

Master series Mock CAT - 6 2018

Directions for questions 1-3: The passage given below is followed by a set of three questions. Choose the most appropriate answer to each question.

The first of Pater's actual Renaissance studies was the essay on Leonardo da Vinci, published in November 1869. Within the more technical context of poetry and the fine arts, Pater continues to search for new and more adequate formulas of human "wholeness" and "completeness," especially in the "engaging personalities" of his Renaissance hero-artists. Everywhere in these studies occurs the theme of the abandonment, or modification, or "use" of the old religion." In the search for formulas for his "strange," "singular," curious," "subtle," "exotic," "remote" souls, Christianity, or at least medieval Christian art, becomes the supplier of the "inwardness" that Pater demands as a supplement to Greek form. But Pater's successive formulas for the place of Christianity in Western culture, some of them more conciliatory than in the earliest essays, to some extent reflect, in their mutual incompatibility, the accretive and random development of the Renaissance volume.

It is no exaggeration to say that in his Leonardo essay Pater continues to take his basic definitions and evaluations from Matthew Arnold. Arnoldian phrasing is at the very heart of the essay. "Curiosity and the desire of beauty — these are the two elementary forces in Leonardo's genius; curiosity often in conflict with the desire of beauty, but generating, in union with it, a type of subtle and curious grace". Arnold's Culture and Anarchy, which had appeared in book form in January 1869, makes "curiosity" (or "a desire after the things of the mind simply for their own sakes and for the pleasure of seeing them as they are") and the "keen desire for beauty" — the "sweetness and light" of the farewell lecture — the essential components of culture or the Greek spirit. Moreover the next words of Pater's essay confirm the Arnaldian matrix: "The movement of the fifteenth century was two-fold: partly the Renaissance, partly also the coming of what is called the 'modern spirit,' with its realism, its appeal to experience; it comprehended a return to antiquity, a return to nature". Arnold's Inaugural Lecture at Oxford, "On the Modern Element in Literature" (1857), finally published in February 1869, had discussed the characteristics of "modern" periods like Periclean Athens: great energy, great freedom, "the most unprejudiced and intelligent observation of human affairs," and "intellectual maturity" or the "critical spirit". Arnold's full analysis of the "modern spirit" came in "Heinrich Heine" (1863) where he underlines the lack of correspondence between the spirit and the needs of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and the vast inherited system of institutions and dogmas. "Pagan and Mediaeval Religious Sentiment" also conceives the Renaissance as "a return towards the pagan spirit.... towards the life of the senses and the understanding," a "reaction against the rule of the heart and the imagination". Finally, in Culture and Anarchy Arnold had spoken of the Renaissance as "that great re-awakening of Hellenism, that irresistible return of humanity to nature and to seeing things as they are".

The central motif of Pater's volume, that of an enlarged and enriched version of human nature at the heart of the Italian Renaissance, is sounded in the Leonardo essay. The agitation and restlessness of Leonardo's "sinister" art, essentially a conflict between the reason and the senses, come from his "divinations of a humanity too wide" for the earlier Florentine style, "that larger vision of the opening world which is only not too much for the great, irregular art of Shakespeare". The holistic and inclusive quality of Pater's vision of an expanding human nature is apparent when he makes the Mona Lisa, in what is perhaps the most notorious passage in his writings, the embodiment of the old fancy of "a perpetual life, sweeping together ten thousand experiences," or the symbol of the modern idea of "humanity as wrought upon, and summing up in itself, all modes of thought and life". Moreover, Leonardo becomes a hero of Arnaldian disinterestedness applied to the life of the artist. Setting the ends of art above "moral or political ends," for him "the novel impression conveyed, the exquisite effect woven, counted as an end in itself-a perfect end". The line of the other essays is set when Pater ends by dismissing the question of Leonardo's religion as irrelevant in one who set beauty before all else.

Q 1. According to the passage, how does Pater present Mona Lisa?

- 1) Life in its entirety, consisting of several incidents has been presented by Pater through Mona Lisa.
- 2) Pater made Mona Lisa as an archetype of ideas of contemporary life.
- 3) Pater made Mona Lisa as a representation of ancient life with all its adversities and calamities.
- 4) Pater made the notion of happiness as the central motif of Mona Lisa.

Q 2. Out of the given options, which of the following information about Arnold's Culture and Anarchy is true according to the passage?

1)

In Culture and Anarchy, Arnold debates the value of culture in Victorian England, at a time of rapid social change, and his ideas about education and the state are as relevant today as ever.

