Verbal Ability - C1 - 27th Jan,2018

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[#CAT8](https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/cat8?source=feed_text&story_id=1435334616595586) time 5-7 minutes. comments will be off durting alloted time

Despite their fierce reputation, Vikings may not have always been the plunderers and pillagers popular culture imagines them to be. In fact, they got their start trading in northern European markets, researchers suggest.

Combs carved from animal antlers, as well as comb manufacturing waste and raw antler material has turned up at three archaeological sites in Denmark, including a medieval marketplace in the city of Ribe. A team of researchers from Denmark and the U.K. hoped to identify the species of animal to which the antlers once belonged by analyzing collagen proteins in the samples and comparing them across the animal kingdom, Laura Geggel reports for LiveScience. Somewhat surprisingly, molecular analysis of the artfacts revealed that some combs and other material had been carved from reindeer antlers. Their results were published earlier this month in the European Journal of Archaeology.

Given that reindeer (Rangifer tarandus) don’t live in Denmark, the researchers posit that it arrived on Viking ships from Norway. Antler craftsmanship, in the form of decorative combs, was part of Viking culture. Such combs served as symbols of good health, Geggel writes. The fact that the animals shed their antlers also made them easy to collect from the large herds that inhabited Norway.

Since the artifacts were found in marketplace areas at each site it’s more likely that the norsemen came to trade rather than pillage. Most of the artifacts also date to the 780s, but some are as old as 725. That predates the beginning of Viking raids on Great Britain by about 70 years. (Traditionally, the so-called “Viking Age” began with these raids in 793 and ended with the Norman conquest of Great Britain in 1066.)

Archaeologists had suspected that the Vikings had experience with long maritime voyages might have preceded their raiding days. Beyond Norway, these combs would have been a popular industry in Scandinavia as well. It’s possible that the antler combs represent a larger trade network, where the Norsemen supplied raw material to craftsmen in Denmark and elsewhere.

Summary:

the passage is all about viking age. before gaining the fierce reputation as plunderers vikings started trading in Northen European markets, the molecular analysis , artifacts dates and the viking raids support the fact that initially they started as normal traders and then they gain the fierce reputation i.e. became plunderers.

Typewriters are the epitome of a technology that has been comprehensively rendered obsolete by the digital age. The ink comes off the ribbon, they weigh a ton, and second thoughts are a disaster. But they are also personal, portable and, above all, private. Type a document and lock it away and more or less the only way anyone else can get it is if you give it to them. That is why the Russians have decided to go back to typewriters in some government offices, and why in the US, some departments have never abandoned them. Yet it is not just their resistance to algorithms and secret surveillance that keeps typewriter production lines – well one, at least – in business (the last British one closed a year ago). Nor is it only the nostalgic appeal of the metal body and the stout well-defined keys that make them popular on eBay. A typewriter demands something particular: attentiveness. By the time the paper is loaded, the ribbon tightened, the carriage returned, the spacing and the margins set, there's a big premium on hitting the right key. That means sorting out ideas, pulling together a kind of order and organising details before actually striking off. There can be no thinking on screen with a typewriter. Nor are there any easy distractions. No online shopping. No urgent emails. No Twitter. No need even for electricity – perfect for writing in a remote hideaway. The thinking process is accompanied by the encouraging clack of keys, and the ratchet of the carriage return. Ping!

Typewriter though obsolete in design and technology wise are seemingly important not only because they provide security as used by Russian government for the purpose or the nostalgic appeal they put in.. But they are important because they imbibe flow in ideas while documenting and prevent distractions unlike other online sources

In each of the following questions there are sentences that form a  
paragraph. Identify the sentence(s) or part(s) of sentence(s) that is/are correct in terms of grammar and usage (including spelling, punctuation and logical consistency). Then, choose the most appropriate option.

CAT 2008

A. Charges and countercharges mean nothing  
B. to the few million who have lost their home.  
C. The nightmare is far from over, for the government  
D. is still unable to reach hundreds who are marooned.  
E. The death count have just begun.  
(1) A only (2) C only (3) A and C (4) A, C and D (5) D only

A. Charges and countercharges mean nothing  
B. to the few million who have lost their HOME  
since there are few million (people) we need to use HOMES as each person will have separate homs  
(error type USAGE)

C. The nightmare is far from over, for the government  
D. is still unable to reach HUNDREDS who are marooned.  
we have to use "THE" before hundreds as we are talking about SPECIFIC people.. who are marooned.. thus we need THE  
(error type : Article)

E. The death count HAVE just begun.  
since death count will be a single amount, we need to use HAS.   
(error type: Sbject Verb Agreement)

so A and C are correct

Para completion, para jumble, odd sentence out are all linked to one basic RULE.

HOW DOES THE IDEA IN THE PARAGRAPH flow from start to end. if you can find the links that connect the points between the lines and create a STORY, then you have aced these questions.  
for odd sentence out, we do the reverse. we see which sentence BREAKS the flow

here is a CAT previous year Para Jumble. (without options) Ideal time to solve : 2 mins

A. The two neighbours never fought each other.  
B. Fights involving three male fiddler crabs have been recorded, but the status of the participants was unknown.  
C. They pushed or grappled only with the intruder.  
D. We recorded 17 cases in which a resident that was fighting an intruder was joined by an immediate neighbour, an ally.  
E. We therefore tracked 268 intruder males until we saw them fighting a resident male.

BEDAC

B. Fights involving three male fiddler crabs have been recorded, but the status of the participants was unknown.

starts the idea of story. the status of fiddler crabs involved in fights is UNKOWN

E. We therefore tracked 268 intruder males until we saw them fighting a resident male.

so what do we do ? we TRACK them to find some

D. We recorded 17 cases in which a resident that was fighting an intruder was joined by an immediate neighbour, an ally.

then D shows that because of tracking we found 17 cases in which a crab joined his neighbour in figthing an intruder.

A. The two neighbours never fought each other.  
C. They pushed or grappled only with the intruder.

AC show the status of the crabs

BEDAC

In each question, there are five sentences. Each sentence has a pair of words. Select the most appropriate words (A or B) to form correct sentences. The sentences are followed by options that indicate the words, which may be selected to correctly complete the set of sentences. From the options given, choose the most appropriate one.

The cake had lots of currents(A)/currants(B) and nuts in it.  
If you engage in such exceptional(A)/exceptionable(B) behaviour, I will be forced to punish you.  
He has the same capacity as an adult to consent(A)/assent(B) to surgical treatment.  
The minister is obliged (A)/compelled(B) to report regularly to a parliamentary board.  
His analysis of the situation is far too sanguine(A)/genuine(B).

(1) BBABA (2) BBAAA (3) BBBBA (4) ABBAB (5) BABAB

2

Currents refer to prevailing or flowing, while currants  
are deciduous shrubs; therefore B is the right option.

In the second sentence, exceptional means unusual  
or extraordinary. While, exceptionable means objectionable and since the person will be forced to punish, B is the better fit

Assent means to concur to or subscribe to. While consent means to agree, comply or yield.

In the third sentence obliged refers to bind morally or legally, as by a promise or contract. While, compelled  
refers to being forced. Therefore, A is the correct option.

Sanguine refers to being cheerfully optimistic, ‘far too’ in the sentence provides the cue to choose option A. While genuine refers to authenticity and is usually not used with far too.

Therefore BBAAA (2) is the right option.