference: The complete third paragraph.

Options A, B, and C can be discarded as Palagi made all these observations during her stay in the Game Reserve.

4. (C)

The solution to the above query becomes clear in the final line of the final paragraph. Since yawning is often marked by a shift between physiological or emotional states. It is a good way for an individual in a social species to communicate among the group. The proper answer from this understanding is option C.

Point of reference: Second last line, final paragraph.

‘Palagi notes that yawning often marks a shift between different physiological or emotional states. So, a yawn could be a good way for an individual in a social species to communicate to group mates that it is experiencing some kind of internal change’.

Options A, B, and D are incorrect. With the reference point in front of the reader, it can be understood why these options are incorrect.

5. (D)

To answer this query appropriately, the reader has to understand the concepts introduced in it. Only from that one can understand the correct answer of this. From this understanding, the correct answer is D. Observe the final line of the passage. Palagi believes that yawning is a good way to communicate with group mates.

Point of reference: The complete passage.

Options A, B, and C can be discarded. These points are mentioned in the passage and the writer would not have any point of contention with them.



Passage 31

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

The traditional explanation is that the term 'metaphysics' was coined by Andronicus of Rhodes (C. 70 B.C.) for those collected works of Aristotle placed 'after physics' (ta + meta + ta + phusika). The term has only a methodical value. It was only through a coincident discovery that this section placed after physics, treated of realities beyond the physical properties of beings. Hence in the course of time, 'metaphysics' (ta+ meta + ta + phusika) came to mean that department of philosophy which deals with those features of beings that are hyperphysical, supersensible, and immaterial. This seemingly reasonable explanation, though uncritically accepted by most philosophers and historians, appears to be a little far-fetched.

For it would have been too much of a coincidence for the concept of metaphysics to be successfully adapted so as to contain the science of transcendent reality. Kant actually declared his suspicion, saying that the expression is too felicitous to be regarded as the result of chance. Hans Reimer deserves the highest praise for pointing out the misinterpretation and explaining the real origin of metaphysics. According to Reimer, Eudemus (Aristotle's immediate disciple, the author of the History of Theology and the first editor of the teacher's works) must have invented the name ta +meta + ta + phusika. When Eudemus edited the works, the science, which from a Platonic standpoint Aristotle called the 'first philosophy' was attached to other relevant treatises and was given this title. Andronicus followed Eudemus and preferred the same name because he too considered the original name 'first philosophy' to be unsuitable for an educational purpose. Hence, Reimer concludes that we must reject the hypothesis of the accidental bibliographical origin of the term, since it was a deliberate use for educational purposes. The word did not originate from somebody's

being at a loss as to what to call a book, but rather is the most suitable designation of the first philosophy, a concept presumably based on the orthodox tradition from Aristotle and his immediate followers.

Though the term 'metaphysics' is of Western origin, there are terms in Indian philosophy that have the equivalent meaning of the Western understanding of the same. Perhaps, the oldest term used in the Vedic literature to communicate it is Brahmodya (c. 9th century B.C.). Brahmodya means speculative discussion about Brahman. In the Upanishads (800-600 B.C.), it came to be denoted by the words atmavidya (science or knowledge of the self), paravidya (supreme science or transcendental knowledge), and brahmadvidya (science or knowledge of Brahman). In the oldest books of the Buddhist Pali canon, the word ditthi (Drishti) stands for the metaphysical viewpoint. In the Gita, metaphysics is adyatmavidya (science of the self). The Gita, by bringing together the science of the self and dialectic (vada), indicates the close connection between the two. The Vaiseshika Sutra (1st century A.D.) mentions sidha-darsana (perfected vision of all existing things arising from merit). Prasastapada (6th century A.D.) understands it as the vision of the perfected and considers it as a kind of perception achieved by enhancing the power of the senses through certain techniques, or by inference, or by intuitive knowledge present in all.

1. Why does the explanation behind the term 'METAPHYSICS' have only a methodical value?
 - (A) He considers it methodical because it was discovered through coincidence by Andronicus.
 - (B) Andronicus had followed a naming procedure, but it was through sheer coincidence that the collected works 'after physics' contained sciences beyond reality.



- (C) It was only because of Reimer and Kant that the term's methodical value was brought to light.
- (D) The original name 'first philosophy' was unsuitable for the established procedure of knowledge.
2. From your understanding, what is the accepted notion by the author for the Etymology of Metaphysics (western origins)?
- (A) Immanuel Kant understood the naming of Metaphysics to be a result of chance. Hence metaphysics is undefinable.
- (B) Eudemus and Andronicus were at a loss to what to call the collected works of Aristotle.
- (C) The word 'METAPHYSICS' came to be because Eudemus thought 'first philosophy' to be an inapt name for educational purposes.
- (D) The name 'METAPHYSICS' is still highly debated by philosophers and historians alike.
3. After observing both western and eastern views concerning the meaning of 'Metaphysics', what can be inferred as the common feature of both viewpoints?
- (A) Both western and eastern thinkers cannot seem to agree on a correct definition.
- (B) Both sides have different terms assigned for understanding METAPHYSICS.
- (C) Both of them view Metaphysics as the science of objects beyond the physical realm.
- (D) Both of them give equal precedence to the knowledge of self.
4. Why does the coining of the term 'METAPHYSICS' seem far-fetched to the author?
- (A) The term was coined by Aristotle, not by his disciple Andronicus.
- (B) Because Immanuel Kant, a prominent philosopher, pointed out suspicion for the name.
- (C) The naming of the term is uncritically accepted by most philosophers and historians.
- (D) The author doubts that it is too much of a coincidence that the collected works of Aristotle 'after physics' happened to contain transcendental science.
5. The writer would agree with the following except:
- (A) Andronicus was acutely aware of the collected works of Aristotle placed after physics.
- (B) The eastern thinkers have a similar understanding of metaphysics to the western thinkers, though they use different terms and references to describe it.
- (C) The Bhagwad Gita explains divinity by combining adyatmaavidya and vada.
- (D) The accepted etymology of METAPHYSICS pertains to the existence of the term as an occurrence of chance.

Solutions

1. (B)

The term methodical implies a way, a system or a procedure implemented before the action of a particular task. Understanding why the author considered the naming of METAPHYSICS to be

methodical becomes evident in the first paragraph itself. The author has pointed out his belief that he considers the naming of metaphysics to be too coincident. To him, it was a mere coincidence that the collected works of Aristotle,



placed after physics, contained works and discussions of objects beyond the physical realm. Through this analysis, one can understand that the term has only a methodical value. The correct answer is option B.

Point of reference: Third line, first paragraph.

‘It was only through a coincident discovery that this section placed after physics, treated of realities beyond the physical properties of beings’.

Options A, C, and D are to be rejected. The unsuitability for the established procedure of knowledge, the suspicion of Kant, and subsequent clarity by Reimer is beyond the paragraph’s focus. Option A may seem to be the answer at first glance. It can be observed in the paragraph itself that Andronicus was involved in the naming of Aristotle’s work, not in the coincident discovery that came forth.

2. (C)

Etymology is the study of how a particular word came to be and how its meaning has changed throughout history. The question above seeks from the reader about the accepted notion concerning the origin of the word ‘METAPHYSICS’, which is discussed in the second paragraph. The author has credited Reimer, who came with the accepted notion of this word. In the second last line specifically, Reimer concluded that the naming of the term metaphysics was not accidental or a ‘by chance’ situation. It was due to the original name being inapt for educational purposes. In conclusion, the correct answer is option C.

Point of reference: Second last line, second paragraph.

‘Hence, Reimer concludes that we must reject the hypothesis of the accidental bibliographical origin of the term, since

it was a deliberate use for educational purposes’.

Options A, B, and D are wrong choices. Kant’s understanding, the loss of both Eudemus and Andronicus concerning the name of Aristotle’s works, and the debate between philosophers and historians are not the accepted notions concerning the Etymology of METAPHYSICS.

3. (C)

To observe and compare the western and eastern viewpoints of metaphysics. The reader needs to observe the complete passage. The passage’s structure initially discusses the dubious and accepted etymology of the term ‘METAPHYSICS’. After sharing the view of the western hemisphere, the writer shares the insight of thinkers from the eastern hemisphere, namely the Indian approach to this. After observing the different terms presented by the author from the eastern thinkers, the reader can draw a common word in their meaning: Science. The western thinker Aristotle also identified it as the science concerning objects beyond the physical realm. It can be said with confidence that both eastern and western thinkers thought of metaphysics to be otherworldly science. Therefore, the right choice is option C.

Point of reference: The complete passage.

Options A, B, and D are inaccurate. The non-agreement contradicts what is mentioned in the passage, and the different terminology does not bring out the standard feature. Option D is irrelevant to the answer.

4. (D)

The term ‘far-fetched’ is generally used with assumptions or theories which seem implausible to occur. In the context of the passage, the reader can observe in the first and second paragraph how the term metaphysics came to be,



which seems ‘far-fetched’ to the author. The author has shared his belief that the term is ‘far-fetched’ because it seems too much of a coincidence that the works collected after physics happened to contain science about the discussion of realities beyond the observable physical realm. Hence the traditional explanation behind the coining of the term is far-fetched to the author.

From this understanding, the correct answer is option D.

Point of reference: Third line of the first paragraph and first line of the second paragraph.

‘It was only through a coincident discovery that this section placed after physics, treated of realities beyond the physical properties’.

‘For it would have been too much of a coincidence for the concept of metaphysics to be successfully adapted to contain the science of transcendent reality’.

Options A, B, and C are wrong choices. The suspicion of Immanuel Kant and the uncritical acceptance by philosophers and historians alike, is not the main reason behind the author’s approach to the

coining of the term. On the other hand, Option A is irrelevant since the author has no dispute with the coining of the term.

5. (D)

To answer this query appropriately, the reader must understand the concepts introduced in the passage. Only from that one can understand the correct answer to this. From this understanding, the correct answer is D. Notice that all the points mentioned in options A, C, and D are present in the passage. However, option D is contradictory to what is stated in the passage. In the second paragraph, Reimer did conclude that the naming of the term did not come by accident or coincidence. Hence the correct answer is D.

Point of reference: The complete passage and second last line of the second paragraph.

‘Hence, Reimer concludes that we must reject the hypothesis of the accidental bibliographical origin of the term, since it was a deliberate use for educational purposes’.

Passage 32

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

Earth is on an orderly path around the sun, orbiting in nearly the same plane as our star’s equator. In 2008, however, astronomers began finding worlds in other solar systems that sail far above and below their star’s equatorial plane. Now a surprising discovery about these wrong-way worlds may eventually reveal their origin: Most of them follow polar orbits. If Earth had such an orbit, every year we would pass over the sun’s

North Pole, dive through its equatorial plane, then pass below the sun’s south pole before coming back up again. Astronomers Simon Albrecht and Marcus Marcussen at Aarhus University in Denmark and colleagues analysed 57 planets in other solar systems for which the researchers could determine the true tilt between a planet’s orbit and its star’s equatorial plane. Two-thirds of the planets have normal orbits, tilted no more than 40 degrees, the team found. The other 19 planets are misaligned.



But the orbits of those misaligned planets do not make just any odd angle with their star's equator. Instead, they pile up around 90 degrees. In fact, all but one of the misaligned planets are on polar orbits, having tilts from 80 to 125 degrees, the astronomers reported online. "It's very, very strange", says Amaury Triaud, an astronomer at the University of Birmingham in England who has found a number of misaligned planets but was not involved with the new study. "It's a beautifully executed idea, and the result is most intriguing", he says. "It's so new and so weird". The result may lend insight into the biggest mystery about these planets: how they arose. Such worlds were a shock to astronomers because planets form inside pancake-shaped disks of gas and dust orbiting in their stars' equatorial planes. Thus, planets should lie near the plane of their sun's equator. In our solar system, for example, Earth's orbit tilts only 7 degrees from the solar equatorial plane, and even Pluto—which many astronomers no longer call a planet—has an orbit tilted only 12 degrees from that plane (and 17 degrees from the Earth's orbital plane).

"At the moment, we are not sure what is the underlying mechanism" or mechanisms for creating misaligned planets, Albrecht admits. Whatever it is, though, it should account for the newly discovered plethora of perpendicular planets, he says. A possible clue, Albrecht says, comes from the single exception to the rule: the one misaligned planet in the sample that is not on a polar orbit. This planet also happens to be the most massive in the sample, packing the mass of between five and eight Jupiters. Albrecht says that may be just a coincidence—or it may reveal something about how the other planets became misaligned. In the future, the astronomers hope to understand how these wayward worlds acquired their odd orbits. All known misaligned planets orbit close to their stars, but are these worlds more likely than normal, close-in planets to have giant

planets near them? The scientists do not yet know, but if they find such a correlation, those companions may have somehow flung these bizarre worlds onto their peculiar planetary paths.

1. The discovery and observation of the odd angle the planets have can lead to a crucial understanding of:
 - (A) The deciding factor behind the particular orbital path of a planet.
 - (B) The origins of the misaligned planets and how they came to be, could be resolved by this.
 - (C) As to why planets follow an equatorial orbital plane.
 - (D) The reason behind why the planets on polar orbits are misaligned by varying degrees in place of a constant one.
2. What came to be as shocking for the astronomers after discovering the misaligned planets in other solar systems?
 - (A) The angle of tilt observed in the misaligned planets usually piled up around 90 degrees.
 - (B) The generally accepted notion behind planet formation came to be challenged because of this.
 - (C) The majority of the planets observed have regular orbits and are tilted no more than 40 degrees.
 - (D) Even the distant planet Pluto has an orbit tilted at 12 degrees, which was less than the tilt observed in the misaligned planets.
3. What was the startling observation made by astronomers about the orbital path?
 - (A) The ecliptic of Earth was drifting away from its standard path.
 - (B) Majority of the planets observed by them had regular orbits, tilted no more than 40 degrees.
 - (C) Most of the planets had an orbital inclination, making them pass above or below both poles.



- (D) Through the analysis, the team analysed a connection of the actual tilt between a planet's orbit and an equatorial plane.
4. Though Albrecht is not sure about the underlying mechanism involved in the formation of the misaligned planets, he is still hopeful of unravelling the mystery behind it because:
- (A) According to Albrecht, there is not one but many underlying mechanisms involved in forming misaligned planets. It is a start for his future research.
- (B) All discovered and misaligned planets orbit revolve very close to their stars. This could provide insight to Albrecht about the revolving pattern of the gas deposits.
- (C) The anomaly in misaligned planets, with the exceptionally high mass, can be a potential clue behind the misalignment pattern in the planets.
- (D) The presence of giant planets near the misaligned planets provides a clue that there is a certain involvement of magnetism that orients the degree of the tilt in the planets.
5. In the first paragraph, the example of Earth is used to explain polar orbits in depth because:
- (A) To make the reader understand the effect polar orbits would have on the weather patterns.
- (B) To make the reader aware that the survival of humanity could have come into question if Earth dived right through the star's equatorial plane.
- (C) To make the reader understand the varying patterns of winters, which the Earth could have faced due to polar orbital paths.
- (D) To give the readers more information about polar orbits and decrease the chances of being misapplied.

Solutions

1. (B)

Observing the degree of tilt in misaligned planets can provide insight behind the origin of these planets. The answer to the mystery behind how these planets came to be can be resolved through the observation of the tilt. The reader, in the second paragraph, can observe this. Hence the correct answer is option B.

Point of reference: Sixth line, second paragraph.

‘The result may lend insight into the biggest mystery about these planets: how they arose’

Options A, C, and D are incorrect. The deciding factor behind the particular

orbital path, the equatorial orbital plane, and the variance in the misalignment degrees on the planets are not stated as the crucial insights gained from the observation of odd angles.

2. (B)

The shock that came to the astronomers from observing misaligned planets in other galaxies was the challenge of the accepted notion of planet formation. Generally, planets were believed to be formed so that their orbits would be aligned to the equatorial plane of the stardust from which they came to be. The correct answer is, therefore, option B.



Point of reference: Second last line, final paragraph.

‘Such worlds were a shock to astronomers because planets form inside pancake-shaped disks of gas and dust orbiting in their stars’ equatorial planes’.

Options A, C, and D are inaccurate. The usual piling of 90 degrees, most planets not having more than 40 degrees, and the tilt observed of the planet Pluto were not the factors of shock for the researchers.

3. (C)

The startling discovery asked by the question becomes apparent in the first paragraph. Out of the blue, the research team observed that the planets in other solar systems were following a polar orbit. A closer observation of the third line in the first paragraph makes this discovery by the team evident. Therefore, the solution is option C.

Point of reference: Third line, first paragraph.

‘Now a surprising discovery about these wrong-way worlds may eventually reveal their origin: Most of them follow polar orbits’.

Options A, B, and D are inaccurate. The drift in Earth’s ecliptic, the planets’ tilt, and the connection between a planet’s orbit and equatorial plane, were not the surprising discoveries made by the astronomers.

4. (C)

At this juncture, Albrecht was unsure about the defining mechanism involved in the formation and eventual

misalignment of tilt observed in these planets. However, the anomaly he observed can be a clue to provide him insight into the mechanism(s) involved in such a formation. The reader can observe the same in the third paragraph as well. From this analysis, the correct answer is option C. It conveys why Albrecht is hopeful, and he can unravel the mystery behind it.

Point of reference: Third line, third paragraph.

‘A possible clue, Albrecht says, comes from the single exception to the rule: the one misaligned planet in the sample that is not on a polar orbit.’

Options A, B, and D are incorrect. The presence of many underlying mechanisms, the revolution of the misaligned planets around their stars, and the presence of giant planets in the near vicinity are not helpful clues to Albrecht.

5. (D)

Examples in this context or any other are generally provided to make statements clear, provide clarity of information, and decrease the chances of the fact or idea being applied incorrectly. Out of the given alternatives, the author gave the example of Earth that can be conveyed through option D.

Point of reference: Fourth line, first paragraph.

‘If Earth had such an orbit, every year we would pass over the sun’s north pole, dive through its equatorial plane, then pass below the sun’s south pole before coming back up again’.



Passage 33

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

Humans are never permanently satisfied with a superficial knowledge of things. One seeks to penetrate the veil of phenomena and grasp the noumena. This is due to Human's insatiable craving for knowledge. The increased knowledge in widely separated fields calls for unification and systematisation of the scattered items of knowledge. This is the origin of science. According to its traditional meaning, science is the sure and evident knowledge of things from their causes or systematic body of knowledge. In this sense metaphysics seems to be supremely a science; for metaphysics arrives at the first efficient cause and the ultimate final cause of all things. From the viewpoint of causal explanation, metaphysics is the highest type of science. Its starting point that 'there is something' is immediately known. From its immediately known starting point, the procedure of metaphysics is demonstrative with a further reflection on the sensitivo-rational experience of the being or 'something' of sensible things, which has both necessary and contingent characteristics.

The reasoning of metaphysics bases itself only on the necessary features. The being of any sensible thing is necessarily dependent on a prior efficient cause, on the ultimate subsistent Being. Hence the reasoning of metaphysics is never based upon the accidental character of a sensible thing's being. Of course, metaphysics lacks the incomparable advantage enjoyed by the experimental sciences, which is verification through further sensible experiences. For instance, molecules were reasoned to form transference of odours and diffusion of gases in 1873. Their activity was verified in numerous experiments, and in recent years very large molecules became visible through the electron microscope. No such double check for its conclusions is possible in metaphysics. It has only the much harder way

of checking each link in the demonstration through reflection. Accordingly, the agreement among astronomers or chemists or physicists is enviable, while the agreement among metaphysicians at any historical period is notoriously lacking. Therefore, metaphysical doctrines are neither 'theories' in any modern acceptance of the term, nor are they conjectured hypotheses proposed for experimental verification. In fact, they are demonstrated conclusions resting solely but evidently upon the immediacy of their starting points and the cogency of reasoning processes at the end which qualify them to be scientific. Metaphysics as science, which provides us with sure and evident knowledge of things from their causes, also has its own object, starting point, fundamental notions and principles, method, and justification.

1. What can be credited as the reason behind the formation of science?
 - (A) The non-satisfaction of Human beings by a superficial knowledge of things.
 - (B) The inability to separate and distinguish phenomena from noumena.
 - (C) Human beings, on a primal level, are hungry for knowledge all the time.
 - (D) Due to the increasing knowledge in various and diverse fields of study, a unification was necessary.
2. What makes the author ascertain metaphysics as a form of science, even proclaiming it supreme (in the first paragraph)?
 - (A) From the viewpoint of causal explanation, metaphysics is the supreme type of science.
 - (B) Metaphysics is the only science concerned with the first efficient cause and the ultimate final cause of all things.
 - (C) By following a sensitivo-rational approach, it encompasses both



- non-changing and changing traits of an object.
- (D) The reasoning of metaphysics is primarily dependent on necessary features.
3. Based on your reading, what do you understand by the sensitivo-rational approach of the being or something?
- (A) It is the precursor and the efficient starting point to let the object know a particular feature of the subject through cognition.
- (B) The approach that signifies the rationale, where only distinctive aspects are considered.
- (C) The sensitivo-rational approach combines reflection (sensation) and reasoning to reconcile both the non-changing and changing features of the object.
- (D) Sensitivo-rational approach derives facts from the faculties of sensation only.
4. Why has the author provided the example of molecules in the second paragraph?
- (A) To signify the importance of electron microscope in providing clarity regarding atoms and molecules' elusive nature and mechanics.
- (B) To explain to the reader that metaphysics should be considered as a subject of high infidelity.
- (C) Assertions in metaphysics, though, first come through a reflection of reasoning or sensation, and experimental science later verifies it.
- (D) To demonstrate to the reader that the dispute between chemists and physicists is inevitable.
5. What can be inferred about metaphysics and science from the passage's conclusion?
- (A) Metaphysics and science go hand in hand. Metaphysics presents demonstrated conclusions as starting points, and science, through logic, presents in a cogent way.
- (B) Metaphysics alone can replace science since, without the original cause, advancements in science cannot be made.
- (C) Metaphysical doctrines are not considered theories because gangs of scientists are not ready to accept them.
- (D) Metaphysics as science encompasses subject, object, and cognition to acquire knowledge.

Solutions

1. (D)

The origin of science becomes evident in the opening lines of the passage. In the fourth line, the reader can observe that the increasing knowledge in separate fields makes it reasonably necessary to unify scattered objects of knowledge. From this understanding, the correct option is D.

Point of reference: Fourth line.

'The increased knowledge in widely separated fields calls for unification and systematisation of the scattered items of knowledge'.

Options A, B, and C are not to be considered. The non-satisfaction that comes with superficial knowledge, the inability to distinguish phenomena from noumena, and the hunger for knowledge on a primal level, are inadequate reasons behind the origin of science.

2. (B)

The author has claimed metaphysics to be the supreme form of science because it is concerned with the first efficient cause and the ultimate final cause of all things. This notion is even more so apparent in the first paragraph. In the third



last line, the author has stated his reason behind this proclamation by stating metaphysics as supreme science because it is concerned with the first efficient cause and the ultimate final cause of all things. From this understanding, the correct answer is option B.

Point of reference: Third last line, second paragraph.

‘In this sense, metaphysics seems supremely a science; metaphysics arrives at the first efficient cause and the ultimate final cause of all things’.

Options A, C, and D can be discarded. The causal explanation, the sensitivo-rational approach, and the reasoning of metaphysics being dependent on necessary features are not the reasons why the writer claims metaphysics to be supreme science.

3. (C)

The sensitivo-rational approach is first introduced in the final line of the first paragraph. Here, the reader can observe that the sensitivo-rational experience of the being or something of sensible things has necessary and contingent characteristics. This approach becomes evident in the second paragraph, where the author states the fact behind the assertion and verification of diffusion of gases by molecules. First, through reflection of reasoning, molecules diffuse gases, and then this assertion was verified by experimental sciences.

In light of this, the sensitivo-rational approach can be best explained by option C.

Point of reference: Final line of the first paragraph and fifth line of the second paragraph.

‘From its immediately known starting point, the procedure of metaphysics is demonstrative with a further reflection on the sensitivo-rational experience

of the being or ‘something’ of sensible things, which has both necessary and contingent characteristics’.

‘For instance, molecules were reasoned to form transference of odours and diffusion of gases’.

Options A, B, and D are inaccurate explanations. The efficient starting point, considering only phenomenal aspects and the derivation of facts from the faculties of sensation alone, are inadequate explanations of the sensitivo-rational approach.

4. (C)

The particular example, as stated in the query, can be observed in the second paragraph. The example in the second paragraph is a continuation of the sensitivo-rational approach introduced in the first paragraph. Here, the reader can observe that the assertion was presented previously through reflection, signifying the importance of molecules in the diffusion of gases and transference of odours. Later on, when the electron microscope was invented, and with the immense magnification that came with it, the scientists were able to verify this assertion. It can be said with certainty that the writer had used the instance of molecules to let the reader be made aware of this process and approach in metaphysics.

From this analysis, the correct answer is option C.

Point of reference: Fourth line, second paragraph.

‘For instance, molecules were reasoned to form transference of odours and diffusion of gases in 1873. Their activity was verified in numerous experiments, and in recent years very large molecules became visible through the electron microscope. No such double-check for its conclusions is possible in metaphysics.



It has only the much harder way of checking each link in the demonstration through reflection’.

Options A, B, and D are incorrect. The importance of the electron microscope, the infidelity of the concepts in metaphysics, and the inevitable nature of the dispute between chemists and physicists, are not the main reasons why the author used the example of molecules’ role in the diffusion of gases.

5. (A)

In the concluding lines of the passage, the author has presented the view of science and metaphysics and how they work hand in hand. In the second last line of the passage, the author has stated how knowledge works. Metaphysical doctrines work as the starting points, for any inquiry to begin and at the end of it, science is required to provide a

cogent way to cement the notion’s validity in the beginning. Hence it can be said that metaphysics and science go hand in hand. In light of this consideration, the correct answer is option A.

Point of reference: Second last line, first paragraph.

‘In fact, they are demonstrating conclusions resting solely but evidently upon the immediacy of their starting points and the cogency of reasoning processes at the end which qualify them to be scientific’.

Options B, C, and D can be discarded. The denial of metaphysical doctrine by gangs of scientists, the replacement of science by metaphysics alone, and the process of metaphysics to acquire knowledge are not the inferences to be obtained about science and metaphysics from the end of the passage.

Passage 34

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

Thirty-five years ago, Nintendo debuted a video game that wiped out its competitors like a green turtle shell wiping out a string of Goombas. In case you didn’t get the reference, it is from ‘Super Mario Bros.’, which was released in Japan on September 13, 1985. The game went on sale in North America later that year and it quickly became one of the most popular video games of all time, eventually selling over 40 million copies for the original Nintendo Entertainment System. In fact, the game’s titular character—Mario, a mustachioed plumber in overalls and a red cap—went on to become Nintendo’s unofficial mascot, appearing in more than 200 different video game properties, from ‘Mario Kart’ to ‘Mario Party’, and making the company’s large portfolio of Mario-themed games the best-selling video game franchise ever.

But, if the Nintendo game designer who first created Mario had his way, the character might never have existed—or, at least, he would have been very different. Legendary video game designer Shigeru Miyamoto (‘Donkey Kong’, ‘The Legend of Zelda,’ ‘Star Fox’) actually first created the Mario character to be the protagonist of ‘Donkey Kong,’ the 1981 arcade game where a carpenter tries to rescue his love from a giant ape who was Mario’s pet. Mario did not become a plumber until four years later, when Miyamoto decided that Mario’s profession should better match the green pipes and sewer settings of the ‘Mario Bros.’ franchise. Miyamoto, an artist who had been hired at Nintendo four years earlier for his skills as a toymaker, was tasked with coming up with a new arcade game to replace Nintendo’s failed 1980 title ‘Radar Scope’, according to a 2010 profile of Miyamoto in The New Yorker. Miyamoto wanted to create a game based on the iconic cartoon sailor Popeye, but Nintendo was



not able to land the rights to those characters, so the artist had to come up with a new idea.

Instead of a sailor, Miyamoto opted for another blue-collar profession—a carpenter, and one who sported a moustache and Mario’s trademark overalls and hat. The character was originally just called ‘Jumpman’ since he had to leap over obstacles; then, the real star of the game was Donkey Kong. When Nintendo released ‘Donkey Kong’ in the United States, the company’s American executives felt that Jumpman needed a better name. Workers at Nintendo’s Washington warehouse had started calling the character ‘Mario’ because he resembled the property’s landlord, a man named Mario Segale, according to the book ‘Game Over, Press Start to Continue’. Miyamoto heard about the nickname and liked it, so he stuck with it. They started calling the character Mario, and when I heard that I said ‘Oh, Mario’s a great name—let us use that’, Miyamoto told NPR in 2015. ‘Donkey Kong’ was extremely popular in arcades around the world, earning the game its own spot in the pantheon of classic video games. Nintendo went on to develop several sequels to the original before tasking Miyamoto with breaking out the Mario character for his own game. Miyamoto created a brother for Mario (the green-clad Luigi) and the pair debuted in the 1983 arcade game ‘Mario Bros.’, which was mainly only distributed in Japan.

1. The author would agree with all the following, except:
 - (A) Mario and his games have been successful for Nintendo, both critically and commercially.
 - (B) Nintendo and Miyamoto created the game Donkey Kong to spread their base from Japan to the U.S.
 - (C) Miyamoto’s original idea was to create a game based on Popeye’s iconic character: The sailor man.
 - (D) Originally, the character was named Jumpman by Miyamoto,

and eventually changed to Mario by the insistence of the Nintendo executives.

2. What can you infer about Mario’s iteration from the passage’s second paragraph?
 - (A) Miyamoto was a toy designer who was very interested in the rights of Popeye for Nintendo.
 - (B) The creation and the worldwide popularity of Mario would not have seen the light of day if Miyamoto’s original vision had come into play.
 - (C) Mario, in his first game, was a carpenter. The later and much more famous persona of ‘the plumber’ came afterwards to suit the settings of the new game.
 - (D) Miyamoto was not interested in naming future games after Mario because the original series was supposed to be about Donkey Kong.
3. Based on your reading of the passage, what can be stated as the inspiration behind the naming of Mario by Miyamoto?
 - (A) Since Mario was a very common name for plumbers in the West, Miyamoto decided to name the protagonist as Mario to appeal to a larger audience.
 - (B) Miyamoto, when insisted on changing the name, came across the nickname given to Jumpman by the workers at Nintendo’s warehouse.
 - (C) The executives of Nintendo America were not so hip to the name of Jumpman. Hence Miyamoto decided to name it Mario, to sound catchy.
 - (D) Carpenters, mostly in the U.S., had migrated from France and Italy. The most common name of the people migrating from there was Mario.
4. What was the step taken by Miyamoto when Nintendo failed to occupy the rights of Popeye?
 - (A) When Nintendo could not acquire a sailor for Donkey Kong, Miyamoto



- selected the profession of a carpenter for the protagonist.
- (B) Miyamoto decided to leave Nintendo as he was very interested in toy making.
- (C) Miyamoto went on to design Donkey Kong, The Legend of Zelda, Star Fox, and other critical and commercial successes for Nintendo.
- (D) Miyamoto was certain that Nintendo's attempt to replace Radar Scope was full of perils in the future.
5. Why did the author call Mario the unofficial mascot for the Nintendo company?
- (A) The video game references of Mario Bros are universal by nature and very much accepted among gamers and internet consumers.
- (B) It is one of the most popular video games of all time in North America and worldwide.
- (C) Super Mario Bros. was the first popular game to be delivered by Nintendo in Japan and later in the west.
- (D) Mario by appearing in more than 200 various titles, makes the majority of Nintendo's portfolio of best-selling games.

Solutions

1. (B)

To answer this question appropriately, the reader needs to first understand the concepts, terms, and facts shared in the passage. The query above wants us to select the alternative, which is either not mentioned in the passage or contradicts what is already mentioned in the passage. From this understanding, the right alternative can be selected. From this method, the correct alternative is option B. Notice that the alternative claims that Mario was created by Nintendo to spread their base from the Japan to the U.S., but in the passage, it is clearly stated that the intention behind creation of Mario was to replace the failure of the arcade game 'Radar Scope'.

