

VA Practice Session 4

#POST_1_CR

Greece has both natural and cultural assets. But it has lacked in infrastructure — be it inadequate, or unsuitable public transport from the airport, or poor service at a restaurant, or in a shop.

Representatives from across the sector of the Greek tourism industry — hoteliers, restaurant owners, travel agents, tour bus operators, tour guides, ferry companies, and so on — have long touted the problems they have faced. From its first day in government, the New Democracy indicated its intention to address these problems. And in the first few months it has been in power, it has already gone beyond simply stating its intentions and has actually begun to do something.

- a. Greece is a major tourist attraction albeit plagued by lack of basic transportation facilities and poor services, which are being addressed by the new order.
- b. The fact that the basic amenities are lacking is detrimental to tourism.
- c. The New Democracy is alive to the problems being faced by the tourism industry and has already initiated steps to rectify them.
- d. Greece is destination of Olympics regardless of its infrastructural inadequacies.

#POST_2_CR

If one wishes to form a true estimate of the full grandeur of religion, one must keep in mind what it undertakes to do for men. It gives them information about the source and origin of the universe, it assures them of protection and final happiness amid the changing vicissitudes of life, and it guides their thoughts and actions by means of precepts which are backed by the whole force of its authority. It fulfils, therefore, three functions. In the first place, it satisfies man's desire for knowledge; it is here doing the same thing that science attempts to accomplish by its own methods, and here, therefore, enters into rivalry with it. It is to the second function that it performs that religion no doubt owes the greater part of its influence. In so far as religion brushes away man's fear of the dangers and vicissitudes of life, in so far as it assures them of a happy ending, and comforts them in their misfortunes, science cannot compete with it.

- a. Religion is incomparable.
- b. Religion scores over science as far as the emotional quotient goes.
- c. Man in his quest for knowledge prefers science and scientific methods.
- d. Science cannot provide a security cover

#POST_3_PJ_TITA

- A. Protons and neutrons don't grow older, nor does electricity or gravity.
- B. Everyone goes through the ageing process.
- C. Life, which consists of these fundamental particles and forces, is astonishingly durable.
- D. But is it essential to grow old?
- E. Our DNA has remained much the same for at least 600 million years.

#POST_4_PJ_TITA-Doubt

- A. The officer at the RAF station was of the opinion that I would easily get a job.
- B. I had been very much encouraged by this.
- C. I had a science degree and varied experience in engineering.
- D. The industry was reorganising itself and qualified people like me were in demand.
- E. I had kept up with my subject through technical journals while at the station

#POST_5_RC_1

Recently, the revolution in reproductive technology has attracted wide attention as controversy centred initially on genetic cloning techniques could create new, possibly dangerous forms of life. Attention next focused on the power of genetic engineering to produce valuable new medical and agricultural products.

Largely overlooked, however, are developments that will ultimately have far greater social impact: the ability

to analyse genetic information will allow the prediction of human traits. While some fear that by analysing the entire library of human gene sequences we will discover the essence of humanity, this is unlikely. Our bodies are complex networks of interacting components, influenced by a variable environment. Nevertheless, genes do help determine aspects of human form and function. Herein lie the seeds of future problems. By about the year 2005, barring unforeseen technical obstacles, scientists will have fully mapped the complex human genetic terrain. Before this, however, new information will make possible techniques that will engender a host of ethical issues. Imagine that investigators could predict with some accuracy such aspects of human behaviour or functioning as intelligence, shyness, aggressiveness, or heat tolerance. Consider the power this would give to some and the vulnerable position in which it would put others. Even if society can anticipate and control most misuse of genetic data, we face a more insidious problem: a rising ethic of genetic determinism. For the past century, ideological currents have closely affected the nature versus nurture debate.

Widespread rejection of social Darwinism and institutionalized racism has buoyed the strong naturist sentiments of the past half century, but a growing proportion of the public, impressed by the successes of genetics, is likely to come to view genes as determinants of the human condition. Such an uncritical embrace of genetics will not be detected by scientists' reminders that the powers of genetic predictions are limited. Environmental variations can cause genetically similar individuals to develop in dramatically different ways, and genetics will at best suggest only a probability of development for complex traits, such as those involved in behaviour and cognition. Those overlooking this will disastrously misjudge individual ability.