2) "Sweetness and light" is an important component of the book Culture and Anarchy.

3) At least two pairs of binaries are discussed in Arnold's book Culture and Anarchy.

4)

Arnold compares culture to religion throughout the book Culture and Anarchy and comes to the conclusion that they are similar in many ways.

Q 3. Which of the following is definitely true about the author of the passage?

1) The author is aware of Arnold being a source of inspiration for Pater's essays.

2) The author dislikes the fact that Leonardo considered religion as irrelevant.

3) The author dismisses Pater's cynical views about Mona Lisa..

4) The author is overtly critical of the way Pater deals with Renaissance.

In each of the following questions, five sentences have been given in a jumbled up manner. Four of these can be rearranged to make a coherent paragraph. Find the sentence that doesn't fit into the paragraph and type its number in the space provided below the question.

Q 4.

1. According to a report from the Center for Gender and Refugee Studies at the University of California–Hastings Law School, not only are Central America's femicides widespread, but they are carried out with horrific brutality.

2. In 2015, the government of El Salvador registered 575 femicides—the gender-motivated killing of women.

3. To become a full-fledged gang member in El Salvador, a young man often has to endure a severe beating, and is sometimes required to kill someone as an initiation rite.

4. Bodies generally appear burned, with hands and feet bound. Some have been beheaded, and autopsies reveal that the majority of the victims suffer torture and abuse before dying.

5. It was the country's second-highest femicide rate in 15 years (2011 was the highest). Approximately 45 percent of the murdered women were under the age of 30, and of those, 34 percent were under the age of 18.

Q 5.

1. The idea has gained more traction among the public, too.

2. Since January, a majority of House Democrats have signed onto a single-payer bill brought by John Conyers of Michigan — a bill that has been introduced seven times before, without nearly as much support.

3. In a single-payer system, the government, not individuals or businesses, pays nearly all of the medical bills.

4. A growing number of Democrats have endorsed the bill to be proposed on Wednesday by Sen. Bernie Sanders, embracing a bigger government role after years of opposing that approach.

5. Once at the edge of the political conversation, derided as a socialist fantasy, it is barreling into the mainstream of Democratic politics, usually under the slogan "Medicare for all."

Q 6.

1. But to someone who is interested in the philosophy of language for its own sake, the restriction is disappointing.
 2. After all, it does seem that experience is and must be crucial for the way one attaches meanings to words.
 3. Whether or not one can properly speak of “cognitive meaning”, the existing formulations of the empiricist meaning criteria are restricted to only one segment of language.
 4. This may not disturb those who are interested only in finding ways of ruling out supposed assertions that they find objectionable and in restricting scientific and philosophical discussion to questions that can be settled empirically.
 5. No matter what kind of illocutionary act a sentence is used to perform, the claim that a given condition required for the utterance of that sentence holds is an assertion that can be evaluated as true or false.
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Q 7.

1. Some contemporary feminists question the possibility of sympathy, on the basis that we are all too minutely variegated as individuals; that our unique temperaments, our emotional fingerprints, are formed through idiosyncratic contours of oppression based on class, race, disability, sex, gender.
 2. Before motherhood, I had not thought much about sympathy.
 3. I hope not, and I think there is value in the hoping, in the attempt and striving, for sympathy.
 4. My emotional experiences will never identically map onto yours: our fingerprints are not the same.
 5. But must the acts of translation between our individual emotional worlds be doomed always to failure?
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Directions for questions 8-13: The passage given below is followed by a set of six questions. Choose the most appropriate answer to each question.

The traits of procrastination are obvious, more interesting are the traits of the procrastinator. Chronic procrastinators avoid revealing information about their abilities, prefer menial tasks, make poor time estimates, tend to focus on the past and do not act on their intentions. These characteristics have been related to low self-esteem, perfectionism, non-competitiveness, self-deception, self-control, self-confidence, depression and anxiety. From a neurobiology standpoint, the listed traits refer directly to the I-function in actions that consciously abuse the self. The importance of the I-function's interpretation of information and modification of behavior can be illustrated in the self-handicapping and decision-making components of procrastination. The complexity of procrastination has forced researchers to divide it into different types, the most pertinent in my opinion - behavioral and decisional.

Behavioral procrastination is equated with self-handicap. Essentially, this self-handicap provides a means for further blame shifting, as could be seen in an example of a student doing poorly in an exam and using procrastination as an excuse. Studies on self-handicapping have shown that people use a wide variety of strategies in order to construct barriers for their success.