The correct answer is option B.

Point of reference: The complete passage and the second last line of the second paragraph.

'Miyamoto, an artist who had been hired at Nintendo four years earlier for his skills as a toymaker, was tasked with coming up with a new arcade game to replace Nintendo's failed 1980 title 'Radar Scope,' according to a 2010 profile of Miyamoto in The New Yorker'.

Options A, C, and D are to be rejected. These options are already present in the passage and are in accordance with it. The writer would not have any point of contention or disagreement with these points.

2. (C)

The reader can observe that the second paragraph has a very different tone compared to the first paragraph. In the first paragraph, the author stated the track record and success of Mario for Nintendo and in the second, the writer discussed that if things had gone differently back then, Mario would have turned out to be a very different character that everyone knows and loves today. Specifically, in the third line, the author has pointed out that the character was originally a carpenter, but in the future games became a plumber to better suit the pipes setting of the Mario Bros. games. From this analysis, option C is the correct answer.

Point of reference: Third line, second paragraph.

'Mario didn't become a plumber until four years later when Miyamoto decided that Mario's profession should better



match the green pipes and sewer settings of the 'Mario Bros. franchise'.

Options A, B, and D are incorrect. The interest of Miyamoto in Popeye, the original vision of the creator, and the interest of the creator to name the games after Donkey Kong are not the inferences to be drawn regarding Mario's iteration from the second paragraph.

3. (B)

The inspiration behind the naming of Mario by Miyamoto is apparent in the third paragraph. In the second last line, the author had provided the backstory as to how Miyamoto was asked to change the name of Jumpman. It can be said that due to the nickname given by the people working at the warehouse of Nintendo and Miyamoto coming across the nickname, it culminated in the name change of the character from Jumpman to Mario.

In conclusion, option B is the answer.

Point of reference: Second last line, third paragraph.

'When Nintendo released 'Donkey Kong' in the United States, the company's American executives felt that Jumpman needed a better name. Workers at Nintendo's Washington warehouse had started calling the character 'Mario' because he resembled the property's landlord, a man named Mario Segale, according to the book 'Game Over, Press Start to Continue'. Miyamoto heard about the nickname and liked it, so he stuck with it'.

Options A, C, and D are to be discarded. These options do not convey or point towards the main inspiration behind Miyamoto's decision to change the name from Jumpman to Mario.

4. (A)

The subsequent step taken by Miyamoto after the failure of Nintendo to acquire

the rights of Popeye is apparent in the third paragraph. In the opening line itself, the author has stated that Miyamoto opted for another blue-collar profession for his protagonist: A Carpenter. Hence, option A perfectly describes the next step of Miyamoto after Nintendo failed to acquire the rights of Popeye.

Point of reference: First line, third paragraph.

'Instead, of a sailor, Miyamoto opted for another blue-collar profession—a carpenter, and one who sported a moustache and Mario's trademark overalls and hat'.

Options B, C, and D are incorrect. Miyamoto's decision to leave Nintendo, the designing of future hit games for Nintendo, and the future of Nintendo's attempt to replace Radar Scope are not the steps taken by Miyamoto after failing to acquire the rights for Mario.

5. (D)

This query asks the reader to direct his attention to the first paragraph. In the first paragraph, the reader can observe the use of the words 'unofficial mascot' in the context of Mario. The author did not want to demean Mario in any way. But instead pursues the reader to understand the importance and success of Mario for Nintendo. In the closing line of the paragraph, the author states about the track record of Mario, and due to its success, it has unofficially become the mascot for Nintendo. In light of this, the correct answer is option D.

Point of reference: Final line, first paragraph.

'In fact, the game's titular character—Mario, a moustachioed plumber in overalls and a red cap—went on to become Nintendo's unofficial mascot, appearing in more than 200 different video game properties, from 'Mario Kart' to 'Mario Party', and making the company's large



portfolio of Mario-themed games the best-selling video game franchise ever’.

Options A, B, and C are to be rejected. The universal nature of references provided by Mario, the worldwide

popularity of the character, and Super Mario Bros being the most popular game by Nintendo are not the reasons why the author has used the term ‘unofficial mascot’ for Mario.

Passage 35

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

Gamers, have you ever noticed that you are the first person to spot animals at the zoo? Or if someone drops candy on the ground, you know exactly where every piece landed? That may be because you play video games. Research has shown people who play video games like Fortnite or Rocket League have higher visual acuity, meaning they can keep track of multiple moving objects at once—or even see things in the fog or rain that others cannot. It is one of the many benefits researchers like me have discovered about playing video games. For those who think video games are a waste of time or a negative force in your life, it might be worth showing them what the latest science has to say.

When you keep an eye on your enemies, grab the best loot, and change your inventory without even looking at the controller, you are essentially flexing your brain. Your brain loves challenges like this—and can actually grow from playing video games. It is one reason why video game players make better surgeons and why some doctors even use video games to warm up before big surgeries. Video games can develop other skills, too. For example, they can teach you to never give up, no matter how many times it takes to beat the final boss or reach the next level. The persistence you use in video games shows that hard work will help you achieve your goals, both inside and outside the video game.

To succeed in video games, you cannot just work harder; you have to work smarter, too. Beating the final boss or another really good

player is not as simple as using the same strategy over and over again. Instead, video games train you to solve problems by considering and trying different solutions. Think about your favourite games. They give you lots of different problems with multiple solutions, which makes you realise solving problems can be really fun. Playing video games can teach you critical thinking skills that, combined with hard work, will bring you a lot of success.

One of the very best things about playing video games is the friends—not just the new friends you make, but hanging out with your old friends, especially during times when you may not be able to see them at school or at their house. Video games provide friends a digital playground where helping and sharing is encouraged and often required. Helping each other build the biggest and best fort—or reviving a teammate when they are down—strengthens friendships and can even help mend broken ones. That is because, even if it is ‘just a game,’ teammates who help each other in video games are more likely to help each other in the real world and be more helpful towards strangers, too. Experiencing the benefits of being a team player teaches you the value of teamwork, which is something you can use for the rest of your life.

1. Being good at video games can equate to being overall successful in other aspects of life because:
 - (A) The message behind defeating the enemy to proceed to the next level, inspires the gamer to work hard.
 - (B) To defeat a particular enemy, the gamer must switch up their play



- style, advocating the importance of smart work over hard work.
- (C) Critical rationale, combined with encouraging hard work, is a certain trait of prowess and success in real-life scenarios.
- (D) Problem solving and multiple approaches to a solution is the core design in most video games.
2. What sociological aspect of human behaviour is encouraged by multiplayer video games?
- (A) In times when a person cannot go outside to meet their friends, video games provide an atmosphere of coordination.
- (B) They provide a digital playground, where teaching the message of 'sharing is caring' is the underlying intention.
- (C) The message of putting others first strengthens friendships.
- (D) Players understand the importance and benefits of being a team player and can make players implement co-operation in society as well.
3. As per the first paragraph, what is the benefit of video games cited by the author for kids?
- (A) Gamers can easily spot animals at the zoo. This is essential since they can easily spot an approaching threat in a situation of life and death.
- (B) Their range of visually capturing and tracking multiple moving objects is high in comparison to non-gamers.
- (C) Gamers are quick to spot fallen or falling objects, which makes them hyper cognitive regarding their own belongings.
- (D) Since Gamers spend a lot of time on video games, they are efficient when it comes to time management.
4. Apart from the increased visual cognition, what life lessons can be acquired from video games?
- (A) By keeping a close eye on competitors/enemies, a gamer can essentially learn the tactical skill of increased surrounding awareness.
- (B) The skills learnt by gaming can make better professionals in the field of medicine and surgery.
- (C) They can act as guides to life by teaching persistence, resilience, and the importance of hard work.
- (D) They teach you never to give up and never stop following your ambitions and dreams.
5. Which of the following, if proved true, would weaken the author's argument?
- (A) Gamers have an acute sense of awareness of their surroundings, thanks to their increased visual range of spotting multiple moving objects at once.
- (B) Some medical professionals use surgery emulators before a crucial surgery to warm up their senses.
- (C) Corporate environments, which have long championed the message of smart work over hard work, recruit employees based on their performance in the game Dark Souls.
- (D) Individuals who spent hours playing the multiplayer game Counter Strike were found to be suffering from Aphantasia, making them highly introverted.

Solutions

1. (C)
The equating of being good at video games and being successful in life, comes to light in the third paragraph. The reader can acutely observe that it is the concoction of critical thinking skills



combined with hard work, required to master a game, or defeating the enemy can come really handy in diverse and dynamic real-life situations. Needless to say, the correct answer from this understanding is option C.

Point of reference: Final line, third paragraph.

‘Playing video games can teach you critical thinking skills that, combined with hard work, will bring you a lot of success’.

Options A, B, and D are inaccurate. The imparting message of working hard to defeat the enemy before advancing, the switching of play style, and problem-solving training provided in gaming are not the particular features of gaming, which the author suggests would make for successful individuals.

2. (D)

Sociology by name, is the study of social life, social change, social causes, and consequences of human behaviour. The particular sociological aspects that come into light are apparent in the fourth paragraph. Here the reader can notice that multiplayer games foster healthy environments where successful coordination and cooperation is encouraged and rewarded. The final line conveys the overall arching message of the paragraph. The benefits and the importance of being a team player in video games can make players implement cooperation in real life in society. In light of this, the correct answer is option D.

Point of reference: Final line, final paragraph.

‘Experiencing the benefits of being a team player teaches you the value of teamwork, which you can use for the rest of your life’.

Options A, B, and C are wrong choices. Promoting social connectivity in times

of social distancing, teaching the golden words of ‘sharing is caring’ and inspiring people to put others first are not the sociological benefits discussed by the author.

3. (B)

From the first paragraph, the reader can note that the benefit of playing video games comes in the form of increased visual acuity. This means that a gamer is observed to have a high range of visually tracking and capturing multiple moving objects in their vicinity compared to a non-gamer. Therefore, the particular benefit cited by the author in the first paragraph is option B.

Point of reference: Second line, first paragraph.

‘Research has shown people who play video games like Fortnite, or Rocket League have higher visual acuity, meaning they can keep track of multiple moving objects at once—or even see things in the fog or rain that others cannot’.

Options A, C, and D are to be rejected. The easy spotting of animals in a life and death situation, the hyper cognition concerning self-belongings, and time management skills are not the benefits cited by the author in the first paragraph. This is also made evident with the point of reference above.

4. (C)

The life lesson that can be imparted to gamers is apparent in the second paragraph. In the second paragraph, the reader can notice that the author has particularly cited that through the act of persistence, gamers learn the importance of hard work to achieve goals, both inside the game and outside in reality. The correct answer is option C.

Point of reference: Last line, second paragraph.



‘The persistence you use in video games shows that hard work will help you achieve your goals, both inside and outside the video game’.

Options A, B, and D are wrong choices. The tactical skill of hyper-awareness concerning one’s surroundings and the training of medical professionals are not the important life lessons that can be acquired through gaming. On the other hand, option D may seem to be the correct answer. However, the reader, on closer observation, can sense that this alternative is only concerned with the persistence aspect inspired by gaming, not the importance of hard work, which is also addressed in the same paragraph. Due to the incomplete and inadequate nature of the alternative, this alternative is incorrect.

5. (D)

To answer this query appropriately, the reader has to understand the concepts introduced in the passage. Only from that one can understand the correct answer to this. From this understanding, the correct answer is D. Notice that all the points mentioned in options A, C, and B are present in the passage. However, option D is contradictory to what is stated in the passage. In the final paragraph, the author has stated that video games promote an environment of social cohesion, fostering friendships and promoting the exchange of communication, through management of resources and inventory. Hence, if option D turned out to be true, it would severely weaken the author’s argument.

Point of reference: The complete passage.

Passage 36

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

The scope of metaphysics includes both its material and formal aspects of the matter. Generally, matter indicates the indeterminate but determinable element, and ‘form’ the determining element. These relative meanings of ‘material’ and ‘formal’ are also found in the theoretical sciences, especially when there are questions of the ‘material object’ and the ‘formal object’ of a science. Material Object is the definite realm or definite subject matter which science deals with. For instance, man, inanimate matter, the stars, the earth, language, religion, law, etc. Formal Object is that special aspect of the material object which is under consideration or study.

A definite material object that is taken as the general matter to be studied will have too many knowable aspects to be grasped

fully in a single intellectual consideration. To arrive at a well-founded totalitarian view, one will have to approach it in quasi-partial studies, i.e., through formal and analytic abstraction of the various aspects of the object. The material object so considered in a definite aspect is thus called the formal object. The material object of metaphysics includes all things which fall under the notion of being, such as actual or possible, abstract, or concrete, material or immaterial, finite or infinite. The formal object of metaphysics is the study of ‘being as being’, (ens in quantum ens, Latin). That is to say, metaphysics does not restrict itself to any particular being or part of that being, but rather treats what is common to all beings, namely ‘Being’, which is the ground of beings since all beings are in Being. Being is not a particular thing though it embraces everything in itself. That which is not particular is still



something or in some way. Hence, Being is that which is in something or in some way.

Of course, our knowledge of Being is an act of intuition, because of the indubitable, inseparable, and immediate self-presence of being as being to my knowledge and is a pre-predicative certainty, which precedes the formation of all explicit concepts and judgments. But this intuition is so imperfect that it does not yet say anything explicit about identity or participation, unity, or plurality, etc. Because of this imperfection of our intuition, we are forced to express the knowledge of Being by means of a judgment. Now that the problem facing us is no longer that of being as being but the problem of one and many, we will have to investigate more accurately the nature of the predicate, which is common to all, and ask ourselves how a predicate that does not express any plurality, finiteness, imperfection, or in determination can be predicated of distinct, manifold, finite, imperfect, and determinable subjects.

1. What do you understand by a 'well-founded totalitarian view'?
 - (A) This view is only concerned with analytical reasoning to arrive at an aspect which covers the total features of an object.
 - (B) To arrive at a 'total' view, both the material and the formal aspects of the object must be considered. This is only possible through combining and dealing with formal and analytical ideas.
 - (C) The only way to estimate and define the complete features of an object, we need to perform studies which will appear to be partial like against the norm.
 - (D) Metaphysics generally restricts itself in dealing with boundaries of ideas, both analytical and formal.
2. Though the author has provided characteristics of Being with great efficacy, the

author still calls this base to be imperfect because:

- (A) The knowledge, perception, and presentation of Being is purely a figment of imagination.
 - (B) The knowledge of Being pushes the idea of pre-predicative certainty, which subsides formation of all explicit concepts and judgments.
 - (C) The notion of Being is established by intuition, which is not perfect enough to describe the role of it in the grander scheme of things, leaving one to rely on judgement.
 - (D) None of the above.
3. What can be inferred about metaphysics from the first paragraph?
 - (A) Metaphysics is confined in application and only applicable in philosophy, not to science.
 - (B) The range and scope of metaphysics covers both the definite and special aspects of objects/matter.
 - (C) Matter is generally composed of indeterminate but determinable elements, leading to the formation of the determining element.
 - (D) Metaphysics questions the validity of formal objects, such as existence, cosmos, and religion itself.
 4. Among the following, what can be stated as the feature of Being from a metaphysical viewpoint?
 - (A) Metaphysically, being is a finite part of the formal aspects governing the object.
 - (B) Being is the crucial and pivotal part of study when it comes to dissecting the formal aspects in metaphysics.
 - (C) Being cannot be individuated, and its part is inside everything, and everything is a part of it.
 - (D) Metaphysically, all objects are related to one particular being.
 5. The writer would agree with the following, except:



- (A) The range of metaphysics covers both the formal and material aspects of an object by utilising both analytical and formal abstraction.
- (B) The material aspects include all the verified aspects, and formal aspects are the ones under consideration.

- (C) Being cannot be separated from everything and is a part of everything as something or somehow.
- (D) The problem of being as being is not complex and can be conveyed by distinctness and finiteness.

Solutions

1. (B)

The totalitarian view that is mentioned in the query can be observed in the second paragraph. In the context of the passage, the primary goal and objective is to understand the scope of metaphysics. So, a totalitarian view is concerned with providing a total view of the object of interest. Particularly both the material and formal aspects of it. This is clearly stated in the first and second paragraphs of the passage and more specifically, in the second line of the second paragraph. From this analysis, the only alternative which can appropriately answer the question is option B.

Point of reference: Second line, second paragraph.

‘To arrive at a well-founded totalitarian view, one will have to approach it in quasi-partial studies, i.e., through formal and analytic abstraction of the various aspects of the object’.

Options A, C, and D are incorrect. The preference for analytical reasoning, the quasi-partial studies, and the restrictions presented by the boundaries of analytical and formal ideas are not the correct methods to arrive at a totalitarian view.

2. (C)

The author’s particular dilemma regarding Being becomes clear to the reader in

the final paragraph. On closer observation, the reader can observe that though the author had provided characteristics of Being in the third paragraph, yet the author contradicted himself by sharing a new insight that the knowledge of Being is an act of intuition. However, the problem with intuition is that it is limited and imperfect since it cannot describe its role, identity, participation, etc. Hence, due to the imperfection of intuition, one has to rely on the judgement of Being. From this analysis, the correct answer for the imperfection of base figured out by the author is option C.

Point of reference: Fourth line, third paragraph.

‘Because of this imperfection of our intuition, we are forced to express the knowledge of Being by means of a judgment’.

Options A, B, and D are incorrect. The knowledge of Being as a figment of the imagination and the idea of pre-predicative certainty are not the correct reasons why the author considers the act of intuition to be imperfect.

3. (B)

To infer metaphysics, the reader must divert his attention towards the first paragraph. On closer observation, the reader can observe that the opening discusses the scope and range of metaphysics,



and by the ending of this paragraph itself, the reader is given an accurate idea about the kind of subject metaphysics deals with. From this observation, it can be said that the main inference to be formed from the first paragraph is option B. The scope of metaphysics is the main topic in the first paragraph, and both the aspects it covers are discussed in this alternative. Therefore, the correct answer is option B.

Point of reference: The complete first paragraph.

Options A, C, and D are inaccurate. The confines and application of metaphysics, the composition of matter, and the questions raised by metaphysics are not the main inferences from the first paragraph.

4. (C)

The feature of Being becomes apparent in the closing lines of the second paragraph.

From a metaphysical viewpoint, the ending of the last third line and the opening of the second last line provides the reader with hints about some of the features of Being. Notice that it states that 'Being is not a particular thing' and 'since all beings are in Being'. From this observation, it can be stated that only option C can perfectly describe the traits of Being.

Point of reference: Third last line, second paragraph.

'That is to say, metaphysics does not restrict itself to any particular being or part of that being, but rather treats what is common to all beings, namely 'Being', which is the ground of beings since all beings are in Being. Being is not a particular thing though it embraces everything in itself. That which is not particular is still something or in some way. Hence, Being is that which is in something or somehow'.

Options A, B, and D are incorrect. The finite part of the formal aspects, the crucial and pivotal parts of the subject, and relation to one particular Being are not the defining traits observed of the Being from a metaphysical viewpoint.

5. (D)

To answer this query appropriately, the reader has to understand the concepts introduced in the passage. Only from that, one can understand the correct answer to this. From this understanding, the correct answer is D. Notice that all the points mentioned in options A, C, and B are present in the passage. However, option D is contradictory to what is stated in the passage. In the final paragraph, the author has stated that the problem he faces is not being as being. But rather, to express the predicate which is of infinite nature, in finite and understandable terms.

Point of reference: The complete passage.

Passage 37

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

Every particular act of knowledge reveals a characteristic duality when expressed in a judgment: reference and assertion.

Knowledge always refers to something or someone and makes an assertion about this something or someone in either an affirmative or a negative way. To know something or someone always means to know it or one as



being this way or that way, or not this way or that way, i.e., as judgment.

Judgment is an act of the intellect in which we say something of an object through affirmation or denial. Every particular judgment may be considered as a reply to the question: Is the being in question similar to how it is asserted to be in the proposition? This question is raised based on a series of previously accepted suppositions. For instance, if the question refers to the 'what' or 'how' of a person or a thing, it presupposes that they are. If it is concerned with the actual occurrence of a particular event, it assumes a framework of successive events prior to it. If it aims at essential relationships, e.g., between certain numbers, it assumes that a world of numbers is possible. All such presuppositions when put into the form of questions again, allow more profound assumptions to reveal themselves. Ultimately, they all point to one and the same most fundamental presupposition which excludes all other suppositions: something (no matter what) is (no matter how).

Judgments are of two kinds: Direct judgment (immediate judgment) and indirect judgment (mediate judgment). Direct judgment is an act of the intellect in which we say something of an object, empirically or transcendently. Empirical direct judgment is an act of the intellect in which we say something of an object as presented to our senses, e.g., this is a pen. Transcendental direct judgment is an act of the intellect in which we say something of 'something' which is directly and immediately but implicitly present in all human experiences, e.g., 'this is something'. Indirect or mediate judgment is an act of the intellect in which we say something of an object derivatively, e.g., 'all men are mortal'. Every judgement also has two aspects: concrete synthesis and affirmative synthesis (objective synthesis). Concrete synthesis is a synthesis which joins a predicate of itself universal with an individual subject, and thus restricts the

concept to this individual alone, e.g., this is a pen. Objective synthesis (affirmative synthesis) is the position of correspondence between ourselves, as possessing the complex totality of sensible and intelligible signs, and the thing, which is represented or signified by them, e.g., this is a pen. Objection in every judgement presupposes at least an implicit awareness of the one who judges. Notion of self is a priori to judgement itself. Hence judgement cannot be that which comes first before everything else, and from which we begin.

1. What of the following is not mentioned in the second paragraph?
 - (A) It is an act of intellect in which we say something of an object through affirmation or denial.
 - (B) Every particular judgement verifies the similarity between the assertion and proposition of the object.
 - (C) If the judgement is concerned with the occurrence of a particular event, the presupposition of successive events is not a viable option.
 - (D) In the case of establishing judgement about relationships of numbers, the pre-assumption is about the possibility of a world of numbers.
2. What do you understand by direct judgement?
 - (A) Direct judgement of an object is the immediate judgement a person can provide of something.
 - (B) Direct judgement solely relies on an empirical method to assess something as present to one's senses.
 - (C) Direct judgement completely describes the object by covering both the empirical and transcendental aspects of the object to arrive at a concrete conclusion.
 - (D) Direct Judgement is an intellectual act in which an object is defined by its feature implicitly applicable for all.



3. Which of the following properly describes the procedure for arriving at a judgement? (From starting to ending)
- (A) Reference – Knowledge – Assertion – Judgement.
 - (B) Reference (affirmative or negative) – Assertion (negative) – Knowledge – Judgement.
 - (C) Assertion (affirmative or negative) – Reference (positive) – Judgement (affirmation or denial).
 - (D) Knowledge – Reference – Assertion – Particular Characterisation – Judgement.
4. Why has the author stated a similar example of both affirmative and concrete synthesis in the passage?
- (A) To explain to the reader that both approaches of judgement arrive at the exact conclusion, but in different ways.
 - (B) To signify the position of self-reasoning in theoretical deduction rather than empirical observation.
 - (C) To inspire the observer to take one of the two methods to arrive at a conclusion.
 - (D) To question the starting point for the reader.
5. The writer would agree with all the following, except:
- (A) Reference and assertion are the first steps before judgement and are instilled by knowledge.
 - (B) The presupposition of referring to what or how of a person keeps into account its existence.
 - (C) The judgement of an object is primarily obtained after characterisation of the particular assertion of the object.
 - (D) Judgement cannot be that which comes first before everything else and at which we end.

Solutions

1. (C)

The question is seeking the points which are not mentioned in the second paragraph. From a closer observation of the second paragraph, the reader can notice that option C is not mentioned in the passage. Judgement concerning the occurrence of a particular event assumes a framework of successive events prior to it. Hence, the correct answer is option C.

Point of reference: Fifth line, second paragraph.

‘If it is concerned with the actual occurrence of a particular event, it assumes a framework of successive events prior to it’.

Options A, B, and D can be discarded. The act of intellect involved in affirmation and denial, the verification of similarity

between the proposition and assertion of the object, and the presupposition about the possibility of a world of numbers are all mentioned in the passage. As a result, they are all incorrect.

2. (C)

The solution for this question is evident in the opening line of the third paragraph. In the third paragraph, the reader can observe the correct definition of direct judgement. It combines both empirical and transcendental aspects of the object. From this understanding, the correct option is C.

Point of reference: Second line, third paragraph.

‘Direct judgement is an act of the intellect in which we say something of an object, empirically or transcendently’.



Options A, B, and D are inaccurate explanations. They are all inadequate to cover the definition of direct judgement.

3. (D)

The proper order or procedure for arriving at Judgement becomes apparent to the reader in the opening lines of the first paragraph. In the opening lines, the writer begins that the act of knowledge reveals a duality when it is expressed in a judgement. Knowledge first refers to something or someone and then makes an assertion. Based on that assertion, it defines something or someone to be in a particular way and not in any other way. From this clarity of characterisation, the inquisitive person arrives at the judgement. In light of this, the correct answer is option D.

Point of reference: Second line, first paragraph.

‘Knowledge always refers to something or someone and makes an assertion about this something or someone in either an affirmative or a negative way. To know something or someone always means to know it or one as being this way or that way, or not this way or that way, i.e., as judgement’.

Options A, B, and C are not to be considered. They do not provide the exact order, as mentioned in the first paragraph.

4. (A)

Both the approaches have used similar examples to imply a crucial point. The reader can observe in both the definitions that the concept of the universal applicability of the object to be asserted is common in both the synthesis. Hence, option A is the only alternative that can describe this.

Point of reference: Sixth line, third paragraph.

‘Every judgement also has two aspects: concrete synthesis and affirmative synthesis (objective synthesis). Concrete synthesis is a synthesis which joins a predicate of itself universal with an individual subject, and thus restricts the concept to this individual alone, e.g., this is a pen. Objective synthesis (affirmative synthesis) is the position of correspondence between ourselves, as possessing the complex totality of sensible and intelligible signs, and the thing, which is represented or signified by them, e.g., this is a pen. An objection in every judgement presupposes at least an implicit awareness of the one who judges. The notion of self is apriori to the judgement itself. Hence judgement cannot be that which comes first before everything else, and from which we begin’.

Options B, C, and D are incorrect. The accurate reason behind similar examples is not mentioned in the alternatives.

5. (D)

To answer this query appropriately, the reader has to understand the concepts introduced in the passage. Only from that, one can understand the correct answer to this. From this understanding, the correct answer is D. Notice that all the points mentioned in options A, C, and B are present in the passage. However, option D is contradictory to what is stated in the passage. In the final line of the final paragraph, this observation becomes evident.

Point of reference: The complete passage.



Passage 38

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

Like an almighty punch administered by its protagonist Kenshiro, the series ‘Fist of the north star’ had an irreversible impact on anime and manga’s landscape, most notably through its unprecedented, brute-force violence. It is also notable for being a title that featured a trope we see very rarely nowadays in the medium: the invincible hero. The title started out as a manga in 1983 and gained a reputation for eye-popping violence thanks to its central premise: a lone wanderer practises a deadly martial art that targets pressure points on the human body, thereby spectacularly defeating enemies. *Fist of the North Star’s* (Hokuto No Ken) 1986 feature-length movie was one of the first high-profile titles to be brought to the West by specialist imprint Manga Video in the early 1990s and became an instant sensation on release thanks to fighting scenes that blew the mind. This definitely was not *Battle of the Planets*.

The violence in both the manga and anime was unlike anything people in the West had seen, setting a bar, and going on to become a huge influence on other artists in the field. Even ‘*Berserk*’ creator Kentaro Miura cited it as his biggest inspiration, but the title is also notable in how its hero compares to later figures in popular anime. By contemporary standards, Kenshiro appears to be a laughably simple character; he wanders from one location to the other, fights baddies, defeats them, and then moves on. He is entirely un-beset by inner conflict or self-doubt. He even uses his abilities for something other than defeating people—when a little girl suffering PTSD loses her voice, he gently manipulates her pressure points to enable her to speak again. He treats people he comes across with dignity, unlike the ruthless villains, and has no endgame, other than eradicating the landscape of super-powered

bullies and helping Mother Earth restore herself after a nuclear war. Like well-known characters such as All might, Goku, and Naruto, Kenshiro does not smile or laugh, ever.

The straight-faced hero as a force-of-nature is a trope that has gradually been phased out in mainstream anime over the years, but how did this come to pass? When *Fist of the North Star* first surfaced, Japan was a mighty economic power that had just taken centre stage in the global economy. All the qualities that had helped it get there—stoicism, discipline, strength, and single-mindedness—were singularly embodied by the show’s protagonist. Kenshiro was a hero for the times and by the 90’s, Japan was at a much struggle-less place, relatively. Like every other creative medium, anime has evolved over the years to incorporate more influences and more sophisticated storytelling. That evolution was relatively swift, to the extent that by the late 1990s, the biggest anime in Japan featured male heroes who were the total opposite of Kenshiro, whether it was *One Piece’s* grinning Munky D. Luffy or *Evangelion’s* Shinji, a hero so tormented by neurosis that he was sometimes paralysed by it. *Cowboy Bebop’s* laconic, charming Spike Siegel seemed less like a typical Shonen slugger and more like the kind of suave male lead you’d expect to find in hip European cinema.

1. Based on your observation of the second paragraph, what is the contemporary standard for a protagonist in popular anime?
 - (A) The stories of highly admired anime are observed to have stories or arcs based on the protagonist’s insecurities.
 - (B) The world of anime is full of characters and heroes who are very jovial by heart.



- (C) The people who Kenshiro encounters in his journey are treated with utmost respect, which is rarely observed in popular media.
- (D) Both options A and B.
2. What psychological aspect can the reader observe from the third paragraph when it comes to the popularity of a protagonist?
- (A) Stories depicting intense violence are a one-hit-wonder and are not meant to last long.
- (B) The evolution of media is essential to keep a protagonist and form of media relevant to particular times.
- (C) Every popular hero is the representation of the prevalent mindset of a particular period of time.
- (D) Heroes that suffer from mental problems are more relatable to the audience than the invincible hero.
3. What was the main contributor to the introduction and popularisation of Hokuto No Ken in western audiences?
- (A) The western audience was introduced to Hokuto No Ken because it had an irreversible impact on anime and manga's landscape.
- (B) Hokuto No Ken had a trope that was uncommon in those days: The Invincible Protagonist making it popular in the west.
- (C) The feature-length movie based on Hokuto No Ken had sensational action scenes and introduced western audiences to a fest of manly ideals, the likes of which were never seen.
- (D) The deadly martial arts that target pressure points were never before seen or heard of by the modern west.
4. Why did Kenshiro become unfashionable by the late 90s?
- (A) The people got fatigued by the repeated violence displayed in Hokuto No Ken.
- (B) The medium of anime had evolved with time in favour of incorporating more influences and revolutionary narratives.
- (C) The increasing influence of European Cinema slowly penetrated the popular Japanese mainstream.
- (D) Japan, by the late 90s, was not a centre of attention for the global economy, and as a result, the heroes of the popular media resonated with this public emotion.
5. The writer would agree with all the following, except:
- (A) Fist of the North Star was a punch to the gut which blew away the western audiences with sensational action scenes.
- (B) The popular manga and anime Berserk drew heavy inspiration from Fist of the north star.
- (C) Kenshiro's characterisation can be particularly credited to the mindset prevalent in the Japanese audience of the 80s.
- (D) Kenshiro is considered the role model for anime protagonists still to this very day by manga and anime creators.