What a tragedy this would be! We Americans have viewed our roots as interesting historical relics, hardly as rigid molds dictating all that we are and will be. Moreover, a belief that each of us is responsible for our own behaviour has woven our social fabric. Yet in coming years we will hear increasingly from those attributing 'bad' behaviour to inexorable biological forces. As a biologist, I find this a bitter prospect. The biological revolution of the past decades will spawn enormous benefits, but we will pay a price unless we craft an ethic that cherishes our spontaneity, unpredictability, and individual uniqueness.

1. Which one of the following best expresses the main idea of the passage?

- 1. The relationship between science and society leads to complex ethical questions that may either benefit or impair the development of each.
- b. Society should understand that environmental conditions may cause genetically similar individuals to develop in dramatically different directions.
- c. The effort to analyse humans' genetic make-up could lead to a dangerous belief in genes as determinants of who we are and how we think.
- d. The ability to analyse complex genetic information will ultimately lead to a fundamental understanding of human form and function

2. With which one of the following predictions about the biological revolution discussed in the passage would the author be most likely to agree?

- a. The revolution will lead to gross injustices in society.
- b. The revolution will bring greater good than harm to society.
- c. The revolution will not be as far-reaching as some believe.
- d. The revolution will be problematic as well as beneficial

3. The author mentions the nature-versus-nurture debate primarily in order to

- a. demonstrate the difficulty of predicting and preventing misuse of scientific data.
- b. supply a point of reference for an assessment of the validity of recent advances in genetics.
- c. cast doubt on the moral integrity of society.
- d. illustrate that political interests have largely determined public interpretations of scientific issues

4. The author's attitude toward the revolution discussed in the passage can best be characterized as

- a. concern that the revolution will suffer technical setbacks.
- b. apprehension about some of the revolution's likely effects.
- c. encouraged about the material benefits society will derive from it.
- d. surprise that the revolution enjoys wide public support

5. Which of the following sentences would best complete the last paragraph of the passage?

- a. Biologists must assist in a search for a community of common purpose just as they must assist in the design of a society of mutual advantage.
- b. Routine tests will soon detect predispositions to diseases as well as indicate a range of normal human traits.
- c. In particular, the tangible fruits of the revolution will greatly improve our society's health and economic productivity.
- d. By studying and enumerating individual genes, we will only begin to penetrate the surface of human complexity.

[#POST_6_PJ_TITA](#)

A. Of these, not more than five or six thousand can afford to undergo dialysis twice a week.

B. About half of such patients get their kidneys transplanted, which is not cheap.

C. So over a period of one year, about 94,000 lives are lost because of inability to afford treatment.

D. Every year about one lakh people face kidney failure in India.

E. The rest face death due to lack of financial resources for treatment.

[#POST_7_PJ](#)

A. The knowledge worker is gaining importance since the opening up of Global competition.

B. So the bait is no longer fatter bonus, but much beyond that.

C. Indian companies see the need to attract and retain good workers.

D. From training sessions to spruce up their skills to fun parties — anything to keep them happy.

E. Moreover, the employers recognize the importance of peaceful personal relationships to keep the employee happy

[#POST_8_PJ](#)

A. Surprisingly, even a shaving razor needs feminine charms to sell itself.

B. Are women really liberalised? Or are they still objects of the male fantasy?

C. There is no scope for such ethical issues as far as the product sells.

D. The advertising industry is busy cashing in on the concept.

E. It takes a woman to sell anything

[#POST_9_FIB](#)

The mandarin took the villager' s ____ as a personal ____.

- a. effrontery, affront
- b. affront, effrontery
- c. carriage, prejudice
- d. mockery, encomium

#POST_10_FIB

A ____ of classical fiction has always hinged on mankind' s extreme ____ and uncanny ability to choose the worst possible course of action.

