

Verbal Reasoning

Test 9



Questions Booklet

Instructions

This practice test contains **30 questions**, and you will have **19 minutes** to answer them.

You will be presented with a passage to read, and a statement about that passage. For each statement you must select one of the following answers:

True: The statement follows logically from the information contained in the passage.

False: The statement is logically false from the information contained in the passage.

Cannot Say: It is not possible to determine whether the statement is true or false without further information.

Read the passage of information thoroughly and select the correct answer from the four options. Read the question thoroughly to ensure you know what the question entails.

Try to find a time and place where you will not be interrupted during the test. When you are ready, turn to the next page and begin.

Today, the term surreal is used to denote a curious imaginative effect. The word's provenance can be traced back to the revolutionary surrealism movement which grew out of Dadaism in the mid-1920s. Surrealism spread quite quickly across European arts and literature, particularly in France, between the two world wars. The movement's founder – French poet Andre Breton – was influenced heavily by Freud's theories, as he reacted against reason and logic in order to free the imagination from the unconscious mind. Surrealist works, both visual and oral, juxtaposed seemingly unrelated everyday objects and placed these in dreamlike settings. Thus, the popularity of surrealist paintings, including Salvador Dali's, lies in the unconventional positioning of powerful images such as leaping tigers, melting watches and metronomes. Surrealist art is widely known today, unlike the less easily accessible works of the French surrealist writers who, ignoring the literal meanings of words, focused instead on word associations and implications. That said, the literary surrealist tradition still survives in modern-day proponents of experimental writing.

Q1 Salvador Dali's work is more popular than Andre Breton's output.

True

False

Cannot say

Q2 Some experimental writing is surreal.

True

False

Cannot say

Q3 Surrealist painting is renowned for the arbitrary portrayal of everyday objects.

True

False

Cannot say

Today, the term surreal is used to denote a curious imaginative effect. The word's provenance can be traced back to the revolutionary surrealism movement which grew out of Dadaism in the mid-1920s. Surrealism spread quite quickly across European arts and literature, particularly in France, between the two world wars. The movement's founder – French poet Andre Breton – was influenced heavily by Freud's theories, as he reacted against reason and logic in order to free the imagination from the unconscious mind. Surrealist works, both visual and oral, juxtaposed seemingly unrelated everyday objects and placed these in dreamlike settings. Thus, the popularity of surrealist paintings, including Salvador Dali's, lies in the unconventional positioning of powerful images such as leaping tigers, melting watches and metronomes. Surrealist art is widely known today, unlike the less easily accessible works of the French surrealist writers who, ignoring the literal meanings of words, focused instead on word associations and implications. That said, the literary surrealist tradition still survives in modern-day proponents of experimental writing.

Q4 Salvador Dali was a French surrealist painter.

True

False

Cannot say

Q5 At one time Dadaism and Surrealism were closely affiliated.

True

False

Cannot say

Huge controversy surrounded the construction between 1994 and 2006 of what was the world's largest hydroelectric dam, the Three Gorges Dam. Spanning China's 1.4-mile wide Yangtze River in the Hubei province with twenty-six state-of-the-art turbines, the dam has been heralded by the Chinese state as a symbol of China's modernisation and engineering prowess. It supports China's economic development by supplying over ten percent of its electricity. However, over 1.3 million people were deliberately displaced as part of the Gorges flooding project that created the dam's 660km-long reservoir. Hundreds of archaeological sites, initially above and below ground level, were lost under the reservoir's water. Questions remain as to whether the dam – as a source of renewable energy – benefits the surrounding environment, or depletes it by causing, for example, landslides and the death of fish species in the Yangtze.

Supporters argue that the Dam's deepening of the river has made the Yangtze easier for large ships to navigate and has reduced the risk of flooding downstream. As the only other viable Chinese energy source continues to be non-renewable coal power, the hydroelectric power generated by the dam may be the lesser of two evils.

Q6 The passage suggests that energy supplies are critical to economic development.

True

False

Cannot say

Q7 The Three Gorges Dam is China's largest and most controversial dam

True

False

Cannot say

Q8 The environmental impacts of the Three Gorges Dam have been more positive than negative

True

False

Cannot say

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Q9 The 660km length of the Three Gorges Dam spans the Yangtze River

True

False

Cannot say

Q10 The Dam's monetary benefits were prioritised over environmental damage.