Solutions

1. (D)

In the second paragraph, the reader can observe that Kenshiro, the protagonist of Fist of the North Star, is described as entirely different from the contemporary standards of anime. So, the opposite

of Kenshiro's characteristics observed in the paragraph is bound to be the norm for characterisation in anime. Out of the given alternatives, only option A and B are the traits of Kenshiro observed to be different from the standard



characterisation of protagonists in anime. The reader can observe in the fourth and final lines of the second paragraph the comparisons drawn by the author.

From this analysis, the correct answer is option D.

Point of reference: Fourth and final line of the second paragraph.

‘He is entirely un-beset by inner conflict or self-doubt’.

‘Like well-known characters such as All might, Goku and Naruto, Kenshiro does not smile or laugh, ever’.

Options A, B, and C are incomplete choices. From the point of reference, it becomes clear about the difference in Kenshiro’s characterisation and the contemporary standards of characterisation among anime protagonists. The insecurities of the protagonist and their jovial nature are inadequate to cover the characterisation observed in the second paragraph. On the other hand, Option C contradicts the paragraph because the author has mentioned this trait of villains in the particular story, not of heroes.

2. (C)

Psychology, by definition, is concerned with the functioning of the human mind that affects behaviour in a particular context. In the third paragraph, the reader can notice that though popular and influential in the 80s, Kenshiro and Fist of the North Star had faded away from the popular scene. Simply because the mindset of the Japanese people had changed drastically from the 80s. The stoic and disciplined approach to becoming a global power adopted by the Japanese resonated with Kenshiro, and thus, he became famous. But by the 90s, Japan was not climbing the hill anymore and instead was at the top of the hill. For this reason alone, times of prosperity and happiness came, which was embodied by the characters that came after

Kenshiro. Therefore, the correct answer is option C.

Point of reference: Last line, second paragraph.

‘Kenshiro was a hero for the times and by the ’90s, Japan was at a much struggle-less place, relatively’.

Options A, B, and D are wrong choices. The one-hit-wonder aspect of violent stories, the essential and crucial aspect of evolution in media to remain relevant, and the relatability of the invincible hero with the masses, do not completely cover the psychological aspect behind the popularity of the protagonist and the story that comes with it.

3. (C)

The query above seeks the main reason for the popularisation of Hokuto No Ken (Fist of the North Star) among western audiences. From observing the first paragraph, this particular query can be answered. Notice that in the closing lines of the first paragraph, it is stated that the feature-length movie based on Fist of the North Star was one of the first high-profile titles to be brought to the west and became an instant sensation on release thanks to the fight scenes. Hence, the correct answer is option C.

Point of reference: Second last line, first paragraph.

‘Fist of the North Star’s (Hokuto No Ken) 1986 feature-length movie was one of the first high-profile titles brought to the West by specialist imprint Manga Video in the early 1990s and became an instant sensation on release; thanks to fighting scenes that blew the mind’.

Options A, B, and D are inaccurate. Fist of the North Star’s irreversible impact on the anime and manga landscape, the trope of the invincible protagonist, and the deadly martial arts that targets



pressure points are not the key contributors to its popularity in the west.

4. (B)

The solution to this is apparent in the third paragraph of the passage. The reader can notice that the author discusses the evolution of anime from the 80s to the late 90s. The reader can also observe that Kenshiro was a particular hero for a particular time, and hence the characterisation was a representation of the public emotion at the time. With evolving times, the evolution of anime was bound to happen. From this understanding, option B is the correct answer.

Point of reference: Fourth line, third paragraph.

‘Kenshiro was a hero for the times. Like every other creative medium, anime has evolved over the years to incorporate more influences and more sophisticated storytelling’.

Options A, C, and D are to be rejected. Audience fatigue, the increasing influence of European Cinema, and Japan’s

placement in the global economy are not the correct reasons behind the diminishing popularity of Kenshiro by the late 90s.

5. (D)

To answer this query appropriately, the reader has to understand the concepts introduced in the passage. Only from that one can understand the correct answer to this. From this understanding, the correct answer is D. Notice that all the points mentioned in options A, C, and B are present in the passage. However, option D is contradictory to what is stated in the passage. In the final paragraph, especially in the closing lines, the reader can observe that by the late 90s, the protagonists of popular anime were a far cry from Kenshiro in aspects of appearance and characterisation. Therefore, the correct answer is option D.

Point of reference: The complete passage.

Passage 39

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

Notion is a vague and imperfect concept. Notions are of simple mental content. Principles are of complex mental contents. Simplicity is the absence of complexity and complexity is the union of distinct parts. Notions and principles are also the basic evidence, to which thought must conform. Principle is that from which something proceeds in any way whatsoever. The definition of it implies two things: that the principle is prior to that which proceeds from it; and that there is a special connection between what is called the principle and that which

proceeds from it, in virtue of which the former is the principle of the latter.

There are three basic notions: Notion of Being, Notion of Action or Operation, and Notion of Self. Notion of Being is that which is in some way or something. That which is in some way, or something is always and immediately present in human experience. This experience of Being is as undeniable as the fact of the affirmation. Experience of Being signifies immediate knowledge, the immediate presence of the known to the knower. It is the original form of knowledge. An experience which is not an experience of Being would be an experience of nothing which is



an impossibility. Nothing is clearer or simpler or more evident than Being pre-apprehended in the consciousness. Hence, we cannot ask—‘what is the essence or nature of Being’? For essence and nature are already ‘ways of Being’. It is the ‘essence’ of Being not to have any essence as it surpasses and includes all essences. Thus, it is impossible to construct, derive, reduce, or define Being in terms of anything other than itself.

Notion of Action is in the experience of something I know and asserting that I experience the experience. I am implicitly and immediately conscious of the activity of experience through experience itself. ‘Notion of Self’ is the experience of something I know, that I experience the experience. I am implicitly and immediately conscious of my own self. The self is a fact of conscious experience which is both undeniable and inexplicable. When I wake up in the morning, I have to admit that my remembrance of previous knowledge or of my past belong to the very same self that I am now. This identity of the self is the reason why I can synthesise the past and present. But in itself it remains an unexplained fact, a simple datum of my personal experience. Furthermore, this identity did not always exist, because prior to my birth I did not exist.

1. Why cannot we ask what the essence or nature of Being is?
 - (A) The notion of Being is that which is in some way or something.
 - (B) An experience, nature, or essence of the Being, though appearing as nothing, are already ‘ways of the Being’.
 - (C) The act of affirmation and the experience of Being are undeniable; hence, we can never truly ask.
 - (D) We cannot ask about the essence of the being because there is no concrete way to define Being.
2. Why does the author conclude that a particular definition of Being is next to impossible?

- (A) Since the notion of Being is undeniable, there is no need to arrive at a particular definition for it.
- (B) If the knower experiences the immediate presence of Being, the knower can immediately gain access to greater truths.
- (C) The ways of the Being already include and surpass all the essences; hence a concrete definition of it is non-viable.
- (D) The definition of Being is purely dependent on the wits and understanding of the knower, which can be very subjective.

3. All the following points are mentioned in the passage, except:

- (A) The consideration of the action involved in experiencing the experience can lead to contents and principle of action.
- (B) Notion of self is generally considered for the formation of contents where the reference point is self.
- (C) Identity of self is doubtable, an unexplained fact, because the identity of self did not exist before the birth of the self.
- (D) The self comprises all experiences which is deniable because it cannot account for contents and principles before its birth.

4. What do you understand by the definition of principle?

- (A) Principles along with notions are the basic evidence to which thought must conform.
- (B) Principle occurs before the object on which it is implied and by virtue of special connection between the two, the former becomes the principle of the latter.
- (C) Principle is that from which something proceeds in any way whatsoever.
- (D) Since notion is a vague concept, principles are needed to cover both the simple and complex aspects.



5. What can be inferred about self-identity from the passage?

- (A) Self-identity is a vague and imperfect concept and deniable simply because it did not exist before the birth of consciousness of the knower.
- (B) In a true sense, self-identity plays a key role in experiencing the experience of the Being and can help define it.

(C) Self-identity is the centre for the formation of constants as per the notion of self and can synthesise past and present. However, it is unexplained as it is based on personal experience.

(D) Self-identity, just like being, is engulfed in the mystery of essence and nature. Easily mixed and not easily distinguished at the same time.

Solutions

1. (B)

The true reason why one cannot ask the essence or nature of the Being can be observed in the second paragraph. In the third last line, the author concluded that the main reason why we cannot ask what the essence or nature of Being is, for essence and nature are already 'ways of Being'. It may appear to be an experience of nothing, but it is impossible. The correct answer is option B.

Point of reference: Third last line, second paragraph.

'Hence, we cannot ask—"what is the essence or nature of Being"? For essence and nature are already 'ways of Being'.

Options A, C, and D are incorrect. The notion of Being and the act of affirmation are not the exact reasons why we cannot ask the question when it comes to defining Being. Option D might seem to be the correct answer at first, but it is to be noticed that the ending of the second paragraph gives this assumption regarding the definition of the Being, not the question as to the essence of the Being.

2. (C)

The author's conclusion regarding a concrete definition of Being becomes apparent in the final line of the second paragraph. The author has also provided

the reason for this conclusion. The author describes the essence and nature of Being to be the one which surpasses and includes all essences.

Point of reference: Second last line, second paragraph.

'For essence and nature are already 'ways of Being'. It is the 'essence' of Being not to have any essence as it surpasses and includes all essences. Thus, it is impossible to construct, derive, reduce, or define Being in terms of anything other than itself'.

Options A, B, and D are incorrect. The notion of Being, becoming termed as 'undeniable', the knower acquiring the immediate experience of Being, and the dependency of definition on the wits and understanding of the knower, are not the reasons cited by the author for the definition of Being provided by it.

3. (D)

Before answering this query, the reader must carefully absorb the concepts of the passage. The passage begins with the notion of action, then leads to the notion of action and notion of self. Furthermore, what is meant by self is expounded upon in the paragraph. After observing the concepts discussed in it, the reader can understand that option D is the correct answer. In the final



paragraph, the reader can notice that the concept of self is a conscious experience that is undeniable. Option D, on the other hand, claims it to be deniable. Due to its contradictory nature, it should be considered as the answer.

Point of reference: The complete passage.

Options A, B, and C are not the correct answers. The formation of principles of action, the reference point of self, and the doubt concerning identity of self, are all mentioned in the passage.

4. (B)

The solution for the above is apparent in the first paragraph. The reader can notice that the definition of principle is already stated in the closing line of the first paragraph. The definition implies that principle has to come before that which proceeds from it and by the presence of a special connection between the two, the former becomes the principle of the latter. From this understanding, the definition of principle is stated correctly in option B.

Point of reference: Final line, first paragraph.

‘The definition implies two things: that the principle is prior to that which proceeds from it; and there is a special connection between what is called the principle and that which proceeds from it, in virtue of which the former is the principle of the latter’.

Options A, C, and D are incorrect. The coupling of principle and notions as basic evidence, the proceeding of something after principle, and the vagueness of notion being compensated by principle, are not the correct definition of principle as mentioned in the paragraph.

5. (C)

The concept of the identity of the self, or self-identity, comes into light while observing the final paragraph of the passage. The reader can observe that identity is an important reference for the notion of self. It can synthesise past and present and is a piece of information based on personal experience. From this understanding, the correct answer is option C.

Point of reference: Third last line, third paragraph.

‘This identity of the self is why I can synthesise the past and present. But in itself, it remains an unexplained fact, a simple datum of my personal experience. Furthermore, this identity did not always exist, because prior to my birth I did not exist’.

Options A, B, and D are incorrect. The vagueness of self-identity, the definition of Being derived from self-identity, and the non-distinguishable aspect, are not the inferences obtained about self-identity from the third paragraph.

Passage 40

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

We are used to thinking very highly of democracy—and by extension, of Ancient Athens, the civilisation that gave rise to it. The Parthenon has become almost a by-word for democratic values, which is why so many leaders of democracies like to be photographed among its ruins. It’s therefore

very striking to discover that one of Ancient Greece’s great achievements, Philosophy, was highly suspicious of its other achievement, Democracy. In the dialogues of Plato, the founding father of Greek Philosophy—Socrates—is portrayed as hugely pessimistic about the whole business of democracy. In Book Six of The Republic, Plato describes Socrates falling into conversation with a



character called Adeimantus and trying to get him to see the flaws of democracy by comparing a society to a ship. If you were heading out on a journey by sea, asks Socrates, who would you ideally want to decide who was in charge of the vessel? Just anyone or people educated in the rules and demands of seafaring? The latter of course, says Adeimantus, so why then, responds Socrates, do we keep thinking that any old person should be fit to judge who should be a ruler of a country?

Socrates's point is that voting in an election is a skill, not a random intuition. And like any skill, it needs to be taught systematically to people. Letting the citizenry vote without an education is as irresponsible as putting them in charge of a trireme sailing to Samos in a storm. Socrates was to have firsthand, catastrophic experience of the foolishness of voters. In 399 BC, the philosopher was put on trial on trumped up charges of corrupting the youth of Athens. A jury of 500 Athenians was invited to weigh up the case and decided by a narrow margin that the philosopher was guilty. He was put to death by hemlock in a process which is, for thinking people, every bit as tragic as Jesus's condemnation has been for Christians.

Socrates knew how easily people seeking election could exploit our desire for easy answers. He asked us to imagine an election debate between two candidates, one who was like a doctor and the other who was like a sweet shop owner. The sweet shop owner would say of his rival: 'Look, this person here has worked many evils on you. He hurts you, gives you bitter potions and tells you not to eat and drink whatever you like. He will never serve you feasts of many and varied pleasant things like I will'. Socrates asks us to consider the audience response: Do you think the doctor would be able to reply effectively? The true answer—'I cause you trouble, and go against you desires in order to help you' would cause an uproar among the voters. We have forgotten all about

Socrates's salient warnings against democracy. We have preferred to think of democracy as an unambiguous good—rather than a process that is only ever as effective as the education system that surrounds it. As a result, we have elected many sweet shop owners, and very few doctors.

1. What discovery in the works of Plato made it very shocking for the author?
 - (A) The founding father of western philosophy, Socrates, was highly sceptical of democracy.
 - (B) Socrates used the analogy of a ship sailing for Samos to describe the flaw of democracy to Adeimantus.
 - (C) The author was shocked to observe that any older adult was given the right to vote in ancient Greece.
 - (D) Parthenon has been considered by many as a monument for democratic values, but instead, it was a temple dedicated to Athena, who was a popular deity of that time.
2. What happened to Socrates at the end of his life can be termed ironic because:
 - (A) The Athenians, who very much regarded Socrates as an intellectual, had decided that Socrates was guilty.
 - (B) Socrates faced trumped-up charges of corrupting the youth of Athens, which at the time were next to impossible because Socrates' followers were dedicated to him.
 - (C) He was put to death by Hemlock, which first numbs the brain, and then the entire body. It's a bit ironic for a person who always preached 'Think More'.
 - (D) Socrates was the only one to critique Democracy at the time, and this critique of his soon became evident, leading to his death.
3. Why are some of the past and present great leaders, such as Barack Obama,



- Joe Biden, and Theresa May, fond of visiting Athens?
- (A) The ancient Greeks were among the first civilisations which implemented and inspired the world to opt for mass democracy.
- (B) The leaders of all democracies have always shown keen interest in philosophy and go to the place to pay homage to the father of western philosophy, Socrates.
- (C) They like to be photographed alongside the Parthenon, as it stands for democratic values and is symbolic of the faith everyone has in a democracy.
- (D) Philosophers, ancient and contemporary, have always been sceptics of people in power. Through this act, they provide due importance to their critique of them.
4. What inference can be drawn from the analogy of the ship explained by Socrates?
- (A) Socrates wanted Adeimantus to understand the difference between an intellectual democracy and a democracy by birthright.
- (B) Socrates wanted Adeimantus to understand the flaw of democracy and the threat of demagoguery.
- (C) Socrates believed that only a narrow few should be allowed to vote.
- (D) Socrates explained to Adeimantus that seafarers were ill-equipped to decide the country's ruler.
5. Why did the author claim by the end of the passage that people have elected many sweet shop owners and very few doctors?
- (A) To cement Socrates' point about the failures of democracy that people are lured and exploited very easily by the hidden promises of election candidates.
- (B) To explain to the reader that people are genuinely afraid of doctors and are easily persuaded by sugary treats.
- (C) To rethink that democracy is not the unambiguous good that the education system so whole-heartedly propagates.
- (D) To clear the image of the doctor, whose methods on the surface always inspire dread and horror to the onlooker.

Solutions

1. (A)

To appropriately understand what the author found to be most striking or shocking is evident in the third line of the first paragraph. It is stated that the crowning achievement of Ancient Greece was highly doubtful of its other achievement. In other words, philosophy was doubtful of democracy. This becomes even clearer when the writer states the conversation in book 6 of *The Republic* between Socrates and Adeimantus. After this observation, the only option that closely resembles the author's thought is

option A where it is stated that Socrates was doubtful regarding the matter of democracy. Therefore, the correct answer is option A.

Point of reference: Third line, first paragraph.

'It's therefore very striking to discover that one of Ancient Greece's great achievements, Philosophy, was highly suspicious of its other achievement, Democracy'.

Options B, C, and D are inaccurate explanations. The analogy of the ship for



Adeimantus, any older adult being given the right to vote, and the misrepresentation of the Parthenon are not the points that shocked the author.

2. (D)

Ironic, by definition, refers to an incident or event happening in an opposite way to what is generally expected. Sometimes, some humour can be found in such occurrences. The ironic aspect that the query wants the reader to understand comes in the second paragraph. In the second paragraph, specifically in the third line, the reader can understand that though Socrates critiqued democracy for the disregard of intellect involved in the process, he met his ultimate demise by the same foolishness he so much critiqued. The charges on Socrates, though serious, were trumped up, and as a result, by a narrow margin, he was declared guilty. The ironic part is implicit for the reader to pick up, but it can be understood extremely well through a clear understanding of the concept. From this analysis, the ironic part involved in Socrates' death is conveyed by option D.

Point of reference: Third line, second paragraph.

'Socrates was to have firsthand, catastrophic experience of the foolishness of voters'.

Options A, B, and C are incorrect. The regard Athenians had for Socrates, the trumped up charges placed on Socrates, and his death by hemlock are not the reasons why the writer finds the death of Socrates ironic.

3. (C)

The solution to this becomes apparent in the opening lines of the passage. The main reason why great leaders of large democracies like to visit Athens is to get their photographs alongside the

Parthenon. It is not just some knock-about stuff or merely artistic value of the historical monument. But instead, the Parthenon is symbolic. It stands for democratic values, and the unambiguous good that democracy has come to be known for. So, the picture of the leaders along with the Parthenon is symbolic of their faith in democracy and belief in the unambiguous good that comes with it. From this analysis, the correct answer is option C.

Point of reference: Second line, first paragraph.

'The Parthenon has become almost a byword for democratic values, which is why so many leaders of democracies like to be photographed among its ruins'.

Options A, B, and D can be discarded. The first civilisation to implement democracy, the interest of the leaders in philosophy, and the critique of the philosophers on the people in power are not mentioned in the passage. As a result, these options are irrelevant to the question above, making them wrong answers.

4. (A)

The inference drawn from the analogy of ship can be understood by reading the entire conversation between Socrates and Adeimantus in the closing line of the first paragraph and the explanation provided by the author in the second paragraph. The analogy explains that through better reasoning, one would demand that the selection process involved in the recruitment of the captain of the vessel should be done by people who are experienced and skilled in the demands of seafaring. Applying the same concept to how an election works, Socrates believed that voting in an election is a skill. And just like any skill, it should be taught systematically to people. Socrates expressed concern that the current system of democracy allows



anyone to take part in democracy without even being properly educated about the demands of a country. Socrates wanted that only people who were properly skilled and educated in politics and the demands of society should be allowed to vote. From this understanding, it can be said that through the analogy of the ship, Socrates wanted to explain Adeimantus, the difference between an intellectual democracy and democracy by birth right. The correct solution is option A.

Point of reference: The fifth line of the first paragraph and the first line of the second paragraph.

‘In Book Six of The Republic, Plato describes Socrates falling into conversation with a character called Adeimantus and trying to get him to see the flaws of democracy by comparing a society to a ship. If you were heading out on a journey by sea, asks Socrates, who would you ideally want to decide who was in charge of the vessel? Just anyone or people educated in the rules and demands of seafaring? The latter of course, says Adeimantus, so why then, responds Socrates, do we keep thinking that any old person should be fit to judge who should be a ruler of a country?’

Socrates’s point is that voting in an election is a skill, not a random intuition. And like any skill, it needs to be taught systematically to people. Letting the citizenry vote without an education is as irresponsible as putting them in charge of a trireme sailing to Samos in a storm’.

Options B, C, and D are to be discarded. The flaw of democracy and threat of demagoguery, the belief that only a

narrow few should be allowed to vote and the ill-equipped nature of seafarers to take part in democracy are not the inferences to be obtained from the analogy of the ship.

5. (A)

The complete passage has been not only showing Socrates’ view on democracy, but his critique as well. It can be said, though cautiously, that Socrates tried to warn every one of the failures of Democracy. He understood quite well how people are easily lulled and exploited by people seeking power, by giving false promises and easy solutions. The conversation shared between the sweet shop owner and the doctor is evident of this ideology. It can be said with confidence, that the purpose of the author claiming the election of many sweet shop owners, is conveyed clearly and perfectly in option A.

Point of reference: The complete passage and the third last line of the final paragraph.

‘We have forgotten all about Socrates’s salient warnings against democracy. We have preferred to think of democracy as an unambiguous good—rather than a process that is only ever as effective as the education system that surrounds it. As a result, we have elected many sweet shop owners, and very few doctors’.

Options B, C, and D can be discarded. The comfort offered by sugary treats, the reconsideration of democracy as the unambiguous good, and white washing the image of the doctors are not the intentions that the author had for this particular ending.



Passage 41

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

A monkey with superhuman strength and supernatural combat skills always carries with him a sacred sceptre and can walk on clouds. He is also able to change his appearance. His only weakness? His tail. Sounds familiar? Although this might sound like the description of a very popular cartoon character (Goku), this is the description of an ancient Chinese legend, thousands of years old, the archetype of a hero that has been adapted and adopted by many cultures and that has served as the inspiration for novels, plays, manga, anime, and video games: Sun Wukong. Sun Wukong is the main character in the Chinese literature classic, *Journey to the West*, which follows the adventures and hardships faced by Buddhist monk Xuanzang in his long journey to India, a pilgrimage made in search for illumination and to recover the sutras (sacred texts in the Buddhist tradition) to bring them back to China. Throughout his journey, Xuanzang is provided with three protectors: a demon who has natural abilities in water combat (Sha Sheng), a pig (Zhu Wuneng), and Sun Wukong, a monkey.

The original version of this anonymous story dates back to the 16th century and has a hundred chapters, with the first seven exploring Sun Wukong's background, when he was known as the King Monkey. His origin is supernatural, and the story explains how this monkey learns from his master; his abilities go from shapeshifting to becoming immortal. Along his journey, Sun Wukong acquires a sceptre that gives him the ability to shapeshift as well as other abilities, like controlling the fur on his body and transforming into objects or living beings and walking on clouds. After facing several Chinese gods and defeating them, The King Monkey challenged the Jade Emperor, the ruler of the heavens and maximum authority in the Chinese pantheon. For this, he was locked up by Buddha

himself for a period of 500 years, until he offered himself as Xuanzang's servant in exchange for his freedom.

It is no coincidence that Goku –the main character in *Dragon Ball*, a manga created by Akira Toriyama, one of the industry's living legends– and Sun Wukong share so many common traits. Both stories include some iconic symbols and an unstoppable search for an object that gives meaning to the journey, as well as superhuman abilities and a kinship with monkeys. However, as the manga and the TV series became more and more popular, the story of Goku diverted from the original, and little by little, it strayed from the story in '*Journey to The West*'; but in order to understand the origin of the Goku, you definitely need to go back to Sun Wukong.

1. How did Sun Wukong earn his freedom?
 - (A) Sun Wukong, with his abilities, was able to shapeshift into a fly-like creature to escape the prison.
 - (B) By accepting servitude under Xuanzang, Sun Wukong earned his freedom.
 - (C) As a reward for challenging the ruler of the Chinese pantheon, Buddha awarded Sun Wukong his freedom.
 - (D) By virtue of being King Monkey, Sun Wukong denied all allegations that could place him under shackles.
2. Why does the author advise 'need to go back to Sun Wukong' at the end of the passage?
 - (A) Dragonball is a popular franchise on a global level. To fully understand its inspiration, one needs to refer to *Journey to the West*.
 - (B) *Journey to the West* is a well-known work of mythology from China; it provides a window of understanding Chinese culture.
 - (C) To write good stories that touch the hearts and souls of millions globally,



- Sun Wukong is surely an inspiration for an aspiring manga writer.
- (D) To fully understand the sutras of Buddha, one needs to study Journey to the West.
3. Journey to the West has been influential for most of pop-culture. Which of the following captures this assertion perfectly?
- (A) The titular character Sun Wukong embarks on a journey to recover some artifact, which is a common trope for literary works.
- (B) The archetype of protection provided by demons or runes is a common theme of advancement in video games.
- (C) The protagonist having superhuman strength and indulging in supernatural combats is observed mostly in the superhero genre. For instance: Superman.
- (D) The stereotype of how the protagonist should be, the journey undertaken, and the trials and tribulations encountered have been adopted in popular works of fiction.
4. What will the author of the passage advise to any aspiring Mangaka (Manga Creator)?
- (A) The story of Dragonball and its protagonist's journey from childhood to adulthood are the pinnacle of storytelling.
- (B) Stories that utilise characters of divinity make for fascinating concepts to be introduced, making each story unique.
- (C) The sutras of Buddha comprise brilliant stories of Buddha, which can act as inspiration for any aspirant to make their name.
- (D) Journey to the West has been influential in many popular stories. The chronicles are a pinnacle in character development and plotlines.
5. The writer would agree with all the following, except:
- (A) The great works of Chinese literature are not to be ignored because they contain a substantial amount of content to take inspiration from.
- (B) Every form of story and media evolves with time to avoid stultification.
- (C) Son Wukong was hesitant to help Xuanzang along his journey to recover the scrolls.
- (D) Akira Toriyama took heavy inspiration from Journey to the West to form the story of Dragonball.

Solutions

1. (B)

On a closer observation of the second paragraph, the reader can observe that Sun Wukong was earlier known as King Monkey. Along his journey, Sun Wukong acquired various abilities such as shape shifting and walking on clouds. Boastful of his feat of defeating numerous Chinese gods, Sun Wukong challenged the Jade Emperor. As a result of such defiance, Wukong was locked up for 500 years. It was only under the exchange of becoming Xuanzang's

servant that Wukong finally earned his freedom.

In light of this, the correct answer is option B.

Point of reference: Last line, second paragraph.

'For this, he was locked up by Buddha himself for 500 years, until he offered himself as Xuanzang's servant in exchange for his freedom'.

Options A, C, and D are wrong choices. The ability to shapeshift, the reward for



challenging the Jade Emperor, and the virtue of being King Monkey are not the correct descriptions of how Sun Wukong earned his freedom.

2. (A)

The reason why the author advises the reader to go back to Sun Wukong is apparent in the final paragraph of the passage. In the final line, it can be observed that to understand the origin of Goku properly, one needs to go back to Sun Wukong. With this clarity of the author's intention, the appropriate solution is option A. This option only resonates with the true purpose of the author.

Point of reference: Final line, final paragraph.

'However, as the manga and the TV series became more and more popular, the story of Goku diverted from the original, and little by little, it strayed from the story in 'Journey to The West'; but to understand the origin of the Goku, you need to go back to Sun Wukong'.

Options B, C, and D are inaccurate. The window of cultural understanding provided by Journey to the West, Sun Wukong becoming an inspiration for aspiring manga writers, and the complete understanding of Buddha's sutras are not why the author advises referring to Sun Wukong.

3. (D)

Journey to the West has been influential for many famous works of pop culture. This is evident in the first paragraph. In the first paragraph, the reader can observe that the influence Journey to the West's protagonist had on protagonist characterisation has been stated. The author further explains this by mentioning various forms of media where this particular influence of Sun Wukong can be observed.

From this analysis, option D appropriately captures the above assertion.

Point of reference: Third line, first paragraph

'Although this might sound like the description of a very popular cartoon character (Goku), this is the description of an ancient Chinese legend, thousands of years old, the archetype of a hero that has been adapted and adopted by many cultures and that has served as the inspiration for novels, plays, manga, anime, and video games: Sun Wukong'.

Options A, B, and C are incorrect choices. The embarkment of the hero's journey, the protection by allies, and the indulgence of supernatural combats involving characters of superhuman strength are not the particular influence of the story of Sun Wukong in popular culture.

4. (D)

The reader needs to have a complete and thorough understanding of the passage to answer this appropriately. From this understanding, the reader can understand the mindset of the author. Throughout the complete passage, the author has been vocal about Sun Wukong's influence on popular works of fiction. The author is very likely to recommend Journey to the West to any aspiring mangaka.

Point of reference: The complete passage.

Options A, B, and C are to be rejected. Dragonball and its protagonist, the characters of divinity, and the sutras containing the teachings of Buddha will not be advised by the author to any aspiring creator.

5. (C)

To answer this query appropriately, the reader must understand the concepts introduced in the passage. Only from



that one can understand the correct answer to this. From this understanding, the correct answer is C. Notice that all the points mentioned in options A, B, and D are present in the passage. However,

option C is contradictory to what is stated in the passage. There is no mention of Sun Wukong being reluctant to help Xuanzang on his journey.

Point of reference: The complete passage.

Passage 42

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

Western metaphysics has the most diverse and complicated development among the three traditions (Indian, Chinese, and Western). In the West, one system grew out of another, as development, criticism, or both. Because of the Greek legacy of free thought rooted in the purely rational and human approach to various problems, every metaphysician in the West developed a somewhat distinct standpoint and system, thereby contributing to the total understanding of reality. Like every other metaphysical tradition in the world, Greek metaphysics grew out of religion. This development is generally divided into two periods: the pre-Socratic and the post-Socratic. Some scholars consider the former period as more important; for it was more scientific in that the philosophers adopted a kind of naturalistic or even mechanistic view of reality, treating the source of reality as water, air, fire, atoms, etc., and thus laid the foundation of science and metaphysics, while the latter period introduced much confusion into thought by mixing the ethical and religious problems with the scientific and metaphysical. We can undoubtedly trace the early travails of sound metaphysics in Heraclitus, a prominent pre-Socratic.

For Heraclitus, the fundamental thought is that the universe is in a state of ceaseless change. 'One cannot step twice into the same river', for other waters are ever flowing on. To signalise the notion of continued

activity, Heraclitus chooses the ever-living fire which is the vital principle in the organism and the essence of the soul, as his first principle. The fire of Heraclitus is not the abiding substratum of his predecessors, but that which is constantly being transformed into other things. It changes into water and then into earth, and the earth changes back again into water and fire. Things seem to be permanent because we do not perceive the incessant movements in them. Everything is changed into its opposite and everything, therefore, is a union of opposites. Nothing remains permanent by virtue of its qualities. Everything both is and is not. This view is opposed by Parmenides who interprets reality to be permanent without any change.

Parmenides, the metaphysician of the Eleatic school, challenges Heraclitus' teaching that everything changes, that fire becomes water, and water earth, and earth fire, that things first are and then are not. How can a thing both be and not be? How can anyone think such a contradiction? To say that it can, is to say that something is, and something is not. Or if Being has become, it must either have come from non-Being or from Being. If from non-Being, it has come from nothing, which is impossible; if from Being, then it has come from itself and is identical with itself, and thus has always been. Then, it is evident that from Being only being can come; that whatever is, always has been and always will be; that everything remains what it is. Hence, there can be only one eternal, unchangeable Being. All change is



inconceivable, and the world of sense is an illusion. These diametrically opposed views of Heraclitus and Parmenides find a sort of reconciliation in Plato for whom particulars may come and go, but the Idea or Form goes on forever. Humans may come and go, but the human-type is eternal.

