

Grammar based questions CAT 2001 to 2004

CAT - 2002

Directions for questions 1 to 4: In each of the questions below, four different ways of writing a sentence are indicated. Choose the best way of writing the sentence.

1. A. The main problem with the notion of price discrimination is that it is not always a bad thing, but that it is the monopolist who has the power to decide who is charged what price.
 B. The main problem with the notion of price discrimination is not that it is always a bad thing, it is the monopolist who has the power to decide who is charged what price.
 C. The main problem with the notion of price discrimination is not that it is always a bad thing, but that is the monopolist who has the power to decide who is charged what price.
 D. The main problem with the notion of price discrimination is not it is always a bad thing, but that it is the monopolist who has the power to decide who is charged what price.
a. A b. B c. C d. D

2. A. A symbiotic relationship develops among the contractors, bureaucracy and the politicians, and by a large number of devices costs are artificially escalated and black money is generated by underhand deals.
 B. A symbiotic relationship develops among contractors, bureaucracy and politicians, and costs are artificially escalated with a large number of devices and black money is generated through underhand deals.
 C. A symbiotic relationship develops among contractors, bureaucracy and the politicians, and by a large number of devices costs are artificially escalated and black money is generated on underhand deals.
 D. A symbiotic relationship develops among the contractors, bureaucracy and politicians, and by large number of devices costs are artificially escalated and black money is generated by underhand deals.
a. A b. B c. C d. D

3. A. The distinctive feature of tariffs and export subsidies is that they create difference of prices at which goods are traded on the world market and their price within a local market.
 B. The distinctive feature of tariffs and export subsidies is that they create a difference of prices at which goods are traded with the world market and their prices in the local market.
 C. The distinctive feature of tariffs and export subsidies is that they create a difference between prices at which goods are traded on the world market and their prices within a local market.
 D. The distinctive feature of tariffs and export subsidies is that they create a difference across prices at which goods are traded with the world market and their prices within a local market.
a. A b. B c. C d. D

4. A. Any action of government to reduce the systemic risk inherent in financial markets will also reduce the risks that private operators perceive and thereby encourage excessive hedging.
B. Any action by government to reduce the systemic risk inherent in financial markets will also reduce the risks that private operators perceive and thereby encourage excessive gambling.
C. Any action by government to reduce the systemic risk inherent in financial markets will also reduce the risks that private operators perceive and thereby encourages excessive gambling.
D. Any action of government to reduce the systemic risk inherent in financial markets will also reduce the risks that private operators perceive and thereby encourages excessive gambling.
- a. A b. B c. C d. D

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DIRECTIONS for Questions 5 to 9: In each of the questions, four different ways of presenting an idea are given. Choose the one that conforms most closely to Standard English usage.

5. A. The running of large businesses consist of getting somebody to make something that somebody else sold to somebody else for more than its cost.
B. The running of a large business consists of getting somebody to make something that somebody else will sell to somebody else for more than it costs.
C. The running of a large business consists of getting somebody to sell something that somebody else made for more than it cost.
D. The running of large businesses consist of getting somebody to make something else that somebody else will sell to somebody else for more than it costs.
- a. A b. B c. C d. D
6. A. From the sixteenth century onwards, people started feeling disdainful and self-conscious about their body and its products that led to a heightened focus on emotional and bodily regulations.
B. The heightened focus on controlling the body and emotions comes from disdain and self-consciousness about the body and its products, found in the sixteenth century.
C. From the sixteenth century onwards, a growing disdain for and self-consciousness about the body and its products took hold, leading to a heightened focus on emotional and bodily regulation.
D. The heightened focus on emotional and bodily regulations started from the sixteenth century onwards, when people felt disdain and self-consciousness about the body and its products.
- a. A b. B c. C d. D



7. A. We are forced to fall back on fatalism as an explanation of irrational events.
 B. We are forced to falling back on the fatalism as an explanation of irrational events.
 C. We are forced to fall back on fatalism as explanations of irrational events.
 D. We are forced to fall back to fatalism as an explanation of irrational events.
 a. A b. B c. C d. D
8. A. Creativity in any field is regarded not only as valuable for itself but also as a service to the nation.
 B. Creativity in any field is not regarded only as valuable on its own, but also as a service to the nation.
 C. Creativity, in any field, is not only regarded as valuable, but also as a service to the nation.
 D. Creativity in any field is regarded not only as valuable in itself but also as a service to the nation.
 a. A b. B c. C d. D
9. A. If precision of thought had facilitated precision of behaviour, and if reflection had preceded action, it would be ideal for humans.
 B. It would be ideal for humans if reflection preceded action and precision of thought facilitated precision of behaviour.
 C. It would be ideal for humans if precedence of reflection was followed by action and precision of thought, by precise behaviour.
 D. It would have been ideal for humans, if precise action and behaviour preceded precise reflection.
 a. A b. B c. C d. D

CAT - 2004

Directions for questions 10 to 12: Identify the incorrect sentence or sentences.