True

False

Cannot say

Outsourcing – purchasing services from an external supplier rather than performing the work internally – is a popular but politically sensitive means of cutting costs. There has been an increasing use of third parties for HR functions, such as managing payroll and other employee data, and for traditional Finance functions, such as invoice services. The manufacture of goods has even become part of this trend; though the design function is typically kept in-house. Third party call centre operatives can offer customer service expertise that may be more expensive to provide in-house. “Offshoring”, when functions are moved abroad, often to India or China, where the average wage is considerably lower raises job protection issues. The potential profits from outsourcing operations encourage underdeveloped countries to invest in the necessary infrastructure and public services and skills training that are required to support such business. Still, higher corporate profits may be seen to be at the expense of low-wage economies, and the cost benefits are not always passed on to the consumer. Additionally, the consumer may not benefit from an improved quality of customer service. Outsourcing decreases prices in another way – the competitive marketplace in which service providers companies operate gets squeezed as they vie for client contracts.

Q11 Offshoring is synonymous with outsourcing.

True

False

Cannot say

Q12 Low wage countries may need to enhance their infrastructure to attract outsourcing contracts.

True

False

Cannot say

Q13 Outsourcing providers compete aggressively for client contracts.

True

False

Cannot say

Outsourcing – purchasing services from an external supplier rather than performing the work internally – is a popular but politically sensitive means of cutting costs. There has been an increasing use of third parties for HR functions, such as managing payroll and other employee data, and for traditional Finance functions, such as invoice services. The manufacture of goods has even become part of this trend; though the design function is typically kept in-house. Third party call centre operatives can offer customer service expertise that may be more expensive to provide in-house. “Offshoring”, when functions are moved abroad, often to India or China, where the average wage is considerably lower raises job protection issues. The potential profits from outsourcing operations encourage underdeveloped countries to invest in the necessary infrastructure and public services and skills training that are required to support such business. Still, higher corporate profits may be seen to be at the expense of low-wage economies, and the cost benefits are not always passed on to the consumer. Additionally, the consumer may not benefit from an improved quality of customer service. Outsourcing decreases prices in another way – the competitive marketplace in which service providers companies operate gets squeezed as they vie for client contracts.

Q14 The outsourcing trend has led to a reduction in the cost of consumer goods.

True

False

Cannot say

Q15 Outsourcing refers to the use of a third party supplier to provide either HR or Finance functions.

True

False

Cannot say

Hydrogen-fuelled cars are not reliant upon petrol or diesel, which potentially makes them safer. Hydrogen fuel can be produced from renewable sources, such as wind or solar power, and does not have the ordinary car's dependency on burning fossil fuels. Since cars account for roughly a third of greenhouse gas emissions, these futuristic vehicles could form part of an effective strategy to combat global warming. This is an idealistic scenario and there are many barriers to be overcome first. The existing designs for hydrogen fuelled cars are extremely expensive. The National Research Association also estimates that £8 billion would be needed to set-up the refuelling stations required by hydrogen-fuelled cars. For a mass market product to be developed there needs to be increased cooperation between governments and industry to allow the infrastructure to lead the manufacture. In fact, hybrid and hybrid-electric car designs may prove to be a more worthwhile long-term investment for governments. Compared to ordinary cars, hybrids emit reduced levels of carbon dioxide, whereas hydrogen-fuelled cars emit only water and so are 100% clean.

Q16 The first hydrogen-fuelled car was too expensive for consumers

True

False

Cannot say

Q17 The passage questions the viability of hydrogen-fuelled cars as a solution to global warming.

True

False

Cannot say

Q18 Widespread use of hydrogen-fuelled cars would incur High infrastructure costs.

True

False

Cannot say

Hydrogen-fuelled cars are not reliant upon petrol or diesel, which potentially makes them safer. Hydrogen fuel can be produced from renewable sources, such as wind or solar power, and does not have the ordinary car's dependency on burning fossil fuels. Since cars account for roughly a third of greenhouse gas emissions, these futuristic vehicles could form part of an effective strategy to combat global warming. This is an idealistic scenario and there are many barriers to be overcome first. The existing designs for hydrogen fuelled cars are extremely expensive. The National Research Association also estimates that £8 billion would be needed to set-up the refuelling stations required by hydrogen-fuelled cars. For a mass market product to be developed there needs to be increased cooperation between governments and industry to allow the infrastructure to lead the manufacture. In fact, hybrid and hybrid-electric car designs may prove to be a more worthwhile long-term investment for governments. Compared to ordinary cars, hybrids emit reduced levels of carbon dioxide, whereas hydrogen-fuelled cars emit only water and so are 100% clean.

Q19 Hybrids are the cleanest form of motorised transport.