1. What was the striking feature of pre-Socratic and post-Socratic periods?
 - (A) Pre-Socratic has been cited by many as highly important and post-Socratic as an era marred by confusion.
 - (B) The Pre-Socratic period allowed for progress, whereas the post-Socratic period caused the stultification of science.
 - (C) Pre-Socratic created the foundation of science, and the post-Socratic caused confusion by introducing and entwining problems of ethics and religion with metaphysics.
 - (D) The era of pre-Socratic was an era of sound metaphysics, while the latter was not so much.
2. Based on your reading of the second paragraph, all the following points are important insights of Heraclitus, except:
 - (A) The analogy of stepping into the river is an adequate response to explain the ever-changing aspect of the universe.
 - (B) The qualities through which the permanence of any substance is described are subject to evolution.
 - (C) Earth, water, and fire are involved in a constant cycle; they evolve into one another, which may or may not be the opposite of it.
 - (D) Change is permanent; however, it can end when the state of Eudaimonia or fulfilment is achieved.
3. Though the evolution of western metaphysics is complicated, it is a

totalitarian understanding of actuality because:

- (A) The thinkers poorly understood the subject matter and were not great past-masters of the concepts.
 - (B) The progress of Judeo-Christian ideals, diverted away from the platonic view of metaphysics and hence included a religious aspect of it.
 - (C) The western free-thinking allowed criticism and development simultaneously, making way for a multitude of thinking.
 - (D) The Indian and oriental thinkers mostly trekked along the same pathway of ideas, which the ancient Greeks did not replicate.
4. How did Parmenides differ from Heraclitus?
 - (A) Parmenides believed that fire cannot become water, since both act as the opposite of each other.
 - (B) Parmenides challenged the notion of 'everything changes' by stating how an object can exist and simultaneously not exist.
 - (C) Parmenides stated that beings come from non-Being.
 - (D) Parmenides reconciled with the platonic idea concerning the form of the objects.
 5. The concept of fire as presented by Heraclitus was different because:
 - (A) The thinkers before Heraclitus considered fire to be important only for building purposes.
 - (B) It falls in line with the theory of Heraclitus, which advocated the ever-changing nature of elements.
 - (C) It found reconciliation with the theory of forms, coined by Plato.
 - (D) It came from the concept that regarded the world of senses (empiricism) as deceiving.



Solutions

1. (C)

The particular feature of the pre-Socratic and post-Socratic eras becomes evident in reading the first paragraph. In the second last line of the paragraph, the reader can observe what historians have cited as the most prominent feature of both the respective eras. Out of the given alternatives, only option C is suited to cover both eras' most noted features.

Point of reference: Second last line, first paragraph.

'There are some scholars who consider the former period as more important; for it was more scientific in that the philosophers adopted a kind of naturalistic or even mechanistic view of reality, treating the source of reality as water, air, fire, atoms, etc., and thus laid the foundation of science and metaphysics, while the latter period introduced much confusion into thought by mixing the ethical and religious problems with the scientific and metaphysical'.

Options A, B, and D are incorrect. The era of confusion, the progress and stultification of science, and the era of sound metaphysics are all present in the passage as the notable feature of both eras. But these alternatives do not describe the notable feature in both of them with complete efficacy.

2. (D)

Before answering this query, the reader must carefully absorb the concepts of the paragraph. The paragraph is mostly concerned with the views of Heraclitus, and the question demands that the insight, which is not mentioned in the paragraph, should be selected as the solution.

After observation of the concepts discussed in it, the reader can understand

that option D is the correct answer. Change and the permanency of this concept alone is apparent in most of Heraclitus' outlook on the world, but the state and concept of Eudaimonia is not discussed in the paragraph.

Point of reference: The complete passage.

Options A, B, and C are not the correct answers. The analogy of stepping into the river, the permanence of any subject, and the involvement of Earth, water, and air in a constant cycle are all mentioned in the focus paragraph.

3. (C)

The solution for the above is apparent in the first paragraph. In the third line, the author explained that it was due to the Greek legacy that encouraged free thought; every metaphysician of the West developed a distinct standpoint and system; though it did make it complicated due to the existence of an approach that allowed various understandings and contributed to the total understanding of reality.

Point of reference: Third line, first paragraph.

'Because of the Greek legacy of free thought rooted in the purely rational and human approach to various problems, every metaphysician in the West developed a somewhat distinct standpoint and system, thereby contributing to the total understanding of reality'.

Options A, B, and D are incorrect. The poor understanding of the subject matter, the progress of Judeo-Christian ideals, and the similarity of mindsets among the Indian and Oriental thinkers are not the appropriate solutions to the question above.



4. (B)

To understand how Parmenides contradicts Heraclitus, the reader must absorb the concept of Heraclitus from the second paragraph and the thought of Heraclitus from the third. From this understanding, one can appropriately provide the solution. Heraclitus' main teaching has been to explain the ever-changing nature of substances or elements to the ancient Greeks. Parmenides, however, suggested that not everything changes, and there has to be an unchangeable aspect of objects. From this understanding, the correct answer is option B.

Point of reference: The complete second and third paragraphs.

Options A, C, and D are incorrect. These points are inadequate to explain how Parmenides contradicted Heraclitus.

5. (B)

As presented by Heraclitus, the concept of fire was different from the rest because its true nature very much fell in line with Heraclitus' ever changing and evolving components of the world. It can be said with certainty that option B is the correct answer.

Point of reference: Fourth line, second paragraph.

'The fire of Heraclitus is not the abiding substratum of his predecessors, but that which is constantly being transformed into other things'.

Options A, C, and D are incorrect. The importance of fire for building purposes, the reconciliation with the theory of Plato, and the deceiving nature of empiricist methods are not the correct answers.

Passage 43

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

There is nothing wrong with self-pity. As a spur to songwriting, it's right up there with lust, anger and greed, and probably better than the remaining deadly sins. There's nothing wrong with striving for musical grandeur, using every bit of skill and studio illusion to create a sound large enough to get lost in. Male sensitivity, a quality that's under siege in a pop culture full of unrepentant bullying and machismo, shouldn't be dismissed out of hand, no matter how risible it can be in practice. And building a sound on the lessons of past bands is virtually unavoidable. But put them all together repeatedly and they add up to Coldplay, the most insufferable band of the decade.

This week Coldplay releases its painstakingly recorded third album, 'X&Y' (Capitol), a virtually sure-fire blockbuster that has corporate fortunes riding on it. In the past, the stock price plunged for EMI Group, Capitol's

parent company, when Coldplay announced that the album's release date would be moved from February to June, as it continued to rework the songs. 'X&Y' is the work of a band that's acutely conscious of the worldwide popularity it cemented with its 2002 album, 'A Rush of Blood to the Head', which has sold three million copies in the United States alone. Along with its 2000 debut album, 'Parachutes', Coldplay claims sales of 20 million albums worldwide. 'X&Y' makes no secret of grand ambition. Clearly, Coldplay is beloved: by moony high school girls and their solace-seeking parents, hip-hop producers who sample its rich instrumental sounds, and emo rockers who admire Chris Martin's heart-on-sleeve lyrics. The band emanates good intentions, from Mr. Martin's (lead singer) political statements to lyrics insisting on its benevolence. Coldplay is admired by everyone, except me.

It's not for lack of skill. The band professes melodies as imposing as Romanesque



architecture, solid and symmetrical. Mr. Martin on keyboards, Jonny Buckland on guitar, Guy Berryman on bass, and Will Champion on drums have mastered all the mechanics of pop song writing, from the instrumental hook that announces nearly every song they've recorded to the reassurance of a chorus to the revitalizing contrast of a bridge. Their arrangements ascend and surge, measuring out the song's yearning and tension, cresting and easing back, and then moving towards a chiming resolution. Coldplay is meticulously unified, and its songs have been rigorously cleared of anything that distracts from the musical drama.

Unfortunately, all that sonic splendour orchestrates Mr. Martin's voice and lyrics. He places his melodies near the top of his range to sound more fragile, so the tunes straddle the break between his radiant tenor voice and his falsetto. As he hops between them—in what may be Coldplay's most annoying tic—he makes a sound between a yodel and a hiccup. And the lyrics make me wish I didn't understand English. Coldplay's countless fans seem to take comfort when Mr. Martin sings lines like, 'Is there anybody out there who/Is lost and hurt and lonely too,' while a strummed acoustic guitar telegraphs his aching sincerity. Me, I hear a passive-aggressive blowhard, immoderately proud as he flaunts humility. 'I feel low,' he announces in the chorus of 'Low,' belied by the peak of a crescendo that couldn't be more triumphant about it.

1. The album 'X&Y' has a lot of financial ambition riding on it because:
 - (A) The Capitol and EMI groups expect to recover from the capital loss due to postponing the album's release schedule.
 - (B) Since Coldplay is loved by many high-schoolers, their songs are highly relatable to the larger demographic, which can be capitalised on with ease.

- (C) With the release of this album, Coldplay claims that the album would sell 20 million albums worldwide.
 - (D) Given the past performance of Coldplay, the production budget is very high for their upcoming album 'X&Y'.

2. Which of the following is the author's biggest qualm for the band Coldplay?
 - (A) The symphony and melodies are akin to Roman architecture, which is not understood by many.
 - (B) All the band members are not skilled at musical instruments, which makes their song hit or miss.
 - (C) The tone of the songs ascends and surges rhythmically, making it very difficult to follow along with the tone of the song.
 - (D) The beautiful background music only tries to glorify the voice and lyrics of the lead singer, and its placement is purposefully done to make him sound more fragile.
3. What is the author's view on the song-writing style and topics of Coldplay?
 - (A) Male sensitivity is a topic not used by many to write songs, which makes Coldplay stand out from the rest of the bunch.
 - (B) Coldplay gains notoriety among its fans simply because they touch on ludicrous topics.
 - (C) Despondence, symphonic appearance, and risible topics are highly welcomed, but Coldplay's sustained application of the above has made their music stultified.
 - (D) Coldplay is a band that continuously strives to improve on its past mistakes to create new and better music.
4. Why has the author used the word 'Painstakingly' for the album X&Y, though he is not a fan of Coldplay?



- (A) To signify the corporate and financial pressure faced by Coldplay for the album.
 - (B) To make the reader understand the turmoil that came accompanied by incorporating the lead singer's political statements.
 - (C) To make the reader realise the struggles faced by the band, to rework the song and long strenuous hours put in by them.
 - (D) To make the reader aware of what all went behind the album's release, as the band had to rework the songs and the financiers too were breathing down their neck.
5. Based on your reading, which of the following summarises the author's view on the band Coldplay in its entirety?
- (A) Coldplay as a band has outmoded its relevance by the repeated style of music creation.
 - (B) Coldplay is a band with high potential that comes in the form of its background music. Its lyrics, though, have a lot of room for improvement.
 - (C) Coldplay, on a commercial scale, can perform very well because its track record has been nothing short of phenomenal.
 - (D) Coldplay is liked by many teenagers and hip-hop producers who sample the instrumental sounds and emo-rockers only.

Solutions

1. (A)

The reason why the album 'X&Y' has huge financial ambitions riding on it is evident in the second line of the second paragraph. In the second line, it is stated that in the past, the stock price of the EMI group had plunged when the band had announced that they would be re-working on the songs, which led to the delay of the release date. It is implicit that the EMI group would be looking to recover their financial losses. Due to this analysis, the correct reason behind the EMI group's huge financial ambitions placed on the album 'X&Y' is appropriately conveyed in option A.

Point of reference: Second line, second paragraph.

'In the past, the stock price plunged for EMI Group, Capitol's parent company, when Coldplay announced that the album's release date would be moved from February to June, as it continued to rework the songs'.

Options B, C, and D are the wrong choices. The relatability of Coldplay with the teen demographic, the sales estimation provided by Coldplay, and the production budget of the album (which is not mentioned in the paragraph), are not the correct reasons to explain the huge financial ambitions riding on Coldplay's album 'X&Y'.

2. (D)

One of the author's most obvious qualms with Coldplay becomes crystal clear to the reader in the final paragraph. The author has dedicated an entire paragraph by stating his biggest complaint on how the lead singer of the band (Mr. Martin), sings and places his tones to sound more fragile. It can be said that the author is not a fan of this placement. The correct answer is option D.

Point of reference: The complete third paragraph.

Options A, B, and C are to be rejected. The similarity of the symphony to



the grandeur of Roman architecture, the band members not being skilled at musical instruments and the tone of the songs, do not contain the author's complaint.

3. (C)

The solution for the above is apparent in the first paragraph. Though the entire passage can be stated as the author's outlook on the songwriting style of Coldplay, and the topics prevailing in their songs is discussed in the first paragraph. In the first paragraph, the author has stated that the topics which range from self-pity to musical grandeur and then arriving at risible topics. The author concluded this listing, by adding that the repeated nature of such topics makes Coldplay the hardest to bear band of the decade.

Hence, the correct answer is option C.

Point of reference: The first paragraph.

Options A, B, and D are incomplete choices. Topics such as male sensitivity, the gaining of notoriety by dealing with such topics, and the creation of new and better music from past mistakes are not the alternatives to adequately sum up the author's views on the songwriting style of Coldplay.

4. (D)

Painstakingly by definition, is generally used to describe the care, thoroughness, dedication, and hard work behind a final product. With this definition in mind, the reader can observe that Coldplay faced difficulties before the release of the album. They had to rework their songs to match their artistic vision; they also faced pressure from the corporates who had incurred a loss in stock prices by the band's announcement to do so. The alternative

that can cover the predicament faced by the band before the album's release is covered in option D.

Point of reference: First line, second paragraph.

'This week Coldplay releases its painstakingly recorded third album, 'X&Y' (Capitol), a virtually sure-fire blockbuster with corporate fortunes riding on it. In the past, the stock price plunged for EMI Group, Capitol's parent company, when Coldplay announced that the album's release date would be moved from February to June, as it continued to rework the songs'.

Options A, B, and C are inaccurate. The corporate and financial pressure, the turmoil pursued by incorporating the lead singer's political statements, and the long durations taken by the band to rework the songs do not completely explain why the author used the word 'Painstakingly' for the album 'X&Y'.

5. (B)

On reading the entire passage, the reader can understand that the author's view is pretty much neutral. Though he is not a fan of the band, he simultaneously outlines both the positive and negative features of the music created by the band. This observation makes the above view evident. The only alternative that can summarise the overarching view of the author comes in option B. Notice that the points admired and critiqued by the author are stated in them.

Point of reference: The complete passage.

Options A, C, and D are not to be considered as the answer. The repeated style of music created by Coldplay, the band's track record, and the band's popularity among teenagers and hip-hop producers do not present the author's view.



Passage 44

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

The idea or The Form comprehends or holds together the essential qualities common to many particulars. The essence of things consists in their universal forms. The ideas or forms are not mere thoughts in the minds of humans or even in the mind of God (the divine thought is itself directed towards them). Plato conceives them as existing in and for themselves, possessing substantiality, i.e., they are substances, real or substantial forms, the original, eternal transcendent archetypes of things, existing before things and apart from them, and thus uninfluenced by the changes to which they are subject. The particular objects of perception are imperfect copies or reflections of the eternal patterns. Particulars may come and go, but the idea or form goes on forever. Humans may come and go, but the human-type is eternal. The human mind is meant for the world of Ideas, and it transcends sense reality towards the super sensible. For Aristotle, metaphysics is not only the science of the super sensible but of the sensible too, insofar as the sensible is.

Aristotle himself never called 'metaphysics' by that name, which was conferred by later thinkers. Aristotle called metaphysics by at least three different names: Sophia, protei philosophia, and theologikei (wisdom, first philosophy, and theology). Nonetheless, the subsequent use of the title Metaphysics makes it reasonable to suppose that what we call metaphysics is substantially the sort of thing done in that treatise. Sophia is explained as the knowledge concerning most noble things. It is a kind of theoretical knowledge of necessary and eternal being, both intuitive and inferential. At the beginning of his Metaphysics, there is a discussion about the kinds and stages of knowledge: Human knowledge originates from sensation and develops gradually into

memory, experience, and art. In this development Sophia is the highest scientific knowledge and deals with the principles or causes of things. A person who is called Sophos possesses the following characteristics: Sophos knows everything (though not in detail); the most difficult things, what is most exact, what best explains how things happen, things for their own sake, and for what end everything is done. Also, the objects of Sophia are principles and causes. The good and the end are its special form. It is knowledge for its own sake without any utilitarian interest. It is knowledge suitable for those who live free and independent lives. Such knowledge is more suitable for the gods than for humankind. It is divine on account of two reasons: first, God is the cause of everything and is the first principle with which this science is concerned; second, either God alone or God above all can have such knowledge, i.e., God is both object and subject of Sophia.

Sophia, just mentioned above, means philosophy proper rather than science in general. The already enumerated characteristics seem to be common to all philosophical sciences. However, from the last-mentioned divine character of its object and subject, Sophia is limited to the first philosophy. For him, metaphysics is the First Philosophy that deals with the Unmoved Mover. The Unmoved Mover is the first being or first substance. As the Unmoved Mover is the first, the philosophy which deals with this kind of being is the First Philosophy. Since the first being is God, who is studied in the first philosophy, it is also called theology. In other words, according to Aristotle, metaphysics is the first philosophy and the science of being as being. It is the science of substance, especially of the first substance, of the First Cause, which is immovable, eternal, independent, and without matter, i.e., God. Thus, first philosophy or ontology is at the same time theology. The object of metaphysics is all beings—visible



and invisible. It investigates all beings in so far as they are beings—the totality of beings, and all particular domains of beings. The Aristotelian numbering of God among the items it characterises is overcome by Augustine, who gives God the first place in his metaphysics.

1. Based on your reading, which of the following can be used by the author to explain the concept of Forms to the learner?
 - (A) Love is a metaphysical concept; it cannot be defined but allows the couple in love to change themselves for the better.
 - (B) Thoughts cannot be quantified. Hence, they should not be based on a measure to explain any object.
 - (C) Concepts like Goodness are Forms, and individual objects like a good person are the resident of the physical realm and different examples of the Forms.
 - (D) None of the above. The writer would ask the learner to refer to Aristotle's First Philosophy to understand this concept.
2. Why is it mentioned that the knowledge acquired by Sophos is more suitable for the gods than for humankind?
 - (A) The Sophos know everything and humankind does not need to know everything.
 - (B) The knowledge of Sophos is self-centred and more dependent on self-discovery; as a result, it cannot be capitalised.
 - (C) It is the knowledge suited mostly for those who live free or dangerously. So dangerous that they choose to build homes on the slopes of mountains.
 - (D) It is divinely by nature because God is the prime cause of everything and God is both the subject and object of Sophia.
3. What do you understand about objects of perception as imperfect copies?
 - (A) Plato's concept of The Forms consists of things in their universal form.
 - (B) The perception of objects can be deceiving since they do not comprise the true essence of the object.
 - (C) The idea of The Forms does not apply to human beings since the human-type is eternal.
 - (D) The human mind is limited by its perception of the objects and considers the imperfect copies only.
4. All the following are mentioned in the second paragraph, except:
 - (A) The term 'metaphysics' was not coined by Aristotle since he referred to this particular branch of study as first philosophy.
 - (B) The study pertaining to Sophia and the knowledge of Sophos is suited for everyone.
 - (C) All sources of human knowledge come from sensation and, through repetition, develop into memory, experience, and art.
 - (D) God is the cause of everything and is the only one that contains all knowledge; this is the prima facie of metaphysics.
5. What inference can be drawn about Aristotle from the final paragraph of the passage?
 - (A) The object of metaphysics, as per Aristotle, covers all beings, visible and invisible.
 - (B) Aristotle wanted to term metaphysics as 'theology' alone because it dealt with the unmoved mover.
 - (C) Since Aristotle believed in the Unmoved mover, the First Philosophy can be termed the bridge that can reconcile religion and science.
 - (D) God is the only focal point of subject and object in Aristotle's metaphysics.



Solutions

1. (C)

The first paragraph explains the concept of the Forms. The reader can understand from the explanation that it is connected to the earliest agreed upon explanation of, assessing absolute reality of objects, because it not only incorporates the essence of the objects, but also the physical aspects of it, which are only observed by human senses of perception. Therefore, the correct answer is option C.

Point of reference: The complete first paragraph.

Options A, B, and D are incorrect. The metaphysical concept of Love that allows reformation in the couple who is in love, the non-quantification of thoughts, and the reference to Aristotle's first philosophy are not the instances that will be shared by the author to provide clarity to the reader.

2. (D)

The reason behind this assertion comes forth in the second paragraph. In the closing lines of it, the author states some characteristics about Sophos and why it is suited for gods rather than for humankind. The first principle considers God as the cause of everything and is the first principle, and only God alone can have such knowledge. From this reason, it can be stated that the correct answer is option D.

Point of reference: Second last line, second paragraph.

'Such knowledge is more suitable for the gods than for humankind. It is divine on account of two reasons: first, God is the cause of everything and is the first principle with which this science is concerned; second, either God alone or God above all can have such knowledge,

i.e., God is both object and subject of Sophia'.

Options A, B, and C are not the correct answers. The knowledge of everything by Sophos, the very nature of knowledge acquired by Sophos, and the suitability of said knowledge, are not the reasons why the author claims the knowledge of Sophos to be suitable for gods.

3. (B)

The idea of The Form (as coined by Plato), delves into the transcendental aspects of objects. Any object contains both material and formal aspects. The perception or the human perception of any object is limited by the human senses. But, the Form or the essence of the object is eternal, which is not visible to human senses. It can be said with surety, that the perception of the objects only describes the imperfect copies of the eternal pattern. Hence, the perception is deceiving as it does not contain or describe the true essence of the object. Hence, option B is the correct answer.

Point of reference: Fourth last line, first paragraph.

'The particular objects of perception are imperfect copies or reflections of eternal patterns'.

Options A, C, and D are incorrect. Plato's concept of the Forms, the non-applicability of it on Humans, and the limitation of the human mind by perception of the objects are not the true understanding a person can have from the phrase 'perception of objects are imperfect copies'.

4. (B)

The solution for the query above, becomes clear on closely observing the second paragraph. On closer observation of it, the person can discover what all points are mentioned in it, and



what is not. The suitability of knowledge acquired by Sophos being suited for everyone is the only point which is not observed in the paragraph. Thus, the correct answer is option B.

Point of reference: The complete second paragraph.

Options A, C, and D are incorrect. The coining of the term ‘metaphysics’, all sources of human knowledge coming from sensation and God being the cause of everything are all the points which are mentioned in the paragraph.

5. (C)

In the final paragraph, the term metaphysics is defined to a greater extent, as to why it was called first philosophy and how simultaneously it is theology as well. In the third line of the paragraph, specifically the reader can observe how Aristotle’s metaphysics deals with the unmoved mover. Since he was the first that caused movement and can’t be moved, it was termed as First Philosophy. As the first being is God, at the same time it can be inferred that Metaphysics is theology as well. The reader can observe that since the first philosophy deals with God, it encompasses science of being as being. With

this in place, it can be safe to say that Aristotle believed science and religion to be compatible.

Point of reference: Third last line, third paragraph.

‘For him, metaphysics is the First Philosophy that deals with the Unmoved Mover. The Unmoved Mover is the first being or first substance. As the Unmoved Mover is the first, the philosophy which deals with this kind of being is the First Philosophy. Since the first being is God, who is studied in the first philosophy, it is also called theology. In other words, according to Aristotle, metaphysics is the first philosophy and the science of being as being. It is the science of substance, especially of the first substance, of the First Cause, which is immovable, eternal, independent, and without matter, i.e., God. Thus, the first philosophy or ontology is at the same time theology’.

Options A, B, and D are incorrect. The covering of all objects, invisible and visible, the term of ‘theology’ alone, and God being the sole object and subject in metaphysics are not the main inference to be drawn about Aristotle from the final paragraph.

Passage 45

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

Video gaming is a very popular leisure activity among adults. The amount of time spent playing video games has increased steadily, from 5.1 h/week in 2011 to 6.5 h/week in 2017. Video gaming is known to have some benefits such as improving focus, multitasking, and working memory, but it may also come with costs when it is used heavily. By spending a predominant part of the day gaming, excessive video gamers are at risk of showing lower educational and career attainment,

problems with peers, and lower social skills. On the one hand, video game use is widespread, and it may come with certain precursors as well as consequences. On the other hand, little is known about the relations between various video gaming habits and psychological functioning.

A video game is defined as ‘a game which we play thanks to an audio-visual apparatus and which can be based on a story’. In the last few years, the amount of scientific research devoted to video game playing has increased. Most scientific studies in this



area of research have focused on the extent of video game play and its diverse correlates. While some researchers have emphasised the benefits of game playing and even suggested a therapeutic use of video games, others have been intrigued by its potential dangers. Parents and professionals may be worried about their excessively playing children being 'addicted'. However, problematic and potentially addictive video game use goes beyond the extent of playing. It also includes such issues as craving, loss of control, and negative consequences of excessive gaming. While it is still a matter of debate whether problematic video game play should be considered a behavioural addiction, its status as a mental disorder has been clarified since the release of the DSM-5 in 2013. In the DSM-5, the American Psychiatric Association defined Internet Gaming Disorder with diagnostic criteria closely related to Gambling Disorder. Generally, this decision has been supported by many researchers but has also caused controversies. Researchers have criticised the selection of diagnostic criteria and the vague definition of the Internet Gaming Disorder construct, which excludes offline games from being related to addictive use.

Several studies, literature reviews, and meta-analyses have focused on the correlates of problematic video gaming, usually assessed as a continuum with addiction marking the upper end of the scale. The degree of addictive video game use has been found to be related to personality traits such as low self-esteem and low self-efficacy, anxiety, and aggression and even to clinical symptoms of depression and anxiety disorders. Potential consequences of video game use have been identified as well, such as a lack of real-life friends, stress and maladaptive, lower psychosocial well-being and loneliness, psychosomatic problems, and decreased academic achievement. Effect sizes have varied widely across studies. There seem to be sex and age differences with

regard to video gaming behaviour: potentially problematic video gaming was found to be more likely among males than females, and among younger gamers.

In addition to looking at problematic video game use and its relation to psychological functioning, it is relevant to also focus on why individuals play video games. Players use video games for very different reasons such as to distract themselves from daily hassles or because they enjoy the social relationships they have developed in the virtual world. Potentially problematic video gaming has been found to be related to various reasons for playing such as coping and escape, socialisation, and personal satisfaction. Coping, social interaction, and competition were among the main reasons for gaming among males but not among females. Mixed results emerged concerning age differences, but especially younger gamers seemed to be motivated for video gaming by social interactions. However, so far it remains unclear to what extent people's various reasons for playing video games are differentially related to their psychological functioning.

1. Though video gaming is a proper leisure activity among adults and has its fair share of benefits, it does come with a hidden caveat:
 - (A) It will improve focus, multitasking, and working visual memory of the subjects who spend the majority of the time playing.
 - (B) As there is little known knowledge about the relations between gaming habits and psychological functioning.
 - (C) Gaming is addictive, since the majority of youth spends about double of what they used to spend in 2011.
 - (D) By spending the majority of the day being involved in video gaming, video gamers are at the risk of failing in their subjects and may develop lack of social cohesiveness among peers.



2. What was observed in the DSM-5 which caused controversy among many researchers?
- (A) The DSM-5 paper had declared gaming as a behavioural addiction, but since its clarification had not been done as a mental disorder, it caused a huge uproar.
 - (B) Parents and professionals observed that children were showing symptoms of addiction.
 - (C) The research paper, along with citing symptoms related to Gambling disorder, reported only online games in the research.
 - (D) The DSM-5 paper conducted studies on only the duration of gaming, which an average gamer was exposed to, caused criticism from researchers.
3. What was the main reason parents believed that their children were 'addicted' to gaming?
- (A) The researchers observed in the children that the duration of playing increased day by day.
 - (B) It was reported that children preferred gaming rather than completing their homework, which was a worrying cause for many.
 - (C) The children who were not allowed to play video games showed signs of craving and loss of self-control.
 - (D) The children who were not needing it, cited false reasons in front of parents to play video games in the name of therapy.
4. Which of the following cannot be stated as the potential consequences of video gaming?
- (A) On a large basis, students were reported to have poor academic performances and were spending excessive amounts of time gaming.
 - (B) Video game addiction led a subject of 8 years old to have zero friends in real life, which led to depression in his adult life.
 - (C) The subjects were found to be suffering from ailments such as hypertension and respiratory ailments.
 - (D) The quality of life observed in the subjects was substantially higher.
5. What is the final inference when it comes to defining a particular reason to play video games in the first place?
- (A) Problematic video gaming has been found among individuals trying to find ways to escape from reality.
 - (B) The reasons were found to be many, but a particular reason which could be connected to the psychological functioning behind the hunger to play games could not be established.
 - (C) A sense of competition and rivalry was observed to be the main reason among all gamers, irrespective of their gender or age.
 - (D) The reasons were evident among male gamers but not among female gamers.

Solutions

1. (D)

The hidden caveat or the problem that comes with excessive video games can be acutely observed by the reader in the first paragraph. In the first paragraph, the reader can observe that video gamers are at risk of showing lower educational and career attainment, social cohesion

problems among peers and even lower social skills overall. So, despite the benefits that accompany video gaming, the hidden caveat of it is appropriately summarised in the fourth option.

Point of reference: Third line, first paragraph.



‘By spending a predominant part of the day gaming, excessive video gamers are at risk of showing lower educational and career attainment, problems with peers, and lower social skills’.

Options A, B, and C are inaccurate explanations. The improvement of focus, the little-known knowledge about the relation between gaming and psychological functioning, and the excessive time spent by adults and young adults like, do not highlight the hidden caveat of gaming.

2 (A)

The reason behind the controversy for the research paper published in DSM-5, becomes evident in the final line of the second paragraph. In the second paragraph, the reader can observe that it was not because of the declaration of gaming as a mental disorder, but it was the exclusion of offline games that caused the research report to face criticism. Hence the correct reason behind the controversy caused by the DSM-5 paper is option A.

Point of reference: Final line, second paragraph.

‘Researchers have criticised the selection of diagnostic criteria and the vague definition of the Internet Gaming Disorder construct, which excludes offline games from being related to addictive use’.

Options B, C, and D are incorrect. The DSM-5 paper only conducted research on gaming duration, the observation of symptoms closely related to addiction, and the symptoms being streamlined to gambling addiction were not the reasons that caused the controversy.

3. (C)

The true reason that led parents to consider their children suffering from gaming addiction was not solely due to the high gaming hours spent by the children.

It was more so in the form of observing signs of craving, loss of control, and negative consequences that come with excessive gaming. This understanding is apparent in the sixth line of the second paragraph.

Point of reference: Second line, first paragraph.

‘However, problematic and potentially addictive video game use goes beyond the extent of playing. It also includes such issues as craving, loss of control, and negative consequences of excessive gaming’.

Options A, B, and D can be discarded. The increase in the duration of gaming on a day-to-day basis, the preference of gaming to completion of homework, and the siting of false reasons, do not address the true reason behind the worry of the parents, to consider their children suffering from addiction.

4. (D)

The potential causes of gaming are stated clearly in the third paragraph. In the third line, it becomes apparent what the potential consequences of gaming are. From observing the potential consequences, it can be stated that option D has not been sighted as one of the potential consequences. The ‘quality of life’ is a term colloquially used for psychosocial well-being.

Point of reference: Third line, third paragraph.

‘Potential consequences of video game use have been identified as well, such as a lack of real-life friends, stress and maladaptive, lower psychosocial well-being and loneliness, psychosomatic problems, and decreased academic achievement’.

Options A, B, and C are to be discarded. Poor academic performances, zero friends in real life, and the observation of hypertension and respiratory ailments



(psychosomatic problems) are all the potential consequences of video gaming.

5. (B)

In the final paragraph, the author has sighted various reasons behind the addiction of gaming to take place. Specifically, in the third line, it is stated with clear intent as to what has been observed as the reasons behind potentially problematic video gaming. However, the query is concerned with defining a particular reason as to what leads an individual to play games. So, the author could not arrive at a particular reason behind the insatiable hunger to play games in the first place. Hence, the solution is option B.