- a. consequence, cupidity
- b. leitmotif, cupidity
- c. leitmotif, intelligence
- d. motif, sophisticated

#POST_11_FIB

The ____ room received the latest guest with ____, a tired, desultory welcome like the specious smile of a hotel receptionist.

- a. decorated, hospitality
- b. desecrated, warmth
- c. furnished, pseudo-hospitality
- d. consecrated, effusiveness

#POST_12_FIB

Mother Teresa ____ an aura of calm force and reserve strength which was like ____ to the weak, the desolate and the suffering.

- a. contrived, bane
- b. exuded, malediction
- c. contrived, manna
- d. exuded, manna

#POST_13_PJ

A. He also mentions the existential burdens on his brother with as much delicacy as the subject will permit.

B. Many will be disappointed that there is little introspective dwelling on his relationship with Hillary.

C. Even from the early part of his life, he seems to have inspired extraordinary loyalty from his friends, most of whom he managed to involve in his presidency.

D. They will be disappointed because his early life in Arkansas is particularly well told.

E. The early life contains description of his troubled family life with an abusive stepfather, the dilemmas of his mother.

1.C is only partially complete, it may not be pertinent to Greece, and D is a fact not mentioned in the paragraph so OA= A.

2.OA= B, it carries the crux of the paragraph. Refer to the part religion no doubt owes the greater part of its influence.... science cannot compete with it.

(d) is doubtful, security is an ambiguous term.

(c) contradicts information given in the paragraph

(a) is limited as the relative factor is not stated in the paragraph.

3.BD is a mandatory pair. B states a general fact and D questions it.

'Old' in D connects with 'older' in A. A answers the question asked in D. 'Particles' in C refers to the 'protons and neutrons' in A. So, AC forms a pair.

The durability mentioned in C is elaborated with the example of DNA in E. OA-BDACE.

4.C is the opening statement; it introduces the qualifications and experience of the person concerned.

A and D describe why he can get a job. B connects to AD

so CADBE.

5.

1) Option (c) correctly encompasses the passage' s topic, scope and point of view. Choice (a) omits some information and is too broad, while (b) makes an irrelevant implication. Choice (d) is too positive in tone.

2) OA=D It is a direct paraphrase of the final sentence. Choice (a) ignores the hypothetical nature of the whole discussion, while (b) and (c) do not match the author' s attitude or tone.

3) Choice (d) is correct among a lot of jargon and buzzwords. Choice (a) contradicts the sentiments while (b) is irrelevant. OA= D.

4) Choice (b) correctly captures the author' s unease.Choice (a) contains plausible adjectives but veers offthe mark. The adjectives used in choices (c) and (d) are incorrect.

5) Choice (d) is correct and well supports the author' s sentiments. (a) opposes the author' s view, while (b) and (c) are too detailed. Choices (b) and (c) also disagree somewhat with the author' s view.

6. D is the opening statement. A and B talk about those who can afford treatment. E, in contrast with AB, talks about those who cannot afford treatment. C further elaborates E and is also the last sentence because of 'so' . so DABEC.

7. OA- AC is a mandatory pair as both discuss the importance of knowledge workers in the face of global competition. B, D and E are connected to each other as they discuss means of keeping workers happy. OA= ACBDE.

8. EA is a mandatory pair; 'woman to sell anything' in E connects with 'feminine charms to sell itself' in A.

B raises some ethical issues and C refers to them saying 'there is no scope for such ethical issues'. BC is therefore a mandatory pair.

D discusses 'cashing in on the concept' mentioned in EABC.

Therefore, the correct sequence is EABCD.

9. OA= A, 'Effrontery' is a bold shameless action. The peasant' s effrontery affronted the mandarin (a Chinese official). To affront is to insult someone

10. OA= B 'Leitmotif' means a recurring theme. 'Cupidity' is greed.

11. 'Pseudo-hospitality' means a false or fake hospitality.

The room gave a tired desultory welcome. None of the other options can fill the second blank. So (c) is the answer

12. Mother Teresa gives off aura of calm force which rejuvenates the weak. Manna according to the Old Testament is miraculous food that God gave to the Israelites. The statement is praising Mother Teresa. So (d) has to be the answer

13. Not given