The placing of these mental barriers is the work of the I-function manipulating the internal experience. Two studies conducted by Ferrari and Tice in a laboratory setting had participants (men and women) perform an identical task twice. In the first study, participants were notified that they would be evaluated on their performance of the task. Time was allotted for practice or engaging in fun activities. Results found that participants procrastinated for 60% of the time. The second study described the identical task as a fun game. Results of activity during the time allotted showed that procrastinators, in comparison with non-procrastinators, spent the same amount of time practicing. Thus, the results suggest that procrastination was a behavioral self-handicap only when the task was deemed evaluative. The pervasive tendency of the self-handicap creates a cycle of self-defeating behavior, which in turn sends negative feedback to the I-function. Correspondingly, this self-inflicted degradation and shame is translated into health problems.

The second type of procrastination - decisional, is the pattern of postponing a decision when dealing with conflicts and choices. People with high decisional procrastination display tendencies of perfectionism in taking longer to make decisions. Thus, the study by Ferrari and Dovido hypothesized that people with higher decisional procrastination, in comparison with people lower in decisional procrastination, seek out more information about a chosen alternative before making a decision. This hypothesis underscores the fear of error and necessity for perfection in people with high decisional procrastination. In addition, varying levels of decisional procrastination correlates to fundamental differences in decisive strategies. The argument Ferrari and Dovido put forth associates decisional procrastination with caution and assurance of correctness, by collecting data, before making a decision. Clearly the implications of this form of procrastination differ from those of behavioral procrastination, characterized by distraction and avoidance. Decision-making or critical thinking, is an activity of the brain. Yet, it seems to me that people with high decisional procrastination take greater care in taking a step forward, thus the I-function would have to be considered in light of the fact that while a decision is being made, the thoroughness is connected to notions of concern, desire and fear; reflecting individual traits.

Q 8. According to the passage, what do you understand by the term “I-function”?

- 1) I-function is a notion of the self that prevents harmful behaviour.
- 2) I-function is a notion that plays a role in self-destructive behaviour.
- 3) I-function describes all behavior associated with the notion of self.
- 4) I-function refers to how the brain and the body create a sense of self.

Q 9. Which of the following information about procrastination and a procrastinator can be inferred from the passage?

- 1) Typically thought of as a behavioral trait, procrastination thrives on a cycle of blame shifting and avoidance.
- 2) Procrastination is not a stagnant state but a fluid trait of the ever evolving human psyche.

3)

Today's technologically dependent society can opt for hyper efficiency, yet mindless procrastination continues in one's mind.

- 4) Being uncertain and pessimistic about one's self is a characteristic of procrastinators.

Q 10. Which of the following options best describes the characteristics of behavioral procrastination?

- 1) Delirium, absorption, and evasion
- 2) Delirium and evasion
- 3) Absorption and concentration
- 4) Absorption, evasion, and concentration

Q 11. According to the passage, why did researchers categorize procrastination into different types?

- 1) They were fascinated by the different ways people indulged in the act of self-evaluation.
- 2) They were intrigued by the intricacies of the phenomenon.

3) They were curious about finding the difference in procrastinating traits amongst people.

4)

They were shocked by the convoluted phenomenon which made people indulge in self-handicapping and delay decision-making.

Q 12. What was concluded from the studies conducted by Ferrari and Tice?

- 1) People procrastinate for about 60% time.
 - 2) Both procrastinators and non-procrastinators spend the same time on any given activity.
 - 3) People wouldn't procrastinate if they knew that wouldn't be assessed.
 - 4) When people know that they will be assessed, their procrastination becomes behavioral.
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Q 13. In what way has procrastination been discussed in the given passage?

- 1) It has been discussed from a historical perspective.
 - 2) It has been discussed from a psychological standpoint.
 - 3) It has been discussed from a socio-economic perspective.
 - 4) It has been discussed from a metaphysical standpoint.
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Directions for questions 14-16: Each of the following questions consists of a paragraph from which the last sentence has been deleted. From the given options, choose the one which completes the paragraph in a logical and coherent manner. Type the number of that option in the space provided below the question.

Q 14.

Ottmar Hitzfeld, who won Champions League titles with both Borussia Dortmund and Bayern Munich, often spoke of the “red zone”, the central area just outside the penalty area. A team’s first priority must always be to protect that, to try to avoid, as far as possible, opponents generating shooting, passing or dribbling opportunities from that area. That can be done by pressing, squeezing the space between the lines, or it can be done by having one or more holding midfielders sitting there, but what cannot happen is for central defenders to be isolated against an opponent with space in front of him. One of the reasons for the recent success of 3-4-2-1 is that it has such a stable base.