Point of reference: Third line, final paragraph.

‘Potentially problematic video gaming has been found to be related to various reasons for playing such as coping and escape, socialisation, and personal satisfaction. Coping, social interaction, and competition were among the main reasons for gaming among males but not among females. Mixed results emerged concerning age differences, but especially younger gamers seemed to be motivated for video gaming by social interactions. However, so far it remains unclear to what extent people’s various reasons for playing video games are differentially related to their psychological functioning’.

Options A, C, and D can be discarded. These all options are not the final inference to be drawn.

Passage 46

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

We can all think of at least one song that, when we hear it, triggers an emotional response. It might be a song that accompanied the first dance at your wedding, for example, or a song that reminds you of a difficult break-up or the loss of a loved one. ‘We have such a deep connection to music because it is ‘hardwired’ in our brains and bodies,’ Barbara Else, senior advisor of policy and research at the American Music Therapy Association told Medical News Today. ‘The elements of music—rhythm, melody, etc.—are echoed in our physiology, functioning and being’. Given the deep connection we have with music, it is perhaps unsurprising that numerous studies have shown it can benefit our mental health. A 2011 study by researchers from McGill University in Canada found that listening to music increases the amount of dopamine produced in the brain, making it a feasible treatment for depression.

And earlier this year, MNT reported on a study published in The Lancet Psychiatry

that suggested listening to hip-hop music—particularly that from Kendrick Lamar—may help individuals to understand mental health disorders. But increasingly, researchers are finding that the health benefits of music may go beyond mental health, and as a result, some health experts are calling for music therapy to be more widely incorporated into health care settings. We can take a closer look at some of the potential health benefits of music and look at whether, for some conditions, music could be used to improve—or even replace—current treatment strategies. Bob Marley once sang: ‘One good thing about music, when it hits, you feel no pain’. According to some studies, this statement may ring true. Earlier this year, MNT reported on a study led by Brunel University in the U.K. that suggested music may reduce pain and anxiety for patients who have undergone surgery. By analysing 72 randomised controlled trials involving more than 7,000 patients who received surgery, researchers found those who played music after their procedure reported feeling less pain and anxiety than those who did not listen to



music, and they were also less likely to need pain medication.

While talking to Medical News Today, study leader Dr Catharine Meads said: ‘If music was a drug, it would be marketable. Music is a non-invasive, safe, cheap intervention that should be available to everyone undergoing surgery’. This study is just one of many hailing music for its effects against pain. In March 2014, researchers from Denmark found music may be beneficial for patients with fibromyalgia—a disorder that causes muscle and joint pain and fatigue. Listening to calm, relaxing, self-chosen music ‘reduced pain and increased functional mobility significantly’ among 22 patients with fibromyalgia, according to the investigators. But why does music appear to ease pain? While the exact mechanisms remain unclear, many researchers believe one reason is because listening to music triggers the release of opioids in the brain. Dr Daniel Levitin, of McGill University in Canada, and colleagues talk about this theory in a 2013 review, citing research that found people experienced less pleasure from listening to their favourite song when given Naltrexone—a drug that blocks opioid signals—suggesting music induces the release of opioids to ease pain.

1. Why does the author believe that the statement of Bob Marley may actually ring true?
 - (A) The author is a huge fan of Bob Marley and feels that his pain is alleviated by listening to Bob.
 - (B) In the study conducted by Brunel University, patients who heard music after crucial surgery reported feeling less pain and anxiety than those who didn’t listen to it.
 - (C) According to Marley, music provides a psychedelic rush that makes the person feel no pain at its peak.
 - (D) The studies found that by listening to the music of Bob Marley, the patients who had undergone surgery were able to reduce anxiety.
2. All of the following are mentioned in the second paragraph, except:
 - (A) Hip-hop sensation, Kendrick Lamar, touched on topics of mental illness in his music, which further promoted awareness about it.
 - (B) Due to advocacy by researchers, music has been incorporated into treatments of mental disorders.
 - (C) The song of Bob Marley, where he sang: ‘once music hits you, you do not feel pain’ has been misinterpreted because Marley has been reported to make music under the influence of narcotics.
 - (D) The research of Brunel University in the U.K. brought to light the amazing pain-relieving benefits music has on patients suffering from anxiety.
3. Why do researchers believe that music might be a treatment option for patients suffering from melancholy?
 - (A) Music always triggers an emotional response in a person, irrespective of their cultural background or ethnicity.
 - (B) Since music is so hardwired in our brains and bodies, it is unsurprising why music hasn’t been considered a treatment option.
 - (C) The elements of music such as rhythm and melody have been deeply ingrained in people since they were kids, in the form of nursery rhymes, proving to be a valuable tool in fighting dementia.
 - (D) Researchers have found that music particularly releases Dopamine in the brain, a mood-enhancing hormone.
4. Why was music treatment found to be effective in patients suffering from Fibromyalgia?
 - (A) Music has been observed by many researchers that it releases opioids in the brain, which are the body’s natural pain relievers.



- (B) Due to the cheapness and ready availability of music, patients suffering from Fibromyalgia have certainly been lifted from financial problems.
- (C) Because musical therapy involves non-invasive procedures, the patients suffering from Fibromyalgia were much relieved.
- (D) Naltrexone is the magic drug that, accompanied with music therapy, works wonders for patients with Fibromyalgia.
5. Based on your reading, what is the author most likely to advise to a patient suffering from body ache and panic attack situations?
- (A) The author would advise the patient to inculcate deep breathing and meditation practices in his daily life.
- (B) Listening to good music, like the ones by Bob Marley would provide much needed spiritual help.
- (C) Self-chosen soothing and relaxing music are the sure-shot ways to soothe pain and provide much-needed relief.
- (D) Listening to nursery rhymes could help immensely, since they can take us back to the time when we felt young.

Solutions

1. (B)

The reason behind the above assertion presented by the author becomes evident in the final line of the second paragraph. Bob Marley had stated: 'One good thing about music, when it hits, you feel no pain', the reason behind the truth of this statement was justified when Brunel university presented their observation. Of 7000 patients who received surgery, researchers found that those who played music after their procedure reported feeling less pain and anxiety than patients who were not exposed to music. From this analysis, the correct solution is option B.

Point of reference: Final line, second paragraph.

'By analysing 72 randomised controlled trials involving more than 7,000 patients who received surgery, researchers found those who played music after their procedure reported feeling less pain and anxiety than those who did not listen to music, and they were also less likely to need pain medication'.

Options A, C, and D are to be rejected. The author being a huge fan of Bob, the psychedelic rush and the particular effect of Bob Marley's music are not the reasons why the author believes that the statement of Bob might actually be true.

2. (C)

The solution for the above, can be observed by directing the focus on the second paragraph. In the second paragraph, the reader can observe that some amazing benefits of music have been cited by the author. It not only can increase awareness about mental illnesses but can be an effective tool simultaneously to combat it. The increasing awareness and researches favouring in the same direction have also led researchers to advocate music into the incorporation of mental disorders. From this understanding, the only one point which is not mentioned is the influence of intoxicant that Mr. Marley was reported under while making his songs.

Hence, the correct answer is option C.



Point of reference: The complete second paragraph.

Options A, B, and D are incorrect. From the explanation above, the reader can understand that all these points are mentioned in the paragraph, and are in the same vein as well. As a result, these alternatives are incorrect.

3. (D)

The particular reason, why the researchers believe that music is a viable treatment for patients suffering from melancholy or depression, comes from the 2011 research conducted by McGill university. In the research it was observed that the amount of dopamine produced in the brain was significantly increased on listening to music. It can be said with confidence that this discovery is the particular reason why researchers are considering the use of music to treat chronic melancholy or depression. In conclusion, the correct answer is option D.

Point of reference: Final line, first paragraph.

‘A 2011 study by researchers from McGill University in Canada found that listening to music increases the amount of dopamine produced in the brain, making it a feasible treatment for depression’.

Options A, B, and C are the wrong choices. The triggering of emotional response by music, the hardwiring of music in brains and bodies of individuals, and elements of music being deeply ingrained in people since they were kids, are not the particular reasons as to why the researchers believe music to be an effective option in treatment of melancholy.

4. (A)

Music treatment has been found to be effective in patients suffering from

Fibromyalgia because it has been observed by researchers that music helps in triggering the release of Opioids in the brain. These Opioids act as the body’s natural pain relievers. The pain relievers are of extreme benefit to patients suffering from this disease. Due to this reason, the correct answer for the above query is option A.

Point of reference: Second last line, third paragraph.

‘While the exact mechanisms remain unclear, many researchers believe one reason is because listening to music triggers the release of opioids in the brain’.

Options B, C, and D are incorrect. The cheapness and ready availability of music, the non-invasive procedures of music therapy, and the accompanying Naltrexone are not the solutions to be considered for this query.

5. (C)

On reading the entire passage, the reader can understand the view of the author. Throughout he has advocated the use of Music, as means to accommodate and even replace traditional methods of treatment. The only alternative that can summarise the overarching view of the author, and the advice simultaneously, is option C.

Point of reference: The complete passage.

Options A, B, and D are not to be considered as the answer. The inclusion of meditation and deep breathing exercises, listening to songs of Bob Marley, and the immense importance of nursery rhymes will not be advised by the author, to an individual who is suffering from these above ailments.



Passage 47

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

Dominant in Augustine's thinking is the Neoplatonic conception of the absolute-ness and majesty of God, and the insignificance of his creatures. God is an eternal and transcendent being, all powerful, all-good, all-wise, absolute unity, absolute intelligence, absolute will, and thus absolute spirit. He is absolutely free and holy, and cannot will evil. In Him, willing and doing are one: what He wills is done without any intermediary. His intelligence includes all ideas or forms of things. God created the world out of nothing. His creation is a continuous creation (*creatio continua*) as it is absolutely and continuously dependent on him. The God-centred metaphysics of Augustine, turning metaphysics into theology, becomes a God-oriented metaphysics in St. Thomas Aquinas for whom every being is analogous.

In the introduction to Aquinas' Commentary on Aristotle's *Metaphysics*, he sums up three aspects of metaphysics: Metaphysics is the science of God or theology, insofar as it considers God and other super sensible beings, or the pure spirits. It is metaphysics insofar as it investigates beings alone, and all that belongs to being as being. It is first philosophy insofar as it looks for the first causes of all things. Aquinas insisted that the immediate object of metaphysics is being as being, unlike Francis Bacon for whom metaphysics is neither the study of being as being nor a contemplation of unmoving final causes, but a study of the most general principles or laws or Forms of the material world undertaken in view of a practical end.

According to Bacon, the divisions of philosophy are like the branches of a tree which are united in a common trunk. This common trunk of philosophy is 'one universal science', known as 'first philosophy', which comprises fundamental axioms and notions like 'possible' and 'impossible', 'being' and

'non-being', etc. Metaphysics, as part of natural philosophy, must be distinguished from both first philosophy and natural theology. Physics treats efficient and material causes, metaphysics of formal and final causes. As a result, metaphysics turned into a formal discipline of laws or principles.

1. All of the following are Augustine's views on Being and being, except:
 - (A) Man's role in the cosmos is insignificant, no matter the riches or the armies he possesses, because ultimately, he is dependent on the supreme being.
 - (B) God consists of supreme intelligence, and through that not only can he see the material aspects of objects, but formal as well.
 - (C) The Question-Why does good permit the existence of Evil- cannot be raised because it is his characteristic that he does not will evil upon anyone.
 - (D) God instilled a sense of good and evil in the world, and then took a back-seat from it all.
2. What do you understand about Aquinas' view on Aristotelian metaphysics?
 - (A) Aquinas saw Aristotle's metaphysics as the science of God or theology, only when the subject was concerning God.
 - (B) Aristotle's metaphysics is only concerned with beings alone, and how they perceive only the material aspects of the world because of their sensory limitations.
 - (C) For Aquinas the immediate and the first object of metaphysics is Being as being.
 - (D) Aquinas was very much resonant with the idea of Aristotle to call metaphysics the first philosophy because it was very much concerned with the first cause of all things.



3. What can be said about the Augustinian view on the placement of God in the decisions of the universe?
- (A) It's a pessimistic view because it signifies the insignificance of human beings in the universe.
 - (B) God is the ultimate willing and doing who does not need any intermediary for his will to be carried out.
 - (C) Augustinian's view advocates that metaphysics should be considered as the science that originates from God, in other words a theocentric view.
 - (D) Augustine's view can be summarised as 'Whatever is, is in God' and God cannot be individuated by time.
4. The deists claim: 'God is wise. He created the world. Instilled in all a sense of good and evil, and then took a back seat from it all'. In terms of philosophical speculation, which question arising from St. Augustine's view could not be answered by deists?
- (A) If God cannot be evil, then evil should be nothing more than man's figment of imagination. Why does evil exist in the world?
 - (B) Deists claim that God left after creating the world, then who is the active doer who is carrying out the continuous activities of the world through his will, intelligence etc?
 - (C) Every design of this universe is beneficial, like the placement of the fingers and our eyes is beneficial to human beings. Would not the wise placement of everyone and everything advocate the existence of a wise creator?
 - (D) None of the above.
5. What is the inference to be drawn from the view of Francis Bacon on Metaphysics?
- (A) Francis disagreed furiously with both the assumptions of St. Augustine and St. Thomas Aquinas.
 - (B) Francis insisted that Metaphysics should be treated as a branch of formal discipline of laws and principles, rather than mixing it with the study of theology.
 - (C) The common trunk of philosophy is 'one universal science', hence he preferred the treatment of metaphysics to be equivalent to science.
 - (D) Francis devised physics from metaphysics, as the study of the material causes, and hence removed it from the confines of organised religion.

Solutions

1. (D)

Augustine's views on human beings and the Being are made evident in the first paragraph. Augustine has presented his view on God, his ways, and his place in the cosmos. He begins with the absoluteness of God and presents the insignificance of all his creation, then the absolute intelligence of him and ends with lack of evil and theocentric view of metaphysics. From this short understanding of the first paragraph, it can be stated

that the correct answer is option D. The view that God, after imparting Good and evil in the world, left the world, is not a part of St. Augustine's theological view on God.

Point of reference: The complete first paragraph.

Options A, B, and C are not the correct answers. The insignificance of man, the existence of supreme intelligence in God, and the non-existence of evil in the world are all the views of St. Augustine.



2. (A)

The question above can be answered appropriately, by observing carefully the second paragraph. In the second paragraph, Aquinas has presented three ways of looking at metaphysics. How metaphysics switches from theology to metaphysics and finally the first philosophy. With segregation in mind, the correct answer is option A. How Aquinas views Aristotle's metaphysics is resonant in this alternative.

Point of reference: Second line, second paragraph.

'Metaphysics is the science of God or theology, insofar as it considers God and other super sensible beings, or the pure spirits. It is metaphysics insofar as it investigates beings alone, and all that belongs to being as being. It is the first philosophy insofar as it looks for the first causes of all things'

Options B, C, and D are incorrect. These views do not resonate with how Aquinas looked at metaphysics.

3. (B)

The query above does not seek Augustine's view on metaphysics as a whole. But rather, how God is important in the incidents, laws, and phenomenon of nature. Augustine places God at the heart of the decision-making factors that rule the universe and can bend the cosmos at will. From this understanding, option B is correct. The reader can observe in the third line that God- as per Augustine- is the ultimate will and deed of the universe. His will is carried out without any need or involvement of intermediary. The correct answer is option B.

Point of reference: Third line, first paragraph.

'In Him, willing and doing are one: what He wills is done without any intermediary'

Options A, C, and D are incorrect. The theocentric view of metaphysics and the

non-individuation of God by time itself are not the appropriate alternatives that can summarise the view of Augustine on God itself. Option A might seem to be the answer. However, this option does not completely cover the true essence of St. Augustine's view.

4. (B)

To answer this appropriately the reader must draw comparison between the views of St. Augustine and the views of the deists. On one hand, deists claim that God is wise, created the world, instilled a sense of good and evil and then decided not to interfere with the affairs of the earthly realm. On the other, Augustine claims that God is wise, he created the world out of nothing, and does not will evil on anyone, his will is carried on without any intermediary and his creation is a continuous creation (*creatio continua*). With these comparisons drawn, the reader can observe one question that couldn't be answered by Deists. Since the Deists proclaim that God has left Earth, it means there is no active doer in the world, but in Augustine's formulation, there has to be an active doer who is looking out for this creation as it is continuously dependent on it. Due to this contrast in terms of continuous operation of the world, it can be said that this question could not be answered by Deists. The correct answer is option B.

Point of reference: The complete first paragraph.

Options A, C, and D are incorrect. The existence of evil, and the wise creator are the views that match both the views of deists and Augustine. Hence the question arising from Augustine's theology would be answered by the Deists.

5. (B)

In the final paragraph, the view of Francis Bacon becomes evident. It is stated in



the entirety of the paragraph that metaphysics should be turned into a discipline of laws and principles, and was strictly against the mixing of it with the study of natural theology. The only alternative that resonates with this view is option B.

Point of reference: The complete third paragraph.

Options A, C, and D are incorrect. They do not adequately summarise the view and segregation of Francis Bacon on metaphysics.

Passage 48

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

Voltaire struggled with the question of good and evil, the problem at the heart of his best-known work, *Candide*. This short satirical novel first appeared in 1759, and was a best-seller from the moment it was published. Translated into every possible language, it remains the most widely read work of the European Enlightenment. It has even left its mark on our language. Expressions like *pour encourager les autres* [‘to encourage the others’] or *il faut cultiver le jardin* [‘we must cultivate the garden’] have entered common usage. In the best of all possible worlds—yes, that’s another one—speakers of French or English quote *Candide* without even realising it— and that’s the sure mark of a classic.

Candide is a timeless work, a satire of the human condition. It is also a work of the Enlightenment, and its philosophical theme is announced in the title: *Candide* or *Optimism*. The hero of *Candide*, as his name tells us, is an innocent, an anti-hero. He is in thrall to his tutor Pangloss who preaches the philosophy of Optimism. This is not ‘optimism’ in the modern sense of ‘looking on the bright side’. Optimism, spelled with a capital O, and as expounded by the German philosopher Leibniz, was an attempt to answer the age-old problem of evil. Why, if God is good, does he permit the existence of evil in the world? To which the eighteenth-century Optimist replies, “Evil is all part of some greater pattern of good”. “All partial evil, universal good” as the English poet Pope put

it. In other words, evil doesn’t really exist at all, it is just something which man imagines because of his limited view of the world.

You might think this sounds like a bit of a confidence trick—Voltaire certainly did—but this idea found widespread acceptance in the eighteenth century. *Candide* puts this philosophy to the test. Ejected from his comfortable home in an obscure German castle after trying to seduce the Baron’s beautiful daughter Cunégonde, he undergoes many trials and tribulations: conscripted into the army, he fights in a war, then deserts, only to find himself a witness to an earthquake in Lisbon—a reference to a recent event in which some 40,000 people had perished. *Candide* is repeatedly brought face to face with evil in its most extreme forms—moral evil, in the case of the earthquake, where man is not apparently to blame; and most of all human evil, such as the war, where man is very definitely to blame. Pangloss’s breezy Optimism is clearly an inadequate response to enormities on this scale. Eventually, even *Candide* comes to realise this.

At the climax of the book, where *Candide* is peacefully ploughing his farm in Constantinople, Pangloss says to *Candide*: ‘All events form a chain in the best of all possible worlds. For in the end, if you had not been given a good kick up the backside and chased out of a beautiful castle for loving Miss Cunégonde, and if you hadn’t been subjected to the Inquisition, and if you hadn’t wandered about America on foot, and if you hadn’t dealt the Baron a good blow with your sword, and if you hadn’t lost all your sheep



from that fine country of El Dorado when you came to Constantinople, you wouldn't be here now eating candied citron and pistachio nuts, thanks to your farm nonetheless'. 'That is well put', replied Candide, 'but we must cultivate our garden'.

1. What is the reason stated by the author to prove to the reader that Candide is much more than a short satirical novel and a classic?
 - (A) It was written by Voltaire, who was perhaps the most famous living writer back in Europe, and sometimes historians tout the 'age of enlightenment' as the 'age of Voltaire'.
 - (B) It was a best seller in 1759, which is no short of a feat to accomplish.
 - (C) Candide has been read by many across the globe, because it was translated into many languages.
 - (D) The expressions used in the book have made their way to be used both by fluent English and French speakers.
2. Based on your reading of the second paragraph, what is the true origin behind the word 'Optimism'?
 - (A) The ideological movement that was initiated and coined by Leibniz, was a direct approach to answer the existence of evil and God's role in all of it.
 - (B) It was because of Candide's tutor Pangloss, that the term Optimism gained notoriety.
 - (C) Optimism was first introduced by Leibniz in collaboration with Alexander Pope as a method to look at the positive aspects when trouble hits anyone's life.
 - (D) The term came from Voltaire's hit satirical novel, Candide, where optimism was first mentioned.
3. What was the objective of Voltaire behind the inception of Candide's story?
 - (A) Voltaire very much believed in the proposition asserted by Leibniz and Alexander Pope, hence even in the title of the story wrote Optimism.
 - (B) Voltaire, through Candide, wanted to challenge the world and hence led Candide down a rabbit hole full of mischief and greed.
 - (C) He wanted to make the people aware about the deceiving trick pulled off by Leibniz who simply considered evil as a figment of man's imagination.
 - (D) Voltaire was devastated by the earthquake that occurred in Lisbon and through Candide wanted to present a first-person view of the calamity.
4. What inference can be gained after reading Candide's many trials and tribulations?
 - (A) Candide's life was full of sorrow and unpredictability.
 - (B) The optimism which had gained much popularity back in the day is an inadequate response to the large-scale enormities of evil present in the world.
 - (C) Candide and Pangloss encountered all sorts of trials and tribulations in their life making them jump from one frying pan to another.
 - (D) Evil will always be there in the world, and through cycle of violence it will always remain present at the top.
5. What is the true meaning of Candide's final quote at the end of the passage: 'We must cultivate our Garden'?
 - (A) Candide was much concerned with his garden as the harvesting season was close.
 - (B) Candide, by quoting this, had asked Pangloss to lend him a hand in gardening and stop philosophising.
 - (C) Evil will always be present in the world and an optimist would always find a rhetorical explanation for it.
 - (D) There is no use philosophising about evil, what truly matters is finding one's own purpose in life and cultivating that said purpose (garden.)



Solutions

1. (D)

The reason, which the query above seeks, is clear in the first paragraph itself. In the first paragraph, the reader can observe that *Candide* is a much popular work, not because of its satire or dark comedy, nor because of the translation of this work into multiple languages. The reason behind it being declared as much more than a work of satire, is apparent in the final line of the paragraph. It is stated that the expressions, which first appeared in the book, are now a part of both English and French language.

Point of reference: Final line, first paragraph.

‘In the best of all possible worlds—yes, that’s another one—speakers of French or English quote *Candide* without even realising it, and that’s the sure mark of a classic’.

Options A, B, and C are inaccurate explanations. The popularity of the book simply because of the virtue of being written by Voltaire, a phenomenal feat of becoming a bestseller in 1759, and its multiple translations are not the accurate reasons behind why the author considers *Candide* more than a satirical novel.

2. (A)

The query demands the reader to direct his focus on the second paragraph. In the second paragraph, the reader can observe the true meaning of optimism as explained by the author. Specifically in the fifth line, the reader can observe the true origin of Optimism. This term was first expounded by the German Philosopher Leibniz in a positive attempt to answer the problem of evil in the world, and a crucial question dealing with ‘Why if God is good, does he permit

the existence of evil in the world?’. Hence, the correct answer is option A.

Point of reference: Sixth line, Second paragraph.

‘Optimism, spelled with a capital O, and as expounded by the German philosopher Leibniz, was an attempt to answer the age-old problem of evil’.

Options B, C, and D are incorrect. With the point of reference and explanation in place, it can be stated that, Pangloss’ role in notoriety of Optimism, the working of Leibnitz with Alexander Pope, and the coining of the term coming from the title of *Candide*, are not the correct origins behind the term optimism.

3. (C)

The main purpose of Voltaire to write the story of *Candide*, becomes clear in the third paragraph. In the opening lines of it, the reader can observe that it is the direct continuation of what was asserted by Leibniz as a response to the existence of evil. His response, though gratifying, was something of a deceitful act. By exploiting the naivety and credulity of the people, the philosopher had made people think and assume evil as something which does not exist and part of man’s imagination. Hence the author mentions that Voltaire did certainly believe that the assertion presented by Leibniz was nothing more than a confidence trick and through *Candide* he put this thought to the test. Hence the correct reason behind the inception of *Candide* by Voltaire, is appropriately conveyed in option C.

Point of reference: First and second line of third paragraph.

‘You might think this sounds like a bit of a confidence trick—Voltaire certainly did—but this idea found widespread



acceptance in the eighteenth century. Candide puts this philosophy to the test'. Options A, B, and D can be discarded. The belief of Voltaire in the assertion presented by Leibniz, the purpose of Voltaire to challenge the world, and the attempt by Voltaire to cover the devastation that occurred in Lisbon are not the correct answers.

4. (B)

The life story of Candide's trials and tribulations are mentioned in the third paragraph. From being ejected from the comfortable castle which he called home, Candide lost the love of his life, then got conscripted into a war, then again deserts, to witness a devastating earthquake in Lisbon. Candide was exposed to evil in its abject horrifying form: Moral evil-where man is to be blamed and most of all human evil, where man is very much responsible. Through all these misfortunes, Candide and the reader both arrive at the realisation that the approach of Optimism is not an adequate response to evil that is prevalent in the world. In conclusion, the correct answer is option B.

Point of reference: Second last line, third paragraph.

'Pangloss's breezy Optimism is clearly an inadequate response to enormities on this scale. Eventually, even Candide comes to realise this'.

Options A, C, and D are to be discarded. These alternatives do not fully convey the essence, purpose, and meaning behind Candide's misfortunes. Voltaire, through the story of Candide, makes the reader realise that the response of Optimism is hollow, which was brought to light by the work of Candide.

5. (D)

To understand and answer the query appropriately, the reader needs to

understand the entire passage, the objective to be fulfilled by Voltaire through Candide and the life lesson to be gained from the story of Candide. From this clarity, the reader must have become aware that Voltaire had written Candide to challenge and reject simultaneously the concept of evil as introduced by the optimist Leibniz. In the ending of the passage, Candide after facing many evils on his journey, in the end settled peacefully looking after his farm in Constantinople, as described in the final paragraph. The final paragraph, not only describes the final scene that took place but also the final conversation between Pangloss and Candide, and the moral of the story. Though Pangloss, with greater efficacy, justifies the misfortunes that rained down on Candide, he still wants to make Candide realise that everything happened for the greater good, because of the misfortunes itself he ended up where he was presently in life. Candide as mentioned in the beginning was enthralled against his tutor Pangloss, but by the end replies 'That is well put'. This shows that Candide had given up to rectify the thoughts of himself and his tutor about evil. Hence, in the end Candide concluded 'but we must cultivate our garden'. Voltaire's message is clear, there is no purpose behind philosophizing about evil as an optimist would keep on denying the existence of it. What truly matters above all, is finding one's purpose in life and then cultivating the said purpose.

Hence, the correct answer is option D.

Point of reference: The complete passage.

Options A, B, and C can be rejected. These are not the options to be taken. Option C might seem to be the correct answer. However, the question is asking the true meaning of Candide's quote, not the true meaning of Pangloss' last interaction with Candide.



Passage 49

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

In the summer of 1987, movie audiences first met Robocop in the science fiction classic about violence and corrupt corporate power in a future, dystopian Detroit. But the title word is much older than that, going back at least to a 1957 short story by writer Harlan Ellison, in which a tentacled ‘Robocop’ pursues a character. The prefix ‘robo’, in turn, dates at least to 1945, when Astounding Science Fiction published a story by A.E. van Vogt mentioning ‘robo-planes’ flying through the sky. ‘Robo-,’ of course, comes from ‘robot,’ a word created by Czech author Karel Čapek in his 1920 play R.U.R.: Rossum’s Universal Robots, about synthetic humans created to perform drudge work who eventually rebel, destroying humanity. This is the kind of rabbit hole a reader can go down in the Historical Dictionary of Science Fiction, a resource, decades in the making that is now available to the public in an accessible form. Lexicographer Jesse Sheidlower started the project years ago, when he was an editor at the Oxford English Dictionary.

The OED is the best-known historical dictionary in the English-speaking world, and Sheidlower notes that it was also a crowdsourcing project long before the internet made it easy. When it was just starting out in the 19th century, he says, the OED put ads in literary magazines looking for volunteers to hunt around old books in search of particular words and their usage. “People would mark up books, send in the notes”, he says. “To this day, it’s still how the system works to an extent”. When the internet did arrive, the dictionary’s editors quickly took advantage. For example, Sheidlower says, at one point they were looking for early uses of the word ‘mutant’ in the sense of a genetically mutated being with unusual characteristics or abilities. The earliest they’d found was from 1954, but they were

sure earlier examples must be out there. So, a freelance editor posted a query on Usenet newsgroups and quickly received an example of a use of the word from 1938. Soon, the editors started looking for other online projects.

“This was at a time, around 2000, when there was the internet... and people were online, but it wasn’t universal like it is now”, Sheidlower says. “We wanted to do a project where people devoted to a particular field, fans, could make contributions”. Not only were science fiction fans particularly likely to be online, but they were a valuable source of material. The world’s most prestigious libraries, where OED researchers did much of their work, generally didn’t carry back issues of pulp magazines of the mid-20th century, such as *If* or *Amazing Stories*. But many fans, it turns out, had cartons full of them.

1. What can be stated as the exact originator that culminated in the formation of the Historical Dictionary of Science Fiction?
 - (A) Due to the advent of the internet, many publishers and editors soon lost their job and were scouring for new projects.
 - (B) In a post-internet age, the use of paper quickly faded, which caused Oxford to take up steps for its survival and relevance.
 - (C) A morbid curiosity behind the earliest use of a term commonly associated with science fiction (mutant), led the creator to form a particular book dedicated to a particular field.
 - (D) The editors of Oxford wanted to capitalise the advent of the internet.
2. Based on your reading of the third paragraph, which would be a most suitable subtitle for the book right below the main title ‘Historical Dictionary of Science Fiction’?



- (A) The history of your favourite geek terms.
(B) A book for the fans, by the fans.
(C) Science fictions fans, Unite!!
(D) A blast from the past!!
3. Why has the author shared the instance of Robocop with the reader?
- (A) To let the reader know that the idea of Robocop is not original, which is often cited by many film critics and lovers.
(B) To let the reader know about the origins of the term Robo and introduce the book Historical Dictionary of Science Fiction.
(C) To bring to light, Karel Čapek's play of 1920, Rossum's Universal Robots, which had first introduced the world to the concept of robots.
(D) To impart the knowledge concerning the origins of the term Robocop, and avoid much hysteria which could ensue from the lack of it.
4. The writer would agree with the following, except:
- (A) The first use of the term Robocop can be traced back to Harlan Ellison's 1957 work titled Future Cop.
(B) In 1900's, the publishers of Oxford Dictionary, relied heavily on the volunteers to scavenge and scan old books for English words and usage.
(C) The work of Historical Dictionary of Science, came from the fan of science fiction who had no connection to Oxford Dictionary.
(D) The Historical Dictionary of Science, is a book not only made for the fans, but the fan base also acts as the source material.
5. What was the working system appointed by the Oxford English Dictionary?
- (A) It was a crowdfunded project where the editing rights were public, which after some discrepancies, were revoked.
(B) From the advertisements, volunteers would hunt down old books for particular words and their usage, mark them and then send them to the people at Oxford.
(C) The people at Oxford used to place advertisements, to ask people for their help in the printing publications.
(D) The academics of the pre-internet age, would compile a word-file of whichever word they come across in their day-to-day affairs.