True

False

Cannot say

Q20 Hydrogen is universally available and is not a greenhouse gas.

True

False

Cannot say

Rising worldwide demand for champagne has meant that champagne producers have needed to increase supply by creating more wineries and planting more grapes. The Champagne region has been producing sparkling wines since the 16th century from the variety of grapes found across the region. Traditionally served at the coronations of French kings, the drink's association with opulence grew throughout the 19th century. Following on from 1891's Treaty of Madrid, the Treaty of Versailles after World War 1 reaffirmed the Champagne region's legal right for sole usage of the term "champagne". Time-consuming and costly, the Champenoise method of production involves a second fermentation process. However this process has been replicated outside the French region. Champagne's grapes are not unique to the region either – they can be grown elsewhere if their seeds are planted in a virtually identical climate. Currently, bottles that are labelled as using the Champenoise method may cause some consumer confusion as to whether they are real champagne or not. Clear labelling of a sparkling wine's origin on the bottle is needed to tell consumers whether or not it came from Champagne.

Q21 A sparkling wine's entitlement to the Champagne name lies solely with its country of origin.

True

False

Cannot say

Q22 The French monopoly on champagne production has led to worldwide shortages of the drink.

True

False

Cannot say

Q23 Champagne has built its luxurious connotations over time.

True

False

Cannot say

Rising worldwide demand for champagne has meant that champagne producers have needed to increase supply by creating more wineries and planting more grapes. The Champagne region has been producing sparkling wines since the 16th century from the variety of grapes found across the region. Traditionally served at the coronations of French kings, the drink's association with opulence grew throughout the 19th century. Following on from 1891's Treaty of Madrid, the Treaty of Versailles after World War 1 reaffirmed the Champagne region's legal right for sole usage of the term "champagne". Time-consuming and costly, the Champenoise method of production involves a second fermentation process. However this process has been replicated outside the French region. Champagne's grapes are not unique to the region either – they can be grown elsewhere if their seeds are planted in a virtually identical climate. Currently, bottles that are labelled as using the Champenoise method may cause some consumer confusion as to whether they are real champagne or not. Clear labelling of a sparkling wine's origin on the bottle is needed to tell consumers whether or not it came from Champagne.

Q24 The Treaty of Versailles established legal protection for the term champagne”.

True

False

Cannot say

Q25 A single type of grape is found across the Champagne region.

True

False

Cannot say

Levels of passive surveillance have increased recently. For example, many companies monitor their employees' use of the Internet or of any campaign group activities that may have operational implications. State surveillance now processes huge amounts of information that is collected from a variety of sources to produce profiles of individuals and groups. There are now reportedly more closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras per head of the UK population than any other country in the world. Such a rapid expansion of CCTV surveillance in particular has raised questions about whether this is economically justifiable, whether one's right to confidentiality is compromised and whether the public are in support of it. In public places it is harder to argue that video surveillance is an invasion of privacy. The sheer presence of CCTV cameras should deter some criminals when they know that police officers are surveying their actions. However, some criminologists claim that criminal activity is simply diverted elsewhere. CCTV footage may offer unbiased court evidence and so contribute towards keeping many criminals off the streets, but footage needs to be stored securely – even if most of what is filmed does not get to be seen.

Q26 CCTV surveillance is an invasion of privacy.

True

False

Cannot say

Q27 Public security, CCTV costs and an individual's right to privacy are three factors raised within the passage.

True

False

Cannot say

Q28 It is difficult to justify CCTV surveillance if most of the footage remains unseen.

True

False

Cannot say

Levels of passive surveillance have increased recently. For example, many companies monitor their employees' use of the Internet or of any campaign group activities that may have operational implications. State surveillance now processes huge amounts of information that is collected from a variety of sources to produce profiles of individuals and groups. There are now reportedly more closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras per head of the UK population than any other country in the world. Such a rapid expansion of CCTV surveillance in particular has raised questions about whether this is economically justifiable, whether one's right to confidentiality is compromised and whether the public are in support of it. In public places it is harder to argue that video surveillance is an invasion of privacy. The sheer presence of CCTV cameras should deter some criminals when they know that police officers are surveying their actions. However, some criminologists claim that criminal activity is simply diverted elsewhere. CCTV footage may offer unbiased court evidence and so contribute towards keeping many criminals off the streets, but footage needs to be stored securely – even if most of what is filmed does not get to be seen.

Q29 The public's main concerns about increases in surveillance have been raised around CCTV.

True

False

Cannot say

Q30 Passive surveillance refers only to company monitoring of Internet usage.

True

False

Cannot say

End of test