10. A. It was a tough situation and Manasi was taking pains to make it better.
 B. Slowly her efforts gave fruit and things started improving.
 C. Everyone complemented her for her good work.
 D. She was very happy and thanked everyone
 a. A b. D c. B and C d. A and C
11. A. Harish told Raj to plead guilty.
 B. Raj pleaded guilty of stealing money from the shop.
 C. The court found Raj guilty of all the crimes he was charged with.
 D. He was sentenced for three years in jail
 a. A and C b. B and D c. A, C, and D d. B, C, and D



12. A. Last Sunday, Archana had nothing to do.
B. After waking up, she lay on the bed thinking of what to do.
C. At 11 o' clock she took shower and got ready.
D. She spent most of the day shopping
- a. B and C b. C c. A and B d. B, C, and D

Directions for questions 13 to 15: Each statement has a part missing. Choose the best option from the four options given below the statement to make up the missing part.

13. Many people suggest ____ and still other would like to convince people not to buy pirated cassettes.
- a. to bring down audiocassette prices to reduce the incidence of music piracy, others advocate strong legal action against the offenders,
 - b. bringing down audiocassette prices to reduce the incidents of music piracy, others are advocating strong legal action against offenders,
 - c. bringing down audiocassette prices to reduce the incidents of music piracy, others advocate strong legal action against offenders,
 - d. audiocassette prices to be brought down to reduce incidents of music piracy, others advocate that strong legal action must be taken against offenders,
14. The ancient Egyptians believed ____ so that when these objects were magically reanimated through the correct rituals, they would be able to function effectively.
- a. that it was essential that things they portrayed must have every relevant feature shown as clearly as possible
 - b. it was essential for things they portray to have had every relevant feature shown as clearly as possible,
 - c. it was essential that the things they portrayed had every relevant feature shown as clearly as possible.
 - d. that when they portrayed things, it should have every relevant feature shown as clearly as possible
15. Archaeologists believe that the pieces of red – ware pottery excavated recently near Bhavnagar and ____ shed light on a hitherto dark 600-year period in the Harappan history of Gujarat.
- a. estimated with a reasonable certainty as being about 3400 years old,
 - b. are estimated reasonably certain to be about 3400 years old,
 - c. estimated at about 3400 years old with reasonable certainty,
 - d. estimated with reasonable certainty to be about 3400 years old,



Answers and Explanations

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- 1. c This is a simple question of parallelism, not that it is ... but that it is.
- 2. b You generate money through deals, and not by deals or on deals. The two factors — escalated costs and black money — are lucidly given in (b).
- 3. c We always have to use the conjunction between to compare prices at two levels.
- 4. b Reduce and encourage will make a parallel construction. Action is taken by someone, not of someone.

CAT- 2003 Leaked

- 5. b *Running ... consists* has singular subject-verb agreement. Again, *more than it costs* is the right diction.
- 6. c B and D have inappropriate temporal references. A is also wrong as *products* did not lead to the *heightened focus*. C is the answer as the second and third part of the sentence when put together is complete by itself.
- 7. a Improper use as in falling back and explanations rule out B and C. fall back on is the right prepositional phrase and thus A is right.
- 8. d *is regarded* should go together. *Valuable in itself* is the right expression. *Not only as ...but also as* has parallel construction. "... is regarded" should go together. "Valuable in itself" is the correct usage in relation to the subject.
- 9. b *it would be ideal* expresses a satisfactory proposition. *Reflection* should precede *action*, and *thought* should facilitate *behavior*, though what happens in real life is exactly the opposite.

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- 10. c Sentence B is wrong because efforts 'bear fruit' and not 'give fruit'. Sentence C is incorrect because 'complimented' should have been used, comple mented means 'something that completes, makes up a whole'.
- 11. b Sentence B is wrong because you don't plead 'guilty of' but plead 'guilty to' a crime. Sentence D is wrong because one gets 'sentenced to' prison.
- 12. a Sentence B is incorrect because the correct usage of its last part would be — 'thinking what to do'. Sentence C is wrong because the article 'a' should precede 'shower'.
- 13. c In option (a), the usage 'suggest to bring down is incorrect'. In option (d) audiocassette prices 'should' be (and not 'to' be) brought down. Between options (b) and (c), 'incidence' of music piracy can be reduced and not 'incidents'.
- 14. c Option (b) is incorrect due to the usage of the simple present tense in 'they portray'. Option (d) is incorrect due to the usage if the singular 'it' for the plural 'things'. Option (a) is wrong because of the unnecessary usage of 'must have' after using 'essential'.
- 15. d Option (b) is incorrect because we cannot say that 'archeologists ... are estimated'. Options (a) and (c) have the problems of misplaced modifiers.