1. Temporary solutions may at times have been patched together, but Patrick Vieira has never truly been replaced. That’s hardly a new insight and its discussion may provoke sighs of weariness but it remains as true as it has been for more than a decade.
 2. The three at the front often mirrors the back three and this creates a beautiful display of geometrically weighed attack.
 3. The three central defenders protected by a screen of two holding players – the same trapezium shape that was the base of the W-M formation and that has returned to fashion as full-backs have begun to shuck off their defensive responsibilities, placing greater strain on the centre-halves.
 4. The stable base is necessary for teams to open a counter attack which would hold opponents hostage since they are focused on the defensive half.
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Q 15.

In 1795, Gerasim Stepanovich Lebedev (or Herasim Lebedeff), a Russian musician and newly turned linguistic translator did something unique in Calcutta. For the first time, a play written in English, Richard Paul Jodrell's *The Disguise*, a comedy in three acts, was translated into Bengali and performed on a proscenium stage – a new innovation that came with scene settings and arches, as seen in European theatres of the time. The music that served as accompaniment, and played on western instruments, was composed by Lebedev himself. The verses were written by Bharatchandra Ray, who had also written *Annadamangal* in the early 1750s. The stage was decorated in traditional ways and not the least unusual thing was the presence of female actors. Sherry Simon's *Cities in Translation* describes Calcutta as a renaissance city of the nineteenth century, which brought together different languages, and cultures, with mediators or go-betweens to facilitate interaction, all in a creative amalgam. But Lebedev's attitudes as a linguist and translator were interesting.

1. He had a keen ear for language, and was particularly interested in “contact forms” – mediation in language and performance that brought people together.
 2. His decision to skip Sanskrit as the medium for translation and chose Bangla was a true Renaissance commitment of establishing the vernacular.
 3. The book he wrote after his return in humiliating circumstances from Calcutta, *A Grammar of the Pure and Mixed East Indian Dialects* (1801), is an engaging, dialogic account with examples of the hybrid language then spoken on Calcutta's streets.
 4. Ray helped with verse sections and Lebedev tackled the prose.
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Q 16.

My opinions have been challenged. I had to defend what I believed. I did some more reading. I discovered fractals and Strange Attractors. I wrote an entry about the way I believe in God, which is to say that I do not. Not, at least, in the God that most people mean when they say God. I grant you that if the universe was Caused, there might have been a Causer. But that entity, or force, must by definition be outside space and time; beyond all categories of thought, or non-thought; transcending existence, or non-existence. What is the utility of arguing our "beliefs" about it? What about the awesome possibility that there was no Cause? What if everything...just happened?

1. This is the Aristotelian theory of Causality which also finds reflection in certain schools of Indian philosophy, especially one which considers Hiranyagarbha as the source of this cycle of life.
 2. The contradictory stance on death when one is closest to it is something I felt while writing this blog.
 3. Death to me became another scene from a Sci-Fi film.
 4. This has led to me being called an atheist, a deist, an agnostic and I have duly rejected all of these labels since I am going through a process of understanding myself.
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Directions for questions 17-22: The passage given below is followed by a set of six questions. Choose the most appropriate answer to each question.

The emergence of Nascent Conflict is attributable to several key factors that set the stage for Intensified Conflict. Chief among these factors were the number of movements mobilizing during the same period, the development strategies they adopted, the

availability of potential converts to the movements in certain social locations, the potential for opposition that was created by the appearance of the groups, and the vulnerability of the social order to challenge during this crisis period. Nascent Conflict was characterized by emergent disputation; neither movements nor oppositional groups had mobilized organizationally and ideologically. Disputes therefore tended to be limited and bilateral, and many movements avoided conflict through retreat and accommodation.