Solutions

1. (C)

In the third last line, the reader can assess how the idea of such a dictionary came to the mind of the creator. Though the complete story is carried forward in the third paragraph, the originator is only present in the second paragraph. It was through the curiosity created by a term of science fiction, that the creator was able to discover the potential of this particular untapped field. Hence, the correct answer is option C.

Point of reference: Third last line, second paragraph.

'For example, Sheidlower says, at one point they were looking for early uses of the word 'mutant' in the sense of a genetically mutated being with unusual characteristics or abilities. The earliest they'd found was from 1954, but they were sure earlier examples must be out there. So, a freelance editor posted a query on Usenet newsgroups and quickly received an example of a use of the word from 1938. Soon, the editors started looking for other online projects'.



Options A, B, and D are the wrong choices. The risk at the job of the editors, the fading of the applications and uses of paper, and the intention to capitalise the advent of the internet are not the true reasons behind the inception of the Historical Dictionary of Science Fiction.

2. (B)

From the third paragraph, the reader can understand the intentions of the writer, and what actually went into the compilation of source material required for the book. From the second line till the end of the paragraph. The writer has pointed out the difficulty that came by libraries not carrying back issues of pulp magazines of the mid-20th century, and the opportunity and help that came in the form of fans carrying full cartons of such treasures. So, the most suited subtitle for the book has to be option B, since it appropriately describes what went behind the creation of this book.

Point of reference: Second line, third paragraph.

“‘We wanted to do a project where people devoted to a particular field, fans, could make contributions’. Not only were science fiction fans particularly likely to be online, but they were a valuable source of material. The world’s most prestigious libraries, where OED researchers did much of their work, generally didn’t carry back issues of pulp magazines of the mid-20th century, such as *If* or *Amazing Stories*. But many fans, it turns out, had cartons full of them”.

Options A, C, and D are incorrect. These titles are not subtitles for the book title.

3. (B)

The reason behind the use and explanation of the term ‘Robocop’ becomes obvious in the first paragraph. By the end of this paragraph, the reader becomes aware about the true origin of the word, the play where it was first introduced,

along with introducing the book of focus. In conclusion, the correct answer is option B.

Point of reference: Second last line, first paragraph.

‘This is the kind of rabbit hole a reader can go down in the Historical Dictionary of Science Fiction, a resource, decades in the making that is now available to the public in an accessible form’.

Options A, C, and D are to be rejected. The originality of the concept behind Robocop, Karel Čapek’s play, and the imparting of trivia concerning the term Robocop are not the reasons why the author has used the term Robocop.

4. (C)

To correctly answer this, the reader needs to pay attention to the concepts and facts introduced in the passage. From this observation, the reader needs to identify the point that is either not mentioned in the passage or contradicts what is already mentioned in the passage. The correct answer is option C. The creator behind the book, used to work as an editor at the Historical Dictionary of Science. Hence, the correct answer is option C.

Point of reference: The complete passage.

Options A, B, and D are not to be considered as the answer. These points are mentioned in the passage and in the same vein.

5. (B)

It is clear from the second paragraph, about how the initial system was there at OED. In the earlier days, the people at Oxford would place advertisements and ask for volunteers who could look up words in older books and their usage as well. After discovering the words, the volunteers would mark up the book and mail the meaning of the word to Oxford



in the form of notes. The correct answer from this observation is option B.

Point of reference: Third line, second paragraph.

“People would mark up books, send in the notes”, he says. “To this day, it’s still how the system works to an extent”.

Options A, C, and D are incorrect. These options do not cover the system in its entirety.

Passage 50

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

It is crucial to note the subtitle of 18th century Europe’s most famous novel, written in three inspired days in 1759: ‘Candide—or Optimism’. If there was one central target that its author wanted satirically to destroy, it was the hope of his age, a hope that centred around science, love, technical progress, and reason. Voltaire was enraged. Of course, science wasn’t going to improve the world; it would merely give new power to tyrants. Of course, philosophy would not be able to explain away the problem of evil; it would only show up our vanity. Of course, love was an illusion; power a chimera, humans irredeemably wicked, and the future absurd. Of all this his readers were to be left in no doubt. Hope was a disease and it was Voltaire’s generous goal to try to cure us of it.

Nevertheless, Voltaire’s novel is not simply a tragic tale nor is his own philosophy mordantly nihilistic. The book ends on a memorably tender and stoic note; the tone is elegiac; we encounter one of the finest expressions of the melancholic viewpoint ever written: One must cultivate one’s own garden. To understand this, a reference to the story is required. Candide and his companions have travelled the world and suffered immensely: they have known persecution, shipwrecks, earthquakes, smallpox, starvation, and torture. But they have—more or less—survived and, in the final pages, find themselves in Turkey—a country Voltaire especially admired—living in a small farm in a suburb of Istanbul. One day they learn of

trouble at the Ottoman court and step outside their confines: two Viziers and the Mufti have been suffocated and several of their associates assassinated. The news causes upset and fear in many. But near their farm, Candide, together with his friends Martin and Pangloss, pass an old man who is peacefully and indifferently sitting under an orange bower next to his house:

Pangloss, who was as inquisitive as he was argumentative, asked the old man what the name of the strangled Mufti was. ‘I don’t know,’ answered the worthy man, ‘and I have never known the name of any Mufti, nor of any Vizier. I have no idea what you’re talking about; my general view is that people who meddle with politics usually meet a miserable end, and indeed they deserve to. I never bother with what is going on in Constantinople; I only worry about sending the fruits of the garden which I cultivate off to be sold there’. Having said these words, he invited the strangers into his house; his two sons and two daughters presented them with several sorts of sherbet, which they had made themselves, with kaimak enriched with the candied-peel of citrons, with oranges, lemons, pine-apples, pistachio-nuts, and Mocha coffee...—after which the two daughters of the honest turk, perfumed the strangers’ beards. ‘You must have a vast and magnificent estate’, said Candide to the turk. ‘I have only twenty acres’, replied the old man; ‘I and my children cultivate them; and our labour preserves us from three great evils: weariness, vice, and want’. Candide, on his way home, reflected deeply on what the old man had said. ‘This honest



Turk', he said to Pangloss and Martin, 'seems to be in a far better place than kings.... I also know,' said Candide, 'that we must cultivate our garden'.

1. Though Voltaire wanted to crush the hopes of the people at the time, the book still leaves the reader with a moment of self-reflection because:
 - (A) The reader can finally realise the futility of keeping hope in the world.
 - (B) By citing the death of political figures, the reader can understand the absurd event which renders life meaningless: Death.
 - (C) The final expression and quote at the end of the book places a stoic note in the mind of the reader on what is actually needed in life.
 - (D) The philosophy of Optimism, which insists on looking at the bright side of everything, will never be able to justify the misfortunes that befell on Candide.
2. What made Candide and his companions curious to step outside the farm?
 - (A) Candide wanted a moment of Catharsis with his teacher Pangloss, and hence would go on long treks in the nearby areas.
 - (B) Martin had heard good words about the fruit seller who sold his fruits near the palace of the Vizier.
 - (C) The news of political turmoil made Candide and his friends curious of what was happening in Constantinople.
 - (D) As a part of plot device, Voltaire wanted the reader to fully absorb what all had happened with Candide till this point.
3. What was the intention of Voltaire behind writing the book 'Candide- or Optimism'?
 - (A) Voltaire was enraged with the people and their ideology at the time.

The age boasted of the modernity to come due to the industrial revolution.

- (B) To Voltaire, Hope is the opium of all emotions and must be stemmed out conclusively for a person to stand any chance at inner peace.
 - (C) Voltaire wanted to target the inefficacy of philosophy in answering the problem of evil in the world.
 - (D) Voltaire was very furious with the increasing importance of science, which though proved religion to be false, took its place to become a new religion.
4. Why was the Turk indifferent and unaware about the political unrest going on in Constantinople?
 - (A) The Turk was occupied with cultivating and nurturing his fruits, since they were sold off near the Vizier's place.
 - (B) The Turk was busy preparing Sherbet, and Mocha coffee with his family, as he was expecting guests to arrive at his farm.
 - (C) The Turk did not take interest in politics. Hence, any change of power or unrest did not pique any curiosity in him.
 - (D) The fruit seller was suffering from derealisation disorder, due to which he was detached from his surroundings.
5. What was the life lesson learnt by Candide at the end of the passage?
 - (A) Gardening and cultivating a fruit farm comes with commercial and mental benefits.
 - (B) The Turk was able to serve Candide and his friend delicacies of varied kinds, simply because he was taking care of his farm with his family.
 - (C) There is no use contemplating about evil and misfortunes in the world, as



the only way to find mental peace is through cultivating one's own garden.
(D) Candide's curiosity made him step outside his farm, meet the Turk and

enjoy great delicacies. Taking interest in news of politics is always a good call.

Solutions

1. (C)

In the opening lines of the second paragraph, the reader can observe that the book's intention was clearly to destroy the vanity that comes with hope, but the underlying intention was to leave the reader with a moment of self-reflection. A clue to be picked up by the reader is in the second line where the author has mentioned the tone to be elegiac. This is a moment of reflection that the author wanted the reader to have. Hence, the correct answer is option C. The reader can notice that in this alternative alone, words like 'expression' and 'stoic' leave out hints for the reader to pick up.

Point of reference: Second line, second paragraph.

'The book ends on a memorably tender and stoic note; the tone is elegiac; we encounter one of the finest expressions of the melancholic viewpoint ever written: One must cultivate one's own garden.'

Options A, B, and D are the incorrect choices. The futility of keeping hope in the world, the meaning and reason behind Death, and the optimistic view to justify the trials of Candide, are not the reasons why the book leaves the reader with a moment of self-reflection.

2. (C)

In the third last line of the second paragraph, the reader can observe what made Candide and his friends step outside the farm. Candide was living peacefully in his farm, but one day, the news of what had happened in the Ottoman

court, made them curious about what was going on. The Vizier, the mufti and their associates were assassinated. This political turmoil made Candide venture out of his farm to observe the event. Hence, the correct answer is option C.

Point of reference: Third last line, second paragraph.

'One day they learn of trouble at the Ottoman court and step outside their confines: two Viziers and the Mufti have been suffocated and several of their associates assassinated. The news causes upset and fear in many. But near their farm, Candide, together with his friends Martin and Pangloss, pass an old man who is peacefully and indifferently sitting under an orange bower next to his house.'

Options A, B, and D are the wrong choices. The pursuit of Catharsis by Candide, the reaching of good words in the ear of Martin, and particular components of plot device by Voltaire, are not the correct reasons which caused curiosity to amp up in Candide and his companions.

3. (B)

The main reason of Voltaire, to write the book Candide, comes to light in the first paragraph. In the first paragraph itself, we can observe that the author has mentioned the central target of Voltaire's book, who Voltaire wanted to be obliterated. From a closer view of the first paragraph, the reader can observe that Voltaire was very wary of the hope that was prevalent in the minds of that age and his book was an attempt to cure



everyone of that hope. In conclusion, the correct answer is option B.

Point of reference: Final line, first paragraph.

‘Hope was a disease and it was Voltaire’s generous goal to try to cure us of it’.

Options A, C, and D are to be rejected. Voltaire’s anger at the boastful attitude of the time, the inefficacy of philosophy to answer the problem of evil, and the conversion of science into a new religion, were not the true intentions behind Voltaire crafting Candide.

4. (A)

The true reason as to why the honest Turk was indifferent to the political proceedings in Constantinople, becomes apparent in the third paragraph. In the third paragraph, particularly the second line, the reader can observe that the Turk shared his opinion on political figures and then stated what his true concern was in the world. He was only concerned in cultivating his farm, simply because in his farm he grew fruits, which would be sold off in Constantinople. Therefore, the correct answer is option A.

Point of reference: Second line, third paragraph.

“I don’t know,” answered the worthy man, ‘and I have never known the name of any Mufti, nor of any Vizier. I have no idea what you’re talking about; my general view is that people who meddle with politics usually meet a miserable end, and indeed they deserve to. I never bother with what is going on in Constantinople; I only worry about sending the fruits of

the garden which I cultivate off to be sold there“.

Options B, C, and D are incorrect. The occupancy of the Turk’s schedule through preparation of Sherbet, the non-interest of the Turk in political news, and the Turk suffering from derealisation order are not the true reason behind the unawareness of the Turk.

5. (C)

The life lesson learnt by Candide can only be observed by not only observing the final paragraph, but the entirety of the passage as well. Reason being, that not only Candide learnt an important lesson at the end of it, he was able to discover the futility of discussing and contemplating evils of the world, and discover the path to inner peace. The reader can notice that Candide said to Pangloss and Martin, that the Turk through working and cultivating his garden was not only able to protect himself from vices, he had a fortune, far much greater and important than any king could have. In conclusion, the correct answer is option C.

Point of reference: The complete passage.

Options A, B, and D are not to be considered as the answer. The commercial and mental benefits that come with a garden, the true reason behind the delicacies served to Candide by the Turk, and the curiosity of Candide in the political affairs of Constantinople, are not the important lessons learnt by Candide at the end of the passage.

Passage 51

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

Pikachu’s (Pokémon) thunderbolt struck America in 1998 and changed the lives of a generation. The U.S. anime craze started at

the turn of the century with Sailor Moon’s middle-school magical girls out to save faraway planets; One Piece’s pirates, cyborgs, and fish people seeking a legendary treasure; and Pokémon’s Ash Ketchum on a



noble quest to ‘catch ’em all’. These classic shows and many others led the charge; between 2002 and 2017, the Japanese animation industry doubled in size to more than \$19 billion annually. One of the most influential and renowned anime, *Neon Genesis Evangelion*, finally debuted on Netflix this month, marking the end of years of anticipation and a new pinnacle in anime’s global reach. But anime’s outward success conceals a disturbing underlying economic reality: Many of the animators behind the onscreen magic are broke and face working conditions that can lead to burn-out and even suicide. The tension between a ruthless industry structure and anime’s artistic idealism forces animators to suffer exploitation for the sake of art, with no solution in sight.

Anime is almost entirely drawn by hand. It takes skill to create hand-drawn animation and experience to do it quickly. Shingo Adachi, an animator and character designer for *Sword Art Online*, a popular anime TV series, said the talent shortage is a serious ongoing problem—with nearly 200 animated TV series alone made in Japan each year, there aren’t enough skilled animators to go around. Instead, studios rely on a large pool of essentially unpaid freelancers who are passionate about anime. At the entry level are ‘in-between animators,’ who are usually freelancers. They’re the ones who make all the individual drawings after the top-level directors come up with the storyboards and the middle-tier ‘key animators’ draw the important frames in each scene. In-between animators earn around 200 yen per drawing—less than \$2. That wouldn’t be so bad if each artist could crank out 200 drawings a day, but a single drawing can take more than an hour. That’s not to mention anime’s meticulous attention to details that are by and large ignored by animation in the West, like food, architecture, and landscape, which can take four or five times longer than average to draw.

‘Even if you move up the ladder and become a key-frame animator, you won’t earn much,’ Adachi said. ‘And even if your title is a huge hit, like *Attack on Titan*, you won’t make any of it. ... It’s a structural problem in the anime industry. There’s no dream [job as an animator]’. Working conditions are grim. Animators often fall asleep at their desks. Henry Thurlow, an American animator living and working in Japan, told BuzzFeed News he has been hospitalised multiple times due to illness brought on by exhaustion. One studio, Madhouse, was recently accused of violating labour code: Employees were working nearly 400 hours per month and went 37 consecutive days without a single day off. A male animator’s 2014 suicide was classified as a work-related incident after investigators found he had worked more than 600 hours in the month leading up to his death.

1. Why was Ash Ketchum crucial for the anime industry post 2005?
 - (A) He wasn’t, as Ash Ketchum was a part of the show called *Pokémon* which hit the U.S. in 1998.
 - (B) Ash Ketchum paved the way for western audiences to be introduced to other hits such as *Sailor Moon* and *One Piece*.
 - (C) The popularity of Ash Ketchum and *Pokémon* allowed *Neon Genesis Evangelion* to debut at Netflix, which increased the global reach anime has.
 - (D) Ash Ketchum was part of the trinity of the shows that proved to be a critical and commercial success for the anime industry.
2. What is the tone of the first paragraph?
 - (A) Nostalgic. The reader is carried on a ride filled with recollections of perhaps one of their favourite shows as a kid.
 - (B) Descriptive. It describes the shows which were exported to the U.S. and brought the animation industry to the whole world’s notice.



- (C) Shocking. The writer introduces the grim reality behind the colourful aesthetics of anime.
- (D) Optimistic. The writer sees the future of anime on a global scale, as colourful as the shows themselves.
3. What is the problem faced by the animation industry of Japan?
- (A) The severe lack of skilled manpower, containing a high flair for aesthetics, to keep up with the ever-increasing demands of the industry
- (B) The anime studios of Japan cannot meet the requirements of the high production demand as presented to them by the global audience.
- (C) Anime studios are highly notorious for paying out low costs to animators, who draw the majority of the show by hand.
- (D) Since mostly anime is drawn by Hand, animators who try to meet the production quota end up with carpal tunnel syndrome on their drawing hand.
4. What is the main cause behind the challenge faced by the animators?
- (A) They are not hired on a permanent basis and instead are hired on a freelance basis, which varies from project to project.
- (B) An In-between animator can earn only a maximum of 2\$ per drawing.
- (C) The large backstage politics in play do not allow the in-between animators to earn a decent salary out of their passion.
- (D) The aesthetic quality and attention to details for each drawing, bring extra burdens for the artists to comply.
5. The grass ain't greener for the key animators, because:
- (A) The difference between salaries of in-between and key animators is next to negligible.
- (B) The long working hours and the harsh working environment can cause multiple health related problems.
- (C) To make big bucks in the industry, the team of animators must be a part of a huge hit title, otherwise they couldn't make nickels enough to rub together.
- (D) The animation studios in Japan do not adhere to labour laws, and are caught violating on multiple occasions.

Solutions

1. (D)
- The solution for the above query is visible in the first paragraph itself. Notice that the author, along with mentioning Pokémon, mentions shows like One Piece and Sailor Moon, which were quite beneficial for the animation industry, as it grew double in size by the end of 2017. Needless to say, option D summarises the true reason why Ash Ketchum was crucial for the anime industry post 2005.
- Point of reference:* Second last line, first paragraph.
- 'These classic shows and many others led the charge; between 2002 and 2017, the Japanese animation industry doubled in size to more than \$19 billion annually'.
- Options A, B, and C are not the correct answers. The debut of Ash Ketchum's adventures in 1998, the subsequent road it created for other hit shows to arrive in the U.S., and the arrival of Neon Genesis at Netflix are not the true reasons why Ash Ketchum was crucial for the Anime industry.



2. (C)

The question above can be answered appropriately, by observing carefully the first paragraph. The reader can observe that in the beginning the writer stated the success of anime in the U.S. and the commercial revenue by the same industry over the past few years. Then by the end, the writing takes a paradigm shift as the author reveals, that the people behind the onscreen magic barely make their ends meet and this pursuit of aesthetic idealism only perpetuates human agony leading to depression, burnout, and the worst, suicide. The correct alternative that can completely describe the tone of this paragraph is option C.

Point of reference: The complete first paragraph.

Options A, B, and D are incorrect. Nostalgic lines in the beginning, descriptive tone describing the success of the Anime industry, and the optimistic views for the future of the industry, are not apt to describe the tone of the first paragraph.

3. (A)

The difficulty faced by the animation industry of Japan can be observed in the second paragraph. In the second line, and in the words of Shingo Adachi. Talent shortage is a huge problem for the anime studios. The production demand of an estimated 200 animated shows made per year, puts a lot of extra stress on the studios and animators alike. Add in a lack of skilled manpower and the turmoil faced by the animators, increased by manifolds. From this observation, the biggest challenge faced by the animation industry of Japan, is conveyed in option A.

Point of reference: Second line, second paragraph.

‘Shingo Adachi, an animator and character designer for Sword Art Online, a

popular anime TV series, said the talent shortage is a serious ongoing problem—with nearly 200 animated TV series alone made in Japan each year, there aren’t enough skilled animators to go around’.

Options B, C, and D are incorrect. The incompetence of the animation studios, the low pay-out provided to animators, and the physical ailments associated with excessive use of the hand, are not the biggest challenge faced by the animation industry of Japan.

4. (D)

The main challenge faced by the animators is made apparent in the second paragraph itself. In the last line itself, the author points out that it is not the earning an animator gets per drawing. But the extra attention to details, and the aesthetic quality demanded by the animation studios, puts an additional burden on the animators to dish out a single drawing in an hour, which hampers their way to make decent earnings. From this understanding, the correct answer is option D.

Point of reference: Final line, second statement.

‘That’s not to mention anime’s meticulous attention to details that are by and large ignored by animation in the West, like food, architecture, and landscape, which can take four or five times longer than average to draw’.

Options A, B, and C are incorrect. The non-hiring of animators on a permanent basis and the backstage politics between the in-animators and key animators are not the true ground behind the challenge faced by the animators. Option B may seem to be the answer at first sight, but the author has clearly pointed out that he has no issue with the salary an animator gets per drawing, but rather, the high quality and attention to detail demanded by the animation studios,



that make it very difficult for a drawing to be complete in an hour or so.

5. (B)

In the final paragraph, this assertion in the query becomes apparent. In the final paragraph, the author has explained the plight of animators, even those as well who are a part of the hit title (*Attack on Titan*). Apart from the low salary, the work pressure along with long and strenuous working hours can cause health related problems. This observation is made more evident when the writer cited an

instance of labour law violation committed by Madhouse studio. The correct answer is option B.

Point of reference: The complete final paragraph.

Options A, C and D are incorrect. The low salaries earned by the main animators, the direct dependence of salaries earned on the popularity of the shows, and the non-adherence of labour laws by animation studios is not the main concern due to which the writer has shared this assertion.

Passage 52

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

There have been places and periods of history when only a congenital optimist could have had any hope for the future of our species. Think of the end of Athens's golden age, the fall of the Roman Empire, the petering out of the Renaissance, the close of the Enlightenment, the rise of fascism. It's when things look bleak indeed that it pays to remember the German 19th century philosopher Hegel. In his *Lectures on the Philosophy of World History*, published in 1830, Hegel offered us a way of looking at the darker periods of history that neither glosses over their pain nor refuses to give up hope—but intelligently helps us to understand why human progress cannot be linear while encouraging us to trust that it does occur nevertheless.

For Hegel, history moves forward in what he termed a dialectical way. A dialectic is a philosophical term for an argument made up of three parts: A thesis, an antithesis, and a synthesis. Both the thesis and the antithesis (ideas) contain parts of the same truth, but they are also exaggerations and distortions of the whole, and so need to clash and interact, until their best elements find resolution in a synthesis. Hegel thought this pattern a constant in history. The world makes

progress by lurching from one extreme to another, as it seeks to compensate for previous mistakes and generally requires three moves before the right balance on any issue can be found.

For example, the Ancient Athenians discovered the idea of individual liberty, but their regime was blind to the need for collective discipline and organisation. The Ancient Persians knew all about that and were thereby able to conquer the Athenians on the battlefield, yet they were also despotic enemies of free thought, which with time became its own liability. It took many centuries for the correct synthesis between liberty and discipline to be worked out in the form of the Roman Empire. In Hegel's own era, the stifling, unfair 18th-century system of inherited monarchy had been abolished by the French Revolution—but what should have been the peaceful birth of representative government ended up in the anarchy and chaos of the Terror. This in turn led to the emergence of Napoleon, who restored order but became a military brute, trampling on the liberty he had professed to love. Only after forty years and much bloodshed did the modern 'balanced constitution' emerge, an arrangement which more sensibly balanced up popular representation with the rights of minorities.



Hegel's argument has a highly consoling feel at moments when it seems that one kind of progress has been entirely lost. He is on hand to reassure us that we are merely seeing the pendulum swing back for a time. Yet he also wisely counselled that this was needed because the initial move forward had been blind to a range of crucial insights. All sides on a matter will contain important truths lodged amidst exaggerations, and bombast—yet will eventually be sifted through the wisdom of time. Hegel reminds us that big overreactions are eminently compatible with events broadly moving forward in the right direction. The dark moments aren't the end, they're a challenging but even in some ways necessary part of an antithesis that will—eventually—locate a wiser point of synthesis.

1. Why does the author advise to take heed of the words quoted by Hegel?
 - (A) Particularly when studying history because Hegel came with the concept of 'End of History'.
 - (B) The true reason behind the fall of Athens and the Roman Empire can only be understood by studying Hegel's 'Lectures on the Philosophy of World History'.
 - (C) Hegel's philosophy helps us to understand that no matter the circumstances, human progress is always bound to occur.
 - (D) Hegel in his book 'Lectures on the Philosophy of World History' outlines the future of humankind. Hence, it should be referred from time to time.
2. What can be inferred from the instance shared by the author about the Athenians?
 - (A) The Roman Empire was the synthesis which resulted in the clash of Athens and Persia.
 - (B) Freedom of thought is an endless cycle which is bound to occur no matter the change in power.
 - (C) Persians were only able to defeat the Athenians because the Athenians stood divided against the authoritarian rulers.
 - (D) The Athenian ruler at the time, Alcibiades had eroded basic freedoms in favour of military ventures which were nothing but disastrous.
3. What do you understand by the expression 'sifted through the wisdom of time'?
 - (A) There is no way of knowing the absolute truth. All we can have are opinions and views.
 - (B) Time is able to heal all kinds of wounds. Even those which arise out of conflict.
 - (C) The human ability to know absolute truth is bound by the limitations of their time, because people overreact to exaggerations.
 - (D) To arrive from Thesis or Antithesis, to Synthesis is a time taking process, since it would take three moves from any starting point to arrive at the resolution.
4. How does Hegel view the process of progress in his dialectical idealism?
 - (A) Thesis and Antithesis are both opposite parts of the truth and the conflict would always end when the best parts of both culminate into a synthesis.
 - (B) That all progress has a constant factor when reading world history, and that is of conflict.
 - (C) Hegel saw that the end of history would come when a perfect utopia is reached, where there is no more need for conflict.
 - (D) Akin to a pendulum, thesis and antithesis are both the extreme ends of it, and the synthesis is the middle of it.
5. The writer would agree with all the following except:
 - (A) The annals of world history are full of events, which had troubled the



people of that time and made them believe that the future of mankind might be all gloomy.

- (B) Human progress cannot be made without conflict which upsets the path followed by progress.
- (C) The French revolution led to the rise of Napoleon, but Napoleon's rise and

fall led to the rise of fascism as we know today.

- (D) It cannot be stated that if we are on the side of thesis and antithesis, but a wiser and consoling synthesis is bound to come.

Solutions

1. (C)

The reason why the author asks the reader to refer to Hegel, can be observed in the first paragraph. The author begins, how there have been dark times in history, when only biased optimism can see hope for the future of mankind. These events have been many, such as the end of the era of enlightenment, the golden age of Athens, and the fall of the Roman empire. Through many historical events which looked bleak and the end of mankind, humanity has progressed in spite of them all. Though not in a linear fashion.

Therefore, the correct answer is option C.

Point of reference: Final line, first paragraph.

'In his Lectures on the Philosophy of World History, published in 1830, Hegel offered us a way of looking at the darker periods of history that neither glosses over their pain nor refuses to give up hope—but intelligently helps us to understand why human progress cannot be linear while encouraging us to trust that it does occur nevertheless'.

Options A, B, and D are inaccurate explanations. The reference to Hegel only when studying world history, the true reason behind the fall of Athens, and the outline of the future of mankind, are not the true reasons behind heeding the words of Hegel.

2. (B)

The example of Athenians can be observed in the third paragraph. In the third paragraph, Athenians were the first to discover the idea of individual liberty and the Persians were the first to discover this advantage and defeated the authoritarian rule of the Athenians. But since now the Persians were the new rulers, they became the new authoritarians and soon freedom of thought followed. From this instance it can be inferred that free thought is a cycle which is bound to occur and triumph at any point over the rulers of any given time.

Therefore, the correct answer is option B.

Point of reference: First, Second and third line of the third paragraph.

'For example, the Ancient Athenians discovered the idea of individual liberty, but their regime was blind to the need for collective discipline and organisation. The Ancient Persians knew all about that and were thereby able to conquer the Athenians on the battlefield, yet they were also despotic enemies of free thought, which with time became its own liability. It took many centuries for the correct synthesis between liberty and discipline to be worked out in the form of the Roman Empire'.

Options A, C, and D can be discarded. The birth of the Roman Empire, the defeat of the Athenians at the hands of



the Persians, and the military ventures of Alcibiades, are not the inferences to be gained from the instance of the Athenians.

3. (C)

The expression, as mentioned in the query, is discovered in the fourth line of the final paragraph. In the final paragraph, the author states that all the important truths which get lost amidst exaggerations, would eventually become clear with time. What Hegel and the author means by this, is that any situation or conflict has two possible sides of the truth, but since the important truths are overhyped and polluted by both sides, people tend to be divided. Due to this division in thinking and ideology, a clash is bound to occur because of the over attachment and overreaction associated with these particular sides of truths. So, to arrive at the absolute truth, only time is wise enough to filter out the unnecessary propaganda. The only alternative that comes close to this in meaning is option C.

Point of reference: Second last line, third paragraph.

All sides on a matter will contain important truths lodged amidst exaggerations, and bombast—yet will eventually be sifted through the wisdom of time’.

Options A, B, and D are to be discarded. With the explanation and reference in place, the reader can understand the true meaning of this quote.

4. (A)

The dialectical idealism mentioned in the query, finds its footings in the

second paragraph, in the second paragraph, the reader can observe that the dialectical process which Hegel envisioned, saw history as a dialectical argument comprising of 3 elements: A thesis, an antithesis, and synthesis. A thesis and antithesis are opposite ends of the same truth, but they are polluted forms of the absolute truth, and through their clash itself a resolution would arrive, which would contain best ideas of both the sides and provide resolution. This is the way, as per Hegel, that history makes progress. The correct idea is option A.

Point of reference: Final line, second paragraph.

‘The world makes progress by lurching from one extreme to another, as it seeks to compensate for previous mistakes and generally requires three moves before the right balance on any issue can be found’.

5. (C)

The appropriate way to answer this is to completely understand the passage and the concepts introduced in it. With this understanding in place, the reader needs to analyse the concepts which are either not mentioned in the passage or contradict to what is mentioned in the passage. After scanning the passage, the reader can notice that option C is the correct answer. The rise and fall of Napoleon led to a modern balanced constitution or mass democracy which became a voice for the rights of the minorities.

The solution is option C.

Passage 53

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

We all love Robocop. Sure, there are some morally and ethically questionable aspects

of an unstoppable privatised security bot, but the Armor and cyborg capabilities are pretty freaking awesome. Whether it’s in Paul Verhoeven’s 1987 original or José Padilha’s



remake, RoboCop is simply as badass as it gets. He's also almost a century away from being even remotely feasible. Why? Turns out we just don't have the battery power to operate a suit with that many moving parts for any length of time. Most iPhones barely last a full day on a charge, and a Tesla Model S can only make it about 300 miles before it needs to be plugged in—and that battery weighs more than 1,300 pounds (and is likely incapable of keep a human's organs running while being shot at).

"That's one serious limitation that our technology is not approaching yet", says Charles Higgins, an electrical engineer and professor of neuroscience at the University of Arizona. "In order to do a real RoboCop like you see in the movie, you need to have a very compact power source that's going to power all those motors all day—it doesn't look like RoboCop has to plug in every hour". That doesn't mean, though, that we may never see real Robocops. While our battery technology might not be up to snuff, Higgins notes that there have been brain-interfacing technology advances that show great promise, and prosthetics are getting better every day. (Hands with a sense of touch, anyone?) It's possible we could have a fully articulated robotic body connected to a brain and spinal cord like RoboCop in about 100 years, Higgins said, but unless somebody discovered a battery with 100,000 times the energy density of an iPhone battery in my iPhone, you won't be seeing it anytime soon—and certainly not by 2028, which is when the movie takes place.

Even though it's highly unlikely robot cops will be policing the streets of Detroit (or Tehran, as in Padhila's reboot), the movie's production designer maintains that reality was a major focus. Martin Whist took design cues from current advancements in prosthetics, as well as the Stealth Bomber. The visual inspiration from the dark works of existentialist artist Francis Bacon, whose work appears in the office of OmniCorp CEO

and, in Whist's words, gives 'a subtext to the whole movie'. "We didn't want to make up something just for the sake of 'Wow! That's the future!'" Whist says. "This idea of a guy's brain running mechanics of a robot independently is not that crazy of an idea". To wit: brain implants. Currently, while electrodes capable of 'operating' Robocop's prosthetics and could conceivably be placed inside its brain, they'd only last perhaps two years at the most. But there are advances in electrocorticography (ECoG)—electrodes placed on the surface of the brain—that could last much longer. Research in the field shows promise for prosthetics, Higgins says.

1. Why does Higgins believe that the concept of Robocop may be difficult but not impossible?
 - (A) Compact power sources are slowly developing, and with time their capacities would be sufficient to meet behemoth-esque power demands.
 - (B) The world of biomechanics and prosthetics are improving manifold with each passing day.
 - (C) The discovery of a battery carrying 100,000 times more energy density than a regular iPhone, has the interest of the author piqued.
 - (D) Higgins is optimistic that by the time of 2028, advancements in battery capacity would be made either by Tim Cook or Elon Musk.
2. Based on your reading of the passage, what can be said about the visual aesthetics of the movie Robocop?
 - (A) The major advancement in the world of prosthetics and military technology was the major contributor for the pre-production concepts.
 - (B) The movie paints a very grim, dark, and authoritarian view of the future, as it presents the peak of privatisation of security forces.
 - (C) The visual tone is black and white to represent the view that the



- characters have. There is no grey line of morality for any of the characters.
- (D) The movie has taken heavy cues from the renowned works of existentialist thinker Francis Bacon.
3. At this juncture in time, why are we still distant from realising the idea of Robocop?
- (A) Robocop is a work of fiction and it is not possible to reanimate a person who has already perished.
- (B) The concept of Robocop (half-man, half-machine) has ethical and moral aspects which would require time to be resolved.
- (C) The visionaries such as Tim Cook and Elon Musk do not have the necessary device in their hand that can carry such a high magnitude of power.
- (D) The Electric power required to operate a unit with that many rotational components remotely, demands a battery of high voltage.
4. How would a Robocop coordinate and function the movement of different prosthetics in its unit?
- (A) A fully articulated body connected completely to a brain and spinal cord.
- (B) With the help of electrocorticographic electrodes placed on the surface of the brain as implants.
- (C) The design of the stealth bomber could be the potential base from which remote control of prosthetics can be deemed possible.
- (D) A high power capacitor which potentially holds up to 100,000 times the power of a standard iPhone.
5. The writer would agree with all the following except:
- (A) The original Paul Verhoeven's vision of Robocop paints a dystopian future, and a more possible design of creation than José Padilha's remake.
- (B) The electrical power required by a potential Robocop are far away from the grasps of the technology feasible in present times.
- (C) Augmentations and Prosthetics with their rule-breaking advancements could potentially make way for the tomorrow of law enforcement, today.
- (D) Along with taking cues from the latest military tech, the director of the remake also borrows ideas from Francis Bacon.

Solutions

1. (B)

The concept of Robocop, though well received in the realms and works of fiction, is far away from becoming a reality. However, Higgins presents a valid argument that the concept of Robocop does seem challenging but not impossible. The latest advancement in brain-interfacing technology and the world of prosthetics, makes Higgins hopeful that the idea of Robocop is not entirely impossible. From this observation, the correct answer is option B.

Point of reference: Fourth line, second paragraph.

‘While our battery technology might not be up to snuff, Higgins notes that there have been brain-interfacing technology advances that show great promise, and prosthetics are getting better every day’.

Options A, C, and D are to be rejected. The development of compact power sources, the discovery of new kinds of batteries, and the optimistic view of



Higgins, are not the true reasons why the idea of Robocop is not impossible.

2. (D)

From the third paragraph, the reader can understand from whom the visual aesthetics of the movie have taken inspiration. In the third line, the writer mentions that the works of Francis Bacon were crucial for the visual tone and inspiration of the movie. Hence, the correct answer is option D.

Point of reference: Third line, third paragraph.

‘The visual inspiration from the dark works of existentialist artist Francis Bacon, whose work appears in the office of OmniCorp CEO and, in Whist’s words, gives ‘a subtext to the whole movie’.

3. (D)

The reason why the realisation of the popular concept ‘Robocop’ is still far away from feasible, becomes apparent in the first paragraph, and specifically in the fifth line of it. The writer points out that there is a lack of battery power which could operate a robotic suit of such high demand. The reader can observe the same as well. The solution is option D.

Point of reference: Fifth line, first paragraph.

‘Turns out we just don’t have the battery power to operate a suit with that many moving parts for any length of time’.

Options A, B, and C are the wrong choices. The impossible task of Reanimation, the concept of Robocop being shrouded by ethical questions and the limitations of the visionaries, are not the apt response to describe the reason behind the distant realisation of Robocop.

4. (B)

The solution for the above is apparent in the final paragraph. The reader can observe that in the final paragraph, Higgins can be noted citing the advancements made in the field of ECOG. Brain implants, though not lasting longer than the duration of 2 years, but the recent advances can make it last longer. From this consideration, the solution is option B.

Point of reference: Third last line, final paragraph.

‘Currently, while electrodes capable of ‘operating’ Robocop’s prosthetics and could conceivably be placed inside its brain, they’d only last perhaps two years at the most’.

Options A, C and D are not to be considered as the answer. Option A might seem to be the answer at the first sight. However, Higgins presented this solution to counter the power problems associated with the design of Robocop.

5. (A)

The appropriate way to answer this is to completely understand the passage and the concepts introduced in it. With this understanding in place, the reader needs to analyse the concepts which are either not mentioned in the passage or contradict to what is mentioned in the passage. After scanning the passage, the reader can notice that option A is the correct answer. The advantages of Paul Verhoeven’s design over the remake, does not find any mention in the passage.

Point of reference: The complete passage.

Options B, C, and D are incorrect. All these points are mentioned in the passage. The writer would not disagree with any of them.



Passage 54

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

In January 1941, the twenty-eight-year-old French writer Albert Camus began work on a novel about a virus that spreads uncontrollably from animals to humans and ends up destroying half the population of a representative modern town. It was called *La Peste/The Plague*, eventually published in 1947 and frequently described as the greatest European novel of the post-war period. The book—written in sparse, haunting prose—takes us through a catastrophic outbreak of a contagious disease in the lightly fictionalised town of Oran on the Algerian coast, as seen through the eyes of the novel's hero, a Doctor Rieux, a version of Camus himself. As the novel opens, an air of eerie normality reigns. 'Oran is an ordinary town', writes Camus, 'nothing more than a French Prefecture on the coast of Algeria'. The inhabitants lead busy money-centred and denatured lives; they barely notice that they are alive. Then, with the pacing of a thriller, the horror begins. Dr Rieux comes across a dead rat. Then another and another. Soon the centre of the town is overrun with the mysterious deaths of thousands of rats, who stumble out of their hiding places in a daze, let out a drop of blood from their noses and expire.

The inhabitants accuse the authorities of not acting fast enough. The rats are removed in a haste by open roofed roll-offs— and the town heaves a sigh of relief but Dr Rieux suspects that this is not the end. He has read enough about the structure of plagues and transmissions from animals to humans to know that something is afoot. Soon an epidemic seizes Oran, the disease transmitting itself from citizen to citizen, spreading panic and horror in every street. In order to write the book, Camus immersed himself in the history of plagues. He read books on the Black Death that killed 50 million people in Europe in the 14th century; the Italian plague

of 1629 that killed 280,000 people across the plains of Lombardy and the Veneto, the great plague of London of 1665 as well as plagues that ravaged cities on China's eastern seaboard during the 18th and 19th centuries. In March 1942, Camus told the writer André Malraux that he wanted to understand what plague meant for humanity: 'Said like that it might sound strange', he added, 'but this subject seems so natural to me'.

Camus was not writing about one plague in particular, nor was this narrowly, as has sometimes been suggested, a metaphoric tale about the recent occupation of France by Germany. Camus was drawn to his theme because, in his philosophy, we are all—unbeknownst to us—already living through a plague: that is a widespread, silent, invisible disease that may kill any of us at any time and destroy the lives we assumed were solid. Death. The actual historical incidents we call plagues are merely concentrations of a universal precondition, they are dramatic instances of a perpetual rule: that we are vulnerable to being randomly exterminated, by a bacillus, an accident or the actions of our fellow humans. Our exposure to plague is at the heart of Camus's view that our lives are fundamentally on the edge of what he termed 'the absurd'.

1. Give a suitable heading for the second paragraph.
 - (A) The false relief that comes with superficial solutions.
 - (B) Humanity doesn't learn anything from the history of plagues.
 - (C) The research work behind the creation of *La Peste*.
 - (D) The suspicion of Dr Rieux.
2. What can be stated as the reason for the spread of the plague from rats to human beings?
 - (A) The undue pressure created by the folks of Oran on the public authorities.



- (B) In order to silence the criticism, the authorities removed the rats in roll-offs which were open roofs and made it possible for the spread.
- (C) The spread was inevitable and Dr Rieux had studied long enough that a plague was bound to spread from animals to humans sooner or later.
- (D) The townspeople do not give due consideration to the history of the plagues that came before their time.
3. What incident acted as the Ground Zero for the plague to spread in the town of Oran?
- (A) Since the people of Oran barely notice that they are alive and so occupied in their lives, it is impossible to describe the incident.
- (B) The publication of the novel *La Peste* acted as the origin point for the virus to spread in Oran.
- (C) Dr Rieux discovers a dead rat near his clinic, who had died under mysterious conditions.
- (D) The town centre is overrun by thousands of rats who bleed their nose and perish after that.
4. What can be said about the true intention of Camus, behind writing *La Peste*?
- (A) Camus wanted the reader to become aware of the absurd event which haunts us all and can render solid lives meaningless in one swipe: Death.
- (B) The writer, devastated by the occupation of France, wrote a tale depicting life in the authoritarian rule of Germany.
- (C) To present to the reader that the plague has many unsaid travesties behind it which are generally not brought to light.
- (D) He wanted to make the reader aware about the history of the plague, and played out a scenario about what generally happens during a plague in towns of modernity.
5. What inference can be drawn from the passage?
- (A) Townspeople of Oran were careless and their 'devil may care' attitude got them all into deep trouble.
- (B) The one thing we can learn from history, is that we do not learn anything from history.
- (C) The history of the plague got Camus curious, and thus became the inspiration behind writing *La Peste*.
- (D) Plague is just another name given to a much absurd truth that governs and may extinguish the flames of our life and the heat produced from it, meaningless.

Solutions

1. (C)

To arrive at a suitable heading, the reader must understand the topic or tone that is in the majority of the paragraph. From carefully scanning the second paragraph, the reader can observe that the second paragraph, along with discussing how the plague spread in Oran, can discover the research work carried on by Albert Camus, before writing the book *La Peste*. The author has cited the plagues

of history that Albert Camus examined and the subject matter seems quite natural for him to discuss. After this observation, it can be said with surety, that the correct answer is option C. The majority of the paragraph in focus, asks the research work that went behind the creation of *La Peste*.

Point of reference: The complete second paragraph.



Options A, B, and D are the wrong choices. The false relief of superficial solutions, the non-learning of anything from history, and the suspicion of Dr Rieux are not the appropriate headings for the second paragraph.

2. (B)

From the second paragraph, the reader can observe what transpired subsequently after the rats gathered in the town centre, only to perish. The residents of the town accused the authorities of not staying vigilant and to silence this flood of criticism the town authorities gathered all the dead bodies in a haste. The dead bodies are removed in a haste from the town in open roof roll-offs and the plague spreads. Hence, the correct answer is option B.

Point of reference: Second line, second paragraph.

‘The rats are removed in a haste by open roofed roll-offs— and the town heaves a sigh of relief but Dr Rieux suspects that this is not the end’.

Options A, C, and D are to be rejected. The undue pressure of townspeople, the inevitability of the plague to spread, and the non-consideration of the history of the plagues, are not the correct reasons behind the spread of the plague.

3. (D)

Ground zero, in context of a plague, is the origin point from where a plague reaches a spread level of biblical proportions. From reading and observing the first paragraph, the reader can analyse that the crowding of dead rats in the centre of the town is the origin point for the virus to spread to occur in the town of Oran. Hence, the correct answer is option D.

Point of reference: Final line, first paragraph.

‘Soon the centre of the town is overrun with the mysterious deaths of thousands of rats, who stumble out of their hiding places in a daze, let out a drop of blood from their noses and expire’.

Options A, B, and C are the incorrect choices. The careless and carefree attitude of the residents of Oran, the publication of the novel, and the discovery of the dead rat are not the ground zero for the spread of the plague. Option C might seem to be the correct answer, but from observing the rest of the passage, the gathering of dead rats at the centre of the town is a bigger incident that must have caused the plague to spread.

4. (A)

The true intention of Camus becomes clear in the final paragraph. Though he had carefully examined the history of plagues that came before his time, his true purpose behind writing the story was more than just playing out a general scenario that would occur in a plague. The true purpose or the dressing up of the term ‘plague’, was in Camus’ way, making the reader aware of a much silent and deadlier plague that already haunts the majority of humanity. The plague he was concerned with was silent, invisible, and eventually rendered life meaningless in one single swipe. No matter the riches and accomplishments associated with life. The particular plague he was concerned with was Death.

Hence, the correct answer is option A.

Point of reference: Second line, third paragraph.

‘Camus was drawn to his theme because, in his philosophy, we are all—unknownst to us—already living through a plague: that is a widespread, silent, invisible disease that may kill any of us at any time and destroy the lives we assumed were solid. Death’.



Options B, C, and D are incorrect. The devastation of the author after the occupation of France by Germany, the unsaid travesties behind the plague and the general scenario of plague in an age of modernity are not the true intentions of Camus behind writing *La Peste*.

5. (D)

The true and final inference to be drawn from the passage becomes clear and evident in the final paragraph. The reader can observe that the passage began with describing Oran, the inhabitants of it and the sudden infestation of dead rats, and subsequently started discussing how

Camus came up with the idea to write the book and what was the message that was conveyed by Camus through the book. In conclusion, the correct answer and the main inference to be drawn from the passage is option D.

Point of reference: The complete passage.

Options A, B, and C are not to be considered as the answer. The carelessness of the townspeople of Oran, not learning anything from history, and the inspiration of Camus behind writing *La Peste* are not the true reasons of Camus behind writing *La Peste*.

Passage 55

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

Anime dates back to the birth of Japan's film industry in the early 1900s and has emerged as one of Japan's major cultural forces over the past century. Much of the work done in these early years was not the cell animation technique that would come to be the dominant production technique, but a host of other methods: chalkboard drawings, painting directly on the film, paper cut-outs, and so on. One by one, many of the technologies used today were added to Japanese animated productions—sound (and eventually colour); the multiplane camera system; and cell animation. But due to the rise of Japanese nationalism and the start of WWII, most of the animated productions created from the 1930s on were not popular entertainments, but instead were either commercially-oriented or government propaganda of one type or another.

It wasn't until after WWII—in 1948, to be precise—that the first modern Japanese animation production company, one devoted to entertainment, came into being: Toei. Their first theatrical features were explicitly in the vein of Walt Disney's films (as popular

in Japan as they were everywhere else). One key example was the ninja-and-sorcery mini-epic *Shōnen Sarutobi Sasuke* (1959), the first anime to be released theatrically in the United States (by MGM, in 1961). But it didn't make anywhere near the splash of, say, Akira Kurosawa's *Rashōmon*, which brought Japan's movie industry to the attention of the rest of the world. What really pushed animation to the fore in Japan was the shift to TV in the Sixties. The first of Toei's major animated shows for TV during this time were adaptations of popular manga: Mitsuteru Yokoyama's *Sally the Witch* and the 'kid with his giant robot' story *Tetsujin 28-go* was adapted for TV by Toei and TCJ/Eiken, respectively. Ditto Shotaro Ishinomori's hugely-influential *Cyborg 009* about a robot-hybrid man, which was adapted into another major Toei animated franchise.

Up until this point, Japanese animated productions had been made by and for Japan. But gradually they began to show up in English-speaking territories, although without much in the way to link them back to Japan. 1963 heralded Japan's first major animated export to the U.S.: *Tetsuwan Atomu*—more commonly known as *Astro*



Boy. Adapted from Osamu Tezuka's manga about a robot boy with superpowers, it aired on NBC thanks to the efforts of Fred Ladd (who later also brought over Tezuka's Kimba the White Lion). It became a nostalgia touchstone for several generations to come, although its creator—a cultural legend in his own country—would remain largely anonymous elsewhere. In 1968, animation studio Tatsunoko followed the same pattern—they adapted a domestic manga title and ended up creating an overseas hit. In this case, the hit was Speed Racer (aka Mach GoGoGo). The man responsible for bringing Speed to the U.S. would be none other than Peter Fernandez, a hugely important figure in anime's spread beyond Japan. Later, Carl Macek and Sandy Frank would do the same for other shows, setting a pattern where a few insightful impresarios helped bring key anime titles to English-speaking audiences.

1. What was the crucial event that took place for the Japanese anime industry post World War 2?
 - (A) The ninja and sorcery epic Shōnen Sarutobi Sasuke was created by Toei animation.
 - (B) In 1948, Japan's biggest and still running animation production company was formed.
 - (C) The Japanese animators decided to make animation in the vein of Walt Disney, with the main demographic of younger audiences.
 - (D) The themes of the animation had undergone a paradigm shift from themes of nationalism.
2. Which work cracked the door open for Japan's movie industry and helped gather attention globally?
 - (A) Akira Kurosawa's Rashōmon
 - (B) Yokoyama's Sally the Witch
 - (C) Yokoyama's Tetsujin 28-go
 - (D) Ishinomori's Cyborg 009
3. Based on your reading of the second and third paragraphs, what can be mentioned as a common observation of Toei Animation's works from 1948 to 1963?
 - (A) The works of Toei Animation were mostly directed towards a younger demographic where the protagonist was also very young.
 - (B) The executives of Toei Animation pushed their interest from feature length productions to TV.
 - (C) The earlier works of the animation juggernaut consisted mostly of protagonists which were mechanically augmented.
 - (D) The earlier works of Toei, were direct adaptations from the original source, their respective manga.
4. What was the difference in the animation technique used in the 1900s and modern times?
 - (A) A majority of the contemporary animation style today heavily relies on cell animation techniques and shading.
 - (B) Since the government at the time pursued propaganda-oriented themes, the main purpose behind anime was subversion.
 - (C) The earlier produced anime of the 1900s was devoid of colours and the sound production was entirely absent.
 - (D) A striking feature between the animation of different eras can be summarised as the high usage of procedures that involve painting directly on the film.
5. What can be inferred from the final paragraph?
 - (A) The narrative style of Japanese animations directed their attention to be made for a western audience.
 - (B) Astro Boy was the first benchmark for the Japanese animation industry to focus their crosshairs to a western audience.



(C) Osamu Tezuka was a key figure in bringing anime from Japan to the U.S., though his name and legend remained anonymous for many years.

(D) Animation studios realised that by adapting a local hit manga, they could earn potentially extra revenue by exporting the same to English-speaking audiences.

Solutions

1. (B)

The anime industry after World War 2, saw a dramatic shift not only in the tone of the animation being produced, but also in the direction and approach they were taking. This becomes evident in the second paragraph. On closer reading of it, the reader can observe that every advancement and popularity gained by Japan's movie industry was due entirely to the formation of Japanese Animation production company, Toei. It can be said with confidence, that the most crucial event that took place for the animation industry post Second World War, was the formation of Toei animation. The correct answer is option B.

Point of reference: Second line, second paragraph.

'Their first theatrical features were explicitly in the vein of Walt Disney's films (as popular in Japan as they were everywhere else). One key example was the ninja-and-sorcery mini-epic Shōnen Sarutobi Sasuke (1959), the first anime to be released theatrically in the United States (by MGM, in 1961)'.

Options A, C and D are incorrect. The creation of Shōnen Sarutobi Sasuke, the creative decision to create fictions in the same theme and tone of Walt Disney and the gradual shift away from themes of nationalism, are not the crucial events that took place for the Japanese Animation industry after World War II.

2. (A)

The animation work which was beneficial for Japan's movie industry to gather global attention, becomes clear in the second paragraph. Particularly in the fourth line, the reader can notice that though Shōnen Sarutobi Sasuke was Toei's first feature length anime, it was not until the release of Rashōmon that brought Japan's movie industry to the centre of global attention. Hence, the correct answer for the above query is option A.

Point of reference: Fourth line, second paragraph.

'But it didn't make anywhere near the splash of, say, Akira Kurosawa's Rashōmon, which brought Japan's movie industry to the attention of the rest of the world'.

Options B, C, and D are not the correct answers. Yokoyama's Sally the Witch and Tetsujin 28-go, and Ishinomori's Cyborg 009 were not the breakout work that brought global attention to Japan's movie industry.

3. (C)

On observing the second and third paragraph, the reader can form a common thread between the earliest and most influential works of Toei Animation. Though the first work by Toei was about the theme of ninja and sorcery, Toei found much of their earlier success in Sally the Witch, Tetsujin 28-go, Cyborg 009, and Astro Boy. The common theme



that is prevalent in all these works are stories centred around robots, mechs, and cyborgs. Needless to say, that the common observation between all these stories is option C.

Point of reference: The complete second and third paragraph.

Options A, B, and D are incorrect. The shift to TV production from feature-length productions and the earlier works being directly lifted from manga are not the common observations between them all. Option A may seem to be the correct answer at the first glance, but Cyborg 009, does not follow the trend of the protagonist being a young boy.

4. (A)

The contrast that can be observed in the modern and pre-world war times of animation, is present in the first paragraph. In the first paragraph, the reader can observe in the second and third line of it, that a common and dominant feature of the modern anime is cell animation. It can be said with surety, that the difference between both the 1900s and the modern anime is cell animation, which is option A.

Point of reference: Second and third line of first paragraph.

‘Much of the work done in these early years was not the cell animation technique that would come to be the dominant production technique, but a host of other methods: chalkboard drawings, painting directly on the film, paper cut-outs, and so on. One by one, many of the technologies used today were added to Japanese animated productions—sound (and eventually colour); the multiplane camera system; and cell animation’.

Options B, C, and D are incorrect. The subversive themes of the 1930s, the absence of colours and sound production and the direct painting on the film are not the main differences observed in the contemporary and anime of the past.

5. (D)

In the final paragraph, the reader can observe that the author has cited the success of Astro Boy in the U.S., and which soon made Animation studios to pick up a pattern of adapting a locally hit manga, which could then be exported to an English-speaking audience. From this observation the correct answer is option D.

Point of reference: The complete final paragraph.

Options A, B, and C are incorrect. They are not the main inference to be drawn from the final paragraph.

Passage 56

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

The Ancient Greek philosopher Epicurus was born in 341 BC, on the island of Samos, a few miles off the coast of modern Turkey. He had an unusually long beard, wrote over three hundred books, and was one of the most famous philosophers of his age. What made him famous was his skilful and relentless focus on one particular subject: happiness. Previously, philosophers had wanted

to know how to be good; Epicurus insisted he wanted to focus on how to be happy. Few philosophers had ever made such a frank, down-to-earth admission of their interests before. It shocked many, especially when they heard that Epicurus had started a School for Happiness.

The idea of what was going on inside was both entirely shocking and deeply titillating. A few disgruntled Epicureans made some damaging leaks about what was going on in



the school. Timocrates said that Epicurus had to vomit twice a day because he spent all his time on a sofa being fed luxurious meats and fish by a team of slaves. And Diotimus the Stoic published fifty lewd letters which he said had been written by Epicurus to some young students when he'd been drunk and romantically obsessed with them. It's because of such gossip that we still sometimes now use the adjective 'Epicurean' to describe luxury and decadence. But such associations are unfounded. The truth about Epicurus is far less sensational—but far more interesting. The Greek philosopher really was focused on happiness and pleasure, but he had no interest in expensive meals. He owned only two cloaks and lived on bread, olives, and—as a treat—the occasional slice of cheese. Instead, having patiently studied happiness for many years, Epicurus came to a set of remarkable and revolutionary conclusions about what we actually need to be happy, conclusions wholly at odds with the assumptions of his age—and of our own.

Epicurus proposed that we typically make some mistakes when thinking about happiness: We think we need romantic relationships. Then, as now, people were obsessed with love. But Epicurus observed that happiness and love (let alone marriage) almost never go together. There is too much jealousy, misunderstanding, and bitterness. Mating is always complicated and rarely in harmony with affection. It would be best, Epicurus concluded, never to put too much faith in relationships. By contrast, he noted how rewarding most friendships are: here we are polite, we look for agreement, we don't scold or berate and we aren't possessive. But the problem is we don't see our friends enough. We let work and family take precedence. We can't find the time. They live too far away.

Then, as now, people were obsessed with their careers, motivated by a desire for money and applause. But Epicurus emphasised the difficulties of employment: the jealousy,

the backbiting and frustrated ambitions. What makes work really satisfying, Epicurus believed, is when we're able to work either alone or in very small groups and when it feels meaningful, when we sense that we're helping others in some way or making things that improve the world. It isn't really cash or prestige we want, it's a sense of fulfilment through our labour.

1. What was the true activity being carried out in the school for happiness?
 - (A) Epicurus was fed huge and ecstatic portions of the finest cuisines of Greece.
 - (B) Epicurus' school had all the grandeur and luxuries of Ancient Greece where drinking wine in place of water was the norm. Hence the word 'Epicurean' to describe degeneracy.
 - (C) Epicurus' school was open to people of both genders and many of them were romantically involved with one another, away from prying eyes.
 - (D) Epicurus was involved in discovering what makes people happy, but without all the luxuries and romantic gossip rumoured about it.
2. Why does the author use the expression 'of our own'?
 - (A) 'Epicurean' is a very relevant term even in today's time. A life of money and luxury is pursued by all.
 - (B) Human beings, both ancient and contemporary, are at odds about the concept of happy life, and Epicurus' conclusions can be of benefit for all.
 - (C) The writer takes a jab at the psyche of human beings. We all are afraid of abandonment.
 - (D) To the author, every age is marred by particular confusion regarding the life of a philosopher, and it is the job of a historian to provide clarity in this regard.
3. What is Epicurus' observation and advice in the third paragraph of the passage?



- (A) Epicurus suggests, if we desire to seek happiness, we should spend more time with our friends as in front of friends we don't pass judgments and neither form negative impressions.
 - (B) People need to stop obsessing with love as it is a waste of time and effort.
 - (C) The practices of courtship in society are rarely in accordance with affection and only perpetuate agony.
 - (D) Love at first sight is a fallacy, because all such kinds of 'loves' soon end up for divorce petitions.
4. What makes Epicurus stand out from the rest of the philosophers?
- (A) He had written over three hundred books, which was uncommon for any philosopher of his age.
 - (B) Unlike most philosophers who were born in Athens, Epicurus was born in modern Turkey.
 - (C) Epicurus' work was mostly concentrated on obtaining bliss in life, while others debated and compared the parameters of defining virtue.
 - (D) Other than Plato, Epicurus was the only one who had started a school in his name.
5. What advice can be taken from Epicurus' view on money and labour?
- (A) Epicurus insisted that people should not work in large pools of skilled manpower, but alone as it wouldn't harm their productivity.
 - (B) Epicurus believed that people should work without cost. When people work without the boundaries of finance, they excel and innovate.
 - (C) Epicurus concluded that most of the resentment that lies in corporate cubicles comes from jealousy, backbiting and cutthroat competitions.
 - (D) True happiness in a work can only be achieved when people are able to ideally contribute to the whole of humanity.

Solutions

1. (D)

To answer this appropriately the reader needs to divert his attention to the second paragraph. In the second paragraph, a lot of claims about the school's daily activities are made by Epicureans and Stoics. Some claim elite class luxuries while some feast on meals which only kings could afford. But before the end of the paragraph, the author quashed all these claims by sharing about what was actually happening in Epicurus' school. From this analysis, the correct answer is option D.

Point of reference: Second last line, second paragraph.

'The Greek philosopher really was focused on happiness and pleasure, but he had no interest in expensive meals'.

Options A, B, and C can be discarded. The serving of finest cuisines, the true origins of the word 'Epicurean' and the romantic affairs taking place in Epicurus' school, are not the true activity being carried out in the school for happiness.

2. (B)

The expression used by the author can be observed at the end of the second paragraph. In the second paragraph, the author has used the expression in the context of signifying Epicurus' conclusions about finding happiness in life. The



‘of our own’ expression, only drives forward the fact that our present age can gain a lot of relief and knowledge from Epicurus.

The solution is option B.

Point of reference: Final line, second paragraph.

‘Instead, having patiently studied happiness for many years, Epicurus came to a set of remarkable and revolutionary conclusions about what we actually need to be happy, conclusions wholly at odds with the assumptions of his age—and of our own’.

Options A, C and D are to be discarded. The relevance of the term ‘Epicurean’, the writer’s jab at the psyche of human beings, and every age being marred by confusion surrounding the life of a philosopher, are not the true intentions of the author to use the above expression.

3. (A)

Epicurus’s observation (in the third paragraph) was regarding the false thinking people had concerning love and marriage. People (both ancient and modern) decree that finding love is next to finding true happiness in the world, but he observed people who were in relationships, were being marred by tension, oppressions, and resentment in marriages. Epicurus concluded that happiness regarding relationships is a false idea, but on the other hand Epicurus recommended friendships instead. His point, that people are much nicer, more generous around their friends. They don’t act possessive and neither pass quick judgements about their friends. Hence, the correct answer is option A.

Point of reference: Sixth line, third paragraph.

‘By contrast, he noted how rewarding most friendships are: here we are polite,

we look for agreement, we don’t scold or berate and we aren’t possessive. But the problem is we don’t see our friends enough. We let work and family take precedence. We can’t find the time. They live too far away’.

Options B, C, and D are incorrect. Epicurus’ entire conclusion and advice are not covered entirely in these alternatives.

4. (C)

The solution for the above is apparent in the first paragraph. In the third and fourth line of the paragraph, the reader can observe that Epicurus’ main subject of attention made him famous and stand out from rest of the philosophers of his age. The subject being: Happiness and how to be happy in life. Hence, the only alternative that can resonate with this notion, is option C.

Point of reference: Third and fourth line of the first paragraph.

‘What made him famous was his skilful and relentless focus on one particular subject: happiness. Previously, philosophers had wanted to know how to be good; Epicurus insisted he wanted to focus on how to be happy’.

Options A, B, and D are inaccurate explanations. The enormous number of writings and books by Epicurus, Epicurus being born in modern Turkey, and the feat of Epicurus to have a school in his name, are not the correct reasons which made Epicurus stand out from the rest of the philosophers.

5. (D)

Epicurus’ view on money, labour and employment becomes apparent in the final paragraph. Hence, Epicurus noted that labour only feels meaningful when a labourer sees they are able to contribute in some way to the needs of humanity. In



other words, doing work in which we can help humanity in one way or the other. In conclusion, the correct answer is option D.

Point of reference: The complete final paragraph.

Options A, B, and C can be rejected. These options do not cover the true advice of Epicurus concerning money and labour.