The root causes of what developed into the 1970s cult controversy can be found in the major structural crisis that I have described elsewhere as a shifting balance between contractual and covenantal forms of social relations. This crisis increased both the vulnerability of the dominant social order to challenges from prophetic movements and the appeal of those movements at various locations within the social order. The proximate causes of religious movement growth are to be found in three developments that were not directly related to religion at all. The rapid growth and concentration of young adult populations in colleges and universities created a large pool of potential recruits. The subsequent emergence of the youth counterculture produced a pool of individuals already in resistance to the social order who later became available to religious movements in the wake of countercultural decline. The rescinding of tight restrictions on oriental immigration resulted in the appearance of a number of oriental religious groups that critiqued the dominant social order from an eastern perspective. What emerged was a broadly based resistance that ranged from rebellion within the Christian tradition, as in the Jesus Movement, to a sudden surge in the number of eastern religious movements. From a historical, structural perspective, then, what became the cult controversy emerged out of specific unique circumstances, none of which were inevitable but all of which probably were necessary for the conflict that ensued. Further, the specific groups that initiated conflict significantly shaped the direction that the conflict was to take.

The first glimmerings of conflict began with The Family (originally the Children of God) and soon broadened to include the Unificationist and Hare Krishna movements. However, the dispute emerged only gradually, and trouble remained inchoate for a time. The Family was only one of many Jesus Movement groups seeking to bring youthful members of the counterculture to Christ. There is little evidence that Moses David Berg's early coffee house ministry generated any substantial opposition. Indeed, the Jesus Movement provided a safe haven for youth who might otherwise have been involved in more risky ventures. At its inception, the movement was small and lacked an identity, Berg's charismatic claims had yet to emerge, and the organizational structure remained quite fluid. On these counts, the movement didn't appear to pose any obvious threat to families or other institutions. Parents who did oppose the religious zealousness of their offspring often initially employed informal, low-level settlement techniques (containing, moderating, tolerating etc.) to deal with noncompliant behaviour. Where conflict did occur, it was between family members and the movement. Since families facing similar situations initially were not in contact with one another, opposition remained unorganized and common grievances were not articulated.

The conflict trajectory that occurred was not inevitable, however. Arguably, had The Family been the only group at issue, the pool of converts small and more marginal socially, or the movements simply regional, conflict escalation might not have ensued. Likewise, had the movements recruited within dominant traditions, the conflict might have remained more circumscribed, as it has for groups like Orthodox Judaism or Opus Dei. In this instance, however, two of the three movements were from outside the dominant Christian tradition, which facilitated characterizing the problem as an external subversive threat. The conflict might also have taken quite a different track had Christian Identity movements that pose a more direct challenge to the state been the initial focus of the controversy. As it was, the three movements that triggered conflict adopted pervasive rather than coercive strategies, which limited the grounds for invoking state sanctions and moved the oppositional coalition in the direction of a privatized, self-help movement.

Q 17. What does the author mean when he says “The conflict trajectory that occurred was not inevitable, however”?

- 1) A coherent narrative by The Family could have led to an avoidance of the conflict that emerged.
- 2) The conflict that emerged was a result of certain events whose avoidance could have led to a different story.
- 3) The Family broke the tradition of Orthodox Judaism and recruited from a diverse group which led to the conflict.
- 4) The Family should have had followed the path of Orthodox Judaism or Opus Dei.

Q 18. Which of the following is the thematic highlight of the passage?

- 1) To trace the evolution of Christian tradition, as in the Jesus Movement

- 2) To trace the rise and fall of The Family as a conflict group
 - 3) To trace and question the rise and fall of cult culture within the socio-political framework of a nation
 - 4) To trace and analyze the different factors contributing to the emergence cults as conflict groups in a particular era
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Q 19. Which of the following can be surely inferred about the 1970s cult controversy?

- 1) The Family and its lack of organizational skill is to be solely blamed for the conflict that ensued.
 - 2) The controversy was independent of other religious movements.
 - 3) The controversy under study could have taken a different shape.
 - 4) Historical and structural perspectives played a dominant role in the situations that led to the controversy.
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Q 20. A religious cult is trying to establish itself in a country. Which of the following, if true, is most likely to lead its growth as per the passage?

- 1)
The country is going through rapid urbanization and, as a result, a lot of youngsters are liberated from emotional constraints
 - 2)
The country is in the mid of an educational revolution which has seen a large number of youngsters taking admission into colleges.
 - 3) The youngsters in the country are influenced by a pop culture that is counterproductive.
 - 4) The country is in the middle of a social revolution which has led to a leadership vacuum at the core.
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Q 21. Which of the following can't be inferred from the first paragraph of the given passage?

- 1) Nascent Conflict affected the evolution of Intensified Conflict.
 - 2) Several social factors played key roles in the evolution of Nascent Conflict.
 - 3) During Nascent Conflict, oppositional groups are typically not organized.
 - 4) Nascent Conflict can be curbed