Passage 57

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

There is one thing that I have noticed throughout my lifetime as a wrestling fan. I can always count on people putting pro wrestling to its grave. The funny thing is I used to believe in that nonsense. Yet time and time again, these people were always proven wrong. Let me start off by saying professional wrestling is not in trouble at all. It never has been in trouble and most likely never will be in trouble. Professional wrestling has been around for over 100 years, folks. It is as American as apple pie and baseball. Wrestling has survived countless depressions, bans on violence, and many brutal wars. Let's look at a worst-case scenario for a second, folks. Even if WWE and TNA both folded at the same time, wrestling would still survive. When wrestling was proven to be fake in the 1920s, there were many people then who said wrestling would fold. Guess what, folks? Not only did wrestling survive, but it flourished and soared to greater heights than ever before.

Also, if I hear one more time, 'How can people still watch that stuff? It's fake,' I'm going to go nuts. We know its fake, people, so please stop looking down on us fans who do watch it. I decided that I would take some time to explain to all of you how and why wrestling will always be here to stay. To do this, we have to travel all the way back to when the jig was up on pro wrestling. From the time pro wrestling was even conceived in the late 1800s, the authenticity of it was always questioned. You would mostly find wrestling back then at your local fairs or circus. It was

an instant draw that would help sell tickets for years. Back in those times carnies, always protected their product much like they did their sideshows. While it is true that there were indeed 'Shoot matches,' these rarely did happen. In fact, the only time they did happen was when there was a grudge match to settle. Other than those rare occasions, it was always fixed.

Most of the other major sports always detested wrestling back in those days. It was boxing that hated it the most, though, mainly because that's where they would always lump wrestling with. In the late '20s, the major sports would get their wish. It would be made known to the public that wrestling was indeed a sham. It was thought for the first time that it would finally be the end for pro wrestling. To the other sports' surprise and dismay, it survived. Whether it was because people were slow taking in this newfound info, or they just didn't care. Pro wrestling would indeed stay alive and well. Pro wrestling would only get stronger in the 1940's. As most of you probably already know, the NWA would form. Although, it should be pointed out that to the NWA traditionalists, the NWA started in the 20's. The NWA would only make the industry tighter and harder to crack. The NWA would even on occasion throw in some 'Shoot' matches to try to make it seem legit. Even in those times if you were a pro wrestler, or even a fan of pro wrestling, you were often frowned upon.

1. How does the author defend the viewership of pro wrestling even though its



authenticity has been questioned numerous times over the years?

- (A) He cites the historical account of 1920, when the artificiality of wrestling was put on notice for the first time.
 - (B) The author makes reference to the 1800's when wrestling shows were a common part of local fairs and circuses and would act as huge draws to sell tickets.
 - (C) The author and the fans are very much aware of the 'genuine' nature of matches, but as fans of the sport, they continue to support it.
 - (D) The author takes an approach of denial. He refuses to listen to all claims, because wrestling is still very authentic for the author.
- 2.** What do you understand by 'Shoot Matches' as mentioned in the second paragraph?
- (A) Shoot Matches are the matches which involve the stipulation of gaining victory by tying the opponent in a parachute like apparatus. Hence the term shoot at the beginning of it.
 - (B) Shoot Matches refer to the matches which were meant for shooting purposes on the camera or TV broadcast.
 - (C) Since the performers in carnivals are adamant on protecting the skills of their craft, matches which are fixed from the start are called Shoot Matches.
 - (D) On a few occasions, some matches were carried out which did not have premeditated script or action choreography, they were termed as Shoot Matches.
- 3.** What was the common observation made by the author throughout his lifetime?
- (A) Critics have never favoured pro-wrestling no matter the quality of entertainment put out by the wrestlers.

- (B) The claim that wrestling will- as a form of sports and entertainment- fade away into the pages of history.
- (C) The critique against Professional wrestling, that professional wrestling will never be as popular as other sports such as baseball or football.
- (D) People have been spotting and calling pro-wrestling gimmicks and moves to be nothing more than a hoax or an elaborate sham.

- 4.** Why were other sports stars left surprised and at dismay?
- (A) The popularity of pro-wrestling was flourishing and didn't seem to show any signs of stopping.
 - (B) Boxing was losing its prestige, because people were more interested in the free style format offered by pro-wrestling.
 - (C) Even though it was publicly revealed about the truth behind wrestling, the popularity of the sport was only increasing manifold.
 - (D) Other sports such as boxing, tennis, and baseball were slowly facing a decline due to the rising popularity of professional wrestling.
- 5.** The writer would agree with all the following, except:
- (A) The NWA again popularised wrestling in the U.S., and did not take any special initiatives from their side.
 - (B) The fan following of the sports remains loyal to the product, even though they are aware about the true nature of the product.
 - (C) The truth of the sport sure brought some unwanted public attention and criticism, but the sport had survived after everything to see the light of a brand-new day.
 - (D) Since time immemorial, it has been stated on multiple occasions that professional wrestling would become obsolete and would not survive in the future.



Solutions

1. (C)

The defence presented by the author for the continuous flourishing of the sport of wrestling becomes apparent in the second paragraph. Though the defence of it had begun by the author in the final line of the first paragraph, the defence comes full force in the second paragraph. In the third line of it, the author has presented and agreed to the reader that he is very much aware of the artificiality of the fights that take place in the squared ring. He also presents that there is a strong fan following of such sport, and asks people to not to look down on them because of their love and passion for the said 'sport'. In light of this, the defence of the author regarding the viewership of pro wrestling, is conveyed correctly in option C.

Point of reference: Second line, second paragraph.

'We know it's fake, people, so please stop looking down on us fans who do watch it'.

Options A, B, and D are incorrect. The historical arguments of both the 1800's and 1920's, and the denial of the author, are inadequate to describe the defensive argument presented by the author in the favour of professional wrestling.

2. (D)

The correct definition of shoot matches is very clear for the reader in the second last line and final line of the second paragraph. The author has stated that there were rare occasions when matches were carried out without being fixed and other those rare moments, it was always fixed. So, it can be implied that Shoot Matches are the matches which do not have any prior planning of any kind involved in them. From this observation, the correct answer is option D.

Point of reference: Fifth line, first paragraph.

'Turns out we just don't have the battery power to operate a suit with that many moving parts for any length of time'.

Options A, B, and C are the wrong choices. The stipulation involved in shoot matches, the broadcasted matches, a fixed match from the start, are not the correct definitions of a shoot match.

3. (B)

The most common observation made by the author during the course of his lifetime as a wrestling fan, is hearing the constant claim by people that wrestling is going to die one day or the other, but the writer tends to disagree. He states that professional wrestling has become as much of an American tradition as apple pie and baseball. It also becomes evident in the second line of the first paragraph. From this observation, the reader should select option B as the correct answer.

Point of reference: Fourth line, Second paragraph.

'While our battery technology might not be up to snuff, Higgins notes that there have been brain-interfacing technology advances that show great promise, and prosthetics are getting better every day'.

Options A, C, and D are to be rejected.

4. (C)

The reason behind the dismay and surprise of other sports, becomes apparent in the final paragraph. In the final paragraph, the reader can observe that though it was publicly revealed that professional wrestling was a sham, the sport continued to thrive and flourish in terms of popularity and revenue. Hence, the correct reason for the surprise of other sports stars is option C.



Point of reference: Fifth line, final paragraph.

'It was thought for the first time that it would finally be the end for pro wrestling. To the other sports' surprise and dismay, it survived'.

Options A, B, and D are not to be considered as the answer. Option A might seem to be the answer at the first sight. However, it is to be noted that it is showing the reason for dismay, not the surprise, which was natural to come, even though it was publicly revealed about the fixed nature of matches in this sport.

5. (A)

The appropriate way to answer this is to completely understand the passage

and the concepts introduced in it. With this understanding in place, the reader needs to analyse the concepts which are either not mentioned in the passage or contradict to what is mentioned in the passage. After scanning the passage, the reader can notice that option A is the correct answer. NWA in their match card would place 'shoot matches' to appear legit and different from the wrestling promotions before their time.

Point of reference: The complete passage.

Options B, C, and D are incorrect. All these points are mentioned in the passage. The writer would not disagree with any of them.

Passage 58

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

Japan is a country that is well known and well-loved for its many aspects of unique and interesting culture. These can include its long and bloody history or long-standing traditions that have withstood the test of time such as geishas, the tea ceremony, and various ancient festivals. It can also apply to the many types of behaviour that are considered unique or unusual by people from other parts of the world, such as loudly slurping noodles, cramming onto packed trains, or giving children money at New Year. There are many things in Japan that you can't find in other countries, making it an exciting place to visit where you can make some unforgettable memories. Lots of these cultures' fame have spread worldwide, piquing foreigners' curiosity and encouraging them to visit and experience it for themselves. Japan has also made a lot of contributions to the world over the years with developments such as cars, video games, and fashion.

One of Japan's greatest contributions that is still iconic to this day is none other than what most people would refer to as 'anime'. Anime, which originally came from the English word 'animation', has contributed so much that people all around the world who love any genre of it feel the overpowering need to go and visit the country of its origin, and sometimes even learn Japanese. Anime is a term used to describe the style of Japanese animation and has been around since the early 20th century. Now, anime and its comic book counterpart, manga, are hugely successful in Japan and beyond with an industrial worth of over 15 billion U.S. dollars. Anime does not only include TV series for children, but also adult's TV shows and even movies. A few examples of blockbuster anime movies include Studio Ghibli's highly acclaimed Spirited Away (2001) or the recent popular hit Your Name (2016). Drawing styles vary depending on artists, but anime characters are usually recognisable by their large eyes, often colourful hair, and small nose and mouth. In Japan, people of all ages and from all walks of life have watched some form



of anime at some point and it has become part of their modern culture. Anime series are usually filled with interesting characters along with a captivating story that can make the viewer laugh or cry.

Anime also covers a huge range of genres, including drama, romance, horror, and science-fiction. Some anime shows even have more unusual genres such as cyberpunk and mecha (featuring robots). In western countries, anime is seen not only as a Japanese series of animation, but it has also come to define an art style that the Japanese use as well. Japanese culture can be seen in many anime TV shows. High schools are similar to that in real life, and characters often eat with chopsticks and stay in traditional ryokan inns. Popular anime characters can be seen all over Japan on toys, t-shirts, accessories, and stationery. Some restaurants, such as Coco Ichibanya, have even created their very own anime-style characters to promote their children's meals.

There are many people who started to become interested in Japan after watching some of these shows. Sometimes, they are even inspired to learn Japanese. As a result, in 1984, the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) was created. The early 1990s served as what was known to be an 'anime boom'. Due to this, anime culture further evolved when anime conventions started taking place. Anime conventions are large gatherings that may take place over a period of days, in order for fans of anime and manga to show their passion and dedication. These have even incorporated industry talk panels where voice actors and anime creation staff can meet at the event to talk about their shows, and fans can have a chance to meet them. Fans can also gather to buy merchandise and try 'cosplay'. The term 'cosplay' is derived from the words 'costume play', and it is when fans dress up as their favourite character from a series and impersonate that character for the day. Cosplay is not restricted to anime but has also crossed over

to western characters from comics, cartoon series, Hollywood movies, and video games.

1. Why does Japan attract the interest of tourists globally?
 - (A) Japan still stands as a country which is strongly rooted with its culture and history.
 - (B) A large number of tourists want to experience the varied tastes of the rich tradition of the country.
 - (C) The animation style with rich detail mesmerises people from different corners of the world to take interest in the culture.
 - (D) A lot of French people take huge interest in the annual evening tea ceremony held in Japan.
2. What can be credited as the main contributor to anime's global popularity among all ages?
 - (A) The huge popularity of its comic counterpart among western audiences.
 - (B) The target demographic of anime does not include only children but movies and shows with mature narratives.
 - (C) The stories of anime are filled with interesting characters and captivating stories that incite a varied range of emotions in its audience.
 - (D) The aesthetic appeal that comes with large eyes and colourful hair is not common in western animations.
3. What inference can be gained from the third paragraph?
 - (A) The genre of anime is not limited by a particular genre, and has a multitude of storytelling to offer.
 - (B) Food chains create their own original creators to promote various candies and sweets aimed at children.
 - (C) The picturisation of high schools is an essential part in anime. It's a representation of the extreme



- importance placed by the Japanese on education.
- (D) The culture of Japan seeps and bleeds from their anime.
4. Which of the following appropriately summarises the final paragraph?
- (A) Due to the large popularity of Japanese animation and to curb the enthusiasm of people interested to learn Japanese, the JLPT was invented.
- (B) How has anime influenced the rest of the west?
- (C) Cosplay or costume play, was an idea that came from Japan and slowly became a part of western pop culture.
- (D) The early 90's: Anime Boom.
5. The writer would agree with all the following except:
- (A) Japan as a country, is a place full of rich cultural heritage so potent that it leaves tourists with everlasting memories.
- (B) The Japanese animation industry has grown exponentially since its inception, which rakes in close to a worth of 15 billion U.S.D.
- (C) The culture of Japan is a part of anime, as much as anime a part of Japanese culture.
- (D) The increasing desire of the modern west to learn about the Japanese language led to the birth of Anime conventions all over the world.

Solutions

1. (C)

The solution for the above query is available in the second paragraph. In the second paragraph, specifically in the second line, it can be observed by the reader about one of the most overpowering things about Japan, which attract the attention of many. In conclusion, the correct answer is option C.

Point of reference: Second line, second paragraph.

'Anime, which originally came from the English word 'animation', has contributed so much that people all around the world who love any genre of it feel the overpowering need to go and visit the country of its origin, and sometimes even learn Japanese'.

Options A, B, and D are the wrong choices. The strong roots to its own history and culture, and the interest garnered by the tea ceremonies are not one of the strong reasons stated by the author behind the interest generated by people for Japan tourism. Option B might seem

to be the answer at first glance, but the author has clearly stated the greatest contribution from Japan, and how it generates an overpowering need to travel to the place.

2. (B)

To answer the above query appropriately, the reader needs to direct their cross-hairs at the second paragraph. In the fifth line of the second paragraph, the reader can observe the reason behind the popularity of anime among all ages. Not only do they include shows directed at a young audience, but they also appeal to people of various ages, with mature narratives and themes. From this observation, the correct answer is option B.

Point of reference: Fifth line, second paragraph.

'Anime does not only include TV series for children, but also adult's TV shows and even movies'.



Options A, C, and D are to be rejected. The popularity of its comic counterpart, the stories which are full of captivating characters, and the aesthetic appeal of large eyes are not the reasons behind the appeal of anime among the demographic of all ages.

3. (D)

To arrive at the correct inference of the third paragraph, the reader needs to fully analyse the third paragraph. In the third paragraph, the author has not only mentioned how the rest of the world observes anime, but also described how the Japanese use this style of animation in their life and as a representation of their culture. The author then describes how animated high schools are exactly similar to high schools in real life and how even a restaurant utilised their very own animation characters to sell meals directed at children. It can be said with certainty, that the culture of Japan is an essential part of their anime, as much as anime is an essential part of Japan. The solution is option D.

Point of reference: The complete third paragraph.

Options A, B, and C are the incorrect choices. From the explanation, it becomes clear that these alternatives highlight some of the observations stated in the third paragraph but are inadequate to summarise, or arrive at the inference of the third paragraph.

4. (B)

To arrive at a proper summary, the reader must understand the topic which is

at the helm of the paragraph. The paragraph not only describes anime conventions, cosplay, and the formation of JLPT, but a much larger aspect is covered by it. It is mostly concerned with how the rise of anime influenced the western audience. Hence, the correct alternative to appropriately summarise the complete paragraph is option B.

Point of reference: The complete final paragraph.

Options A, C, and D are incorrect. All these alternatives do not cover the true concept that is shared in the final paragraph.

5. (D)

The query seeks to know from the reader, about the alternative provided which is either not mentioned in the passage or contradicts what is already mentioned in it. With this methodology, the reader needs to completely analyse the implicit and explicit points available in the passage. After understanding the entirety of it, option D is the correct answer for the above query. The increasing interest in Japanese language led to the formation of JLPT, not the anime convention as it mentions.

Point of reference: The complete passage.

Options A, B, and C are not to be considered as the answer. All these points are mentioned in the passage in the same vein. The writer would not disagree with them.

Passage 59

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

The highest point of Arnold Schwarzenegger's Hollywood career, Terminator 2: Judgment Day, is also one of the finest examples of

'how to make a sequel'. A sequel usually means the conflict and the scale of the movie becomes bigger. Ideally, without compromising on its core entertainment value. And while many sequels do take note of the first



part of the aforementioned statement, they usually don't bother to pay enough attention to how engaging the film should be. This kind of attention is what sets Terminator 2 apart. Writer-director James Cameron didn't only up the ante in terms of the action choreography or the visual effects, but aced characterisation as well. T-1000 is arguably the toughest nemesis of 90s Hollywood and Sarah Connor is as iconic as they come.

The James Cameron directorial released in 1991 and was as mainstream as a Hollywood actioner could get. The bad guy was near-invincible, and the good guy was appropriately wooden. However, it was Linda Hamilton's portrayal of Sarah Connor that garnered a lot of praise. The actor aced the part of an emotional but badass mother who could go to any lengths to protect her child. Linda's Sarah did not have superhuman abilities like the two terminators of Arnold Schwarzenegger and Robert Patrick, but the actor won the audience over with her undeniable screen presence. It helped that Linda not only acted the part but looked it too.

The plot is new wine in an old bottle—of the Armageddon-level battle of good vs evil, Machines vs Humans, the idea of freedom vs an overwhelming authority and uncertainty. The themes were profound but familiar and what made Terminator 2 so interesting was, of course, the way it was directed and shot. The truck and bike chase sequence is still imprinted in my mind. The continuous building up of the adrenaline, the difficult shots, and the relentless action, it was all very exciting. Arnold was probably born to play this role. Let us be honest, Mr Schwarzenegger could hardly act, but he had a great body and sense for action. And believe it or not, Terminator 2 is still relevant, at least with respect to the Artificial Intelligence (AI) bit. Cameron expressed as much in an interview to the Associated Press.

The filmmaker said, 'I think the film is as timely as it ever was, probably more so less on the nuclear side and more on the AI side

and dealing with our relationship with our own technology. And how we do really stand the possibility of making ourselves obsolete. We have to be on guard and constantly aware. So, whether it's climate change, or whether it's the threat of an AI potentially replacing us or rapidly altering our world in a negative outcome for humans or weather—these are things we need to be constantly vigilant about'. Here's one interesting trivia about Terminator 2: Judgment Day, and enormously telling of how cool it really is—It's the only sequel in the 20th century to have won an Oscar. Not only was the film critically acclaimed, but it was also a massive box office success as well.

1. What is the fondest memory the author has of the movie?
 - (A) The plot revolved around the age-old clash of good vs evil and Armageddon.
 - (B) The visual aesthetics of the movie, the action direction, and Arnold's one-liners have stuck with the author.
 - (C) In a particular action scene, the protagonist saves the main target from being squashed by an ensuing truck.
 - (D) The exhilarating boost of adrenaline that the writer received from the relentless action.
2. What can be inferred about the most outstanding performance in Terminator 2?
 - (A) Linda Hamilton's portrayal of Sarah Connor, a character who was not only caring but also a protective mother, garnered a lot of praise.
 - (B) Linda Hamilton had undergone a serious training regime consisting of Calisthenics and arms training.
 - (C) In the movie, Linda Hamilton was the only person not to have any superhuman abilities, making her character relatable to the audience.
 - (D) The lead star does not contain acting versatility; hence the supporting cast won everyone.



3. Why does the author believe that Terminator 2 is a great example of how to make a sequel in Hollywood?
- (A) It popularised the lead stars Arnold Schwarzenegger and Linda Hamilton, which were introduced in the first part 'The Terminator'.
- (B) The movie not only was a much better film in terms of entertainment, but was also miles ahead in the narrative of its characters.
- (C) Terminator 2 marks the first time in Hollywood when the antagonist of the series becomes the protagonist.
- (D) The film was a much better movie in terms of the antagonist and cinematography than its predecessor.
4. Why is the concept and theme of Terminator 2 still relevant to our time?
- (A) We are involved in an age of rapid automation, where machines replace the manual workforce.
- (B) We still live in an age where good and evil are at clash, even in the most minute parts of our daily life.
- (C) Terminator 2 holds its relevance for Hollywood, as it is a fine example on how to make an Oscar winning sequel.
- (D) None of the above.
5. Which of the following is a suitable heading for the passage?
- (A) Why is Terminator 2 still relevant to our time?
- (B) Arnold Schwarzenegger was born to play the role of T-800?
- (C) Why is Linda Hamilton the true star of Terminator 2?
- (D) Why is Terminator 2 the best Hollywood sequel ever?

Solutions

1. (C)

The fondest memory that is engrained in the mind of the author, is depicted in the third paragraph. The author not only describes the plot, the action scenes, but the memorable sequence as well. In the third line of the paragraph, the writer has mentioned about a truck and bike chase/rescue sequence. With this observation, the reader can understand the fondest memory the author has concerning the blockbuster movie. Option C is the correct answer.

Point of reference: Third line, third paragraph.

'The truck and bike chase/rescue sequence is still imprinted in my mind'.

Options A, B, and D are incorrect. They do not cover the truck and bike sequence, which was still imprinted in the mind of the author (at the time of writing the article).

2. (A)

The break-out or outstanding performance of the movie was the character of Sarah Connor, played by Linda Hamilton. This also becomes evident in the third line of the paragraph. Linda's portrayal of the protective, caring, and strong mother, won the hearts of the audience all over. This becomes evident in the third line of the second paragraph.

Point of reference: Third line, second paragraph.

'However, it was Linda Hamilton's portrayal of Sarah Connor that garnered a lot of praise. The actor aced the part of an emotional but badass mother who could go to any lengths to protect her child'.

Options B, C, and D are not the correct answers. These alternatives do not cover the breakout performance of the movie.



3. (B)

The reason behind the author's consideration of declaring Terminator 2 as a great example on how to make a sequel, is apparent in the first paragraph. In the first paragraph, and the fourth line, the writer has mentioned that mostly sequels do stack up the odds for the protagonist, but it is the progress and development of characters that most film developers fail at. This is the difference that sets Terminator 2 apart from the rest of the sequels dished out by Hollywood. The correct answer is option B.

Point of reference: Fourth line, first paragraph.

'And while many sequels do take note of the first part of the aforementioned statement, they usually don't bother to pay enough attention to how engaging the film should be'.

Options A, C and D are incorrect. The popularisation of the lead stars, the dramatic shift from protagonist to antagonist, and the vast improvement in terms of cinematography, is not the reason why the author considers Terminator 2 to be a good example of sequels in Hollywood.

4. (A)

The relevance of the theme and topics depicted in Terminator 2, are still very much relevant to our contemporary times. This becomes evident in the final paragraph, and in the interview of James Cameron. Cameron has mentioned that the reason behind the timelessness of the movie comes from the topic of Artificial Intelligence mentioned in it.

The only alternative that resonates with this tone of the director is option A.

Point of reference: First line, final paragraph.

'The filmmaker said, 'I think the film is as timely as it ever was, probably more so less on the nuclear side and more on the AI side and dealing with our relationship with our own technology'.

Options B, C, and D are incorrect. The critical and commercial success of the movie and the clash of good and evil prevalent in our daily lives, are not the reasons behind the relevance of the movie in modern times.

5. (D)

To arrive at an appropriate solution, the reader needs to completely analyse the passage, and identify the meat of the passage. With this being stated, after observing the entirety of the passage, the reader can understand that the correct solution is option D. It can be observed that the author has clearly mentioned and described about the various themes of the movie which he admires. But, at its core all of the accolades listed out by the author, only point towards one intention. The intention to make Hollywood and the reader realise why Terminator 2 is the perfect example of a sequel done right.

Point of reference: The complete passage.

Options A, B, and C are incorrect. They are not suited to be declared as the suitable heading for the passage, as they are inadequate to cover the overarching theme mentioned in the passage.

Passage 60

Read the following passage and answer the questions accordingly.

The field of Philosophy is not without other distinguished contestants, but in the

competitive history of incomprehensible German philosophers, Martin Heidegger must, by any reckoning, emerge as the overall victor. Nothing quite rivals the prose of his masterpiece Being and Time (1927) in



terms of contortions and the sheer number of complex compound German words which the author coined, among them ‘Seinsvergessenheit’ (Forgetfulness of Being), ‘Bodenständigkeit’ (Rootedness-in-soil) and ‘Wesensverfassung’ (Essential Constitution). At first, it is likely to be puzzling and perhaps irritating, but gradually, one may warm to the style and understand that beneath its vaporous surface, Heidegger is telling us some simple, even at times homespun truths about the meaning of our lives, the sicknesses of our time and the routes to freedom. We should bother.

Throughout his career, he sought to help us live more wisely. He wanted us to be braver about facing up to certain truths, and to lead richer, more thoughtful, happier lives. Philosophy was no academic exercise he said. It is—as it had been for the Ancient Greeks—a spiritual vocation and a form of therapy. He diagnosed modern humanity as suffering from a number of new diseases of the soul. We have forgotten to notice that we are alive! We know it in theory, of course, but we aren’t day-to-day properly in touch with the sheer mystery of existence, the mystery of what Heidegger called ‘das Sein’ or ‘Being’. Much of his philosophy is devoted to trying to wake us up to the strangeness of existing on a planet spinning in an otherwise seemingly silent, alien, and uninhabited universe.

It’s only at a few odd moments, perhaps late at night, or when we’re ill and have been alone all day, or are on a walk through the countryside, that we come up against the uncanny strangeness of everything: why things exist as they do, why we are here rather than there, why the world is like this, why that tree or this house are the way they are. To capture these rare moments when the normal state of things wobbles a little, Heidegger talks, with capital letters, of the Mystery of Being. His entire philosophy is devoted to getting us to appreciate, and

respond appropriately to, this rather abstract but crucial concept.

We look at the world through the prism of our own narrow interests. Our professional needs colour what we pay attention to and bother with. We treat others and nature as means and not as ends. But occasionally (and again walks in the country are particularly conducive to this realisation), we may be able to step outside our narrow orbit and take a more generous view of our connection with the rest of existence. We may sense what Heidegger termed the Unity of Being, noticing—in a way we hadn’t previously—that we, and that ladybird on the bark, and that rock, and that cloud are all in existence right now and are fundamentally united by the basic fact of Being. Heidegger values these moments—and wants us to use them as the springboard to a deeper form of generosity, an overcoming of alienation and egoism and a more profound appreciation of the brief time that remains to us before ‘The Nothing’ claims us in turn.

1. What is Heidegger’s view on Philosophy?
 - (A) Philosophy is your run of the mill, dry academic exercise.
 - (B) Philosophy and humanities, in general, act as guides to life.
 - (C) Philosophy is an exceptionally well-crafted tool to understand the life of the ancient Greeks.
 - (D) Heidegger insisted on solving the problem that has been unanswered since our origin: What is the purpose of life?
2. What can be inferred about the disease diagnosed by Heidegger in the modern man from the third paragraph?
 - (A) The modern man is so busy with the necessities of life, that he only notices being alive in the quiet moments of life.
 - (B) The modern man and modernity, so far, worships technical prowess.



- (C) The mystery of Being is a concept that is abstract but very crucial to understand.
- (D) Heidegger insists that modern man should revert to living on the countryside to stay away from the wobbling conditions that come in concrete jungles.
3. What can be inferred from the final paragraph of the passage?
- (A) The lingering ideological effects of Organised religion, emphasise the importance of Man over all other beings in the world.
- (B) The necessities of life force the modern man to bow down to them, and ignore the strangeness and sadness of life.
- (C) The realisation of the unity of all beings, helps us in seeing the world away from the boundaries of an egoistic view.
- (D) Long and lone walks in the countryside may provide us the answer to the mystery of Being that plagues us.
4. Why does the author insist the reader take an interest in the words and works of Martin Heidegger?
- (A) To understand that complex German Terms could not be translated completely in English.
- (B) To understand why Martin Heidegger is the greatest German philosopher who ever lived.
- (C) To preach philosophy as a way to arrive at a moment of Catharsis and therapy for the troubles that can leave anyone muddled.
- (D) Underneath the complex terminology, Heidegger's advice is simple and banal. The modern man suffers from diseases of the soul.
5. The writer would agree with all the following, except:
- (A) Behind all the complex terminology, Martin Heidegger is a philosopher who can easily diagnose the disease of the soul that plague the modern man.
- (B) Heidegger observes the modern man to be so distracted by the necessities of modern life, that he fails to notice being alive.
- (C) Martin's advice to take long and silent walks along the countryside, is a silent appeal to become one with nature.
- (D) The realisation of the Unity of Being in all living creatures, presents a view that asks to view everything, including ourselves, under the aspect of time.

Solutions

1. (B)

The view of Heidegger on philosophy becomes apparent in the second paragraph. To Heidegger, philosophy was much more than the academics present it to be. Much more than an academic exercise. It is in many ways a form of therapy and spiritual vocation. The alternative that resonates with this view of Heidegger is option B.

Point of reference: Third line, second paragraph.

'Philosophy was no academic exercise he said. It is—as it had been for the Ancient Greeks—a spiritual vocation and a form of therapy'.

Options A, C, and D are to be discarded. The presentation of philosophy as a dry academic exercise, the aid provided by it to understand the life and time of ancient Greeks, and the answer to the question pertaining to the purpose of life, do not convey how Heidegger viewed Philosophy.



2. (A)

The query above asks the reader to direct his attention at the third paragraph. In the third paragraph, the author looks at why the concept of Being is an abstract concept. It also shares that in the quieter moments of life such as late night at Bed or while on a walk through the countryside, people understand, experience, and acknowledge this mystery of life. It also becomes crucial to note that this paragraph is in continuation to the problem diagnosed by Heidegger in the second paragraph. Hence, the disease diagnosed by Heidegger is option A.

Point of reference: The complete third paragraph.

Options B, C, and D are incorrect. These alternatives are inadequate responses to cover the disease diagnosed by Heidegger.

3. (C)

The solution for the above is apparent in the final paragraph. The third and final line of the paragraph, provides us the overarching theme of the paragraph. We are bound to see the world in an egoistic way, which places the precedence of the self over everything else. But Heidegger introduces a new view. By releasing that everything is united by the concept of Being, we can rise to a new view which provides us to see and treat others as ends, not as means. The correct answer to capture the entirety of the message preached in the final paragraph is Option C.

Point of reference: Third and final line of the final paragraph.

‘We treat others and nature as means and not as ends’.

‘Heidegger values these moments—and wants us to use them as the springboard to a deeper form of generosity, an overcoming of alienation and egoism and a more profound appreciation of the

brief time that remains to us before ‘The Nothing’ claims us in turn’.

Options A, B, and D are inaccurate explanations. These alternatives do not cover the entire idea as portrayed by Heidegger.

4. (D)

The author’s insistence and reason for the reader to pick up the works of Martin Heidegger becomes apparent on reading the first paragraph. In the first paragraph, specifically the second last line, the reader can observe that the writer has admitted that the terminology used by Heidegger is complex, but the terminology has the underlying intention of the philosopher. His intention being to act as a guide for the problems that trouble the minds of the modern man and address such elusive emotional areas. The solution is option D.

Point of reference: Second last line, first paragraph.

‘At first, it is likely to be puzzling and perhaps irritating, but gradually, one may warm to the style and understand that beneath its vaporous surface, Heidegger is telling us some simple, even at times homespun truths about the meaning of our lives, the sicknesses of our time and the routes to freedom’

Options A, B, and C can be discarded. The complexity involved in translation of German terms to English, the reason behind declaring Martin Heidegger as the greatest German philosopher, and preaching philosophy are not the correct reasons behind the insistence of the author to read the books of Martin Heidegger.

5. (D)

To arrive at an appropriate solution, the reader needs to completely analyse the passage, and identify the meat of the passage. With this being stated, after



observing the entirety of the passage, the reader can understand that the correct solution is option D. It can be observed that the author has clearly mentioned and described the alternatives as mentioned above. Only Option D, which emphasises looking at everything under the aspect of time, is not mentioned.

Point of reference: The complete final paragraph.

Options A, B, and C are not to be considered as the answer. All these points are mentioned in the passage in the same vein. The writer would not disagree with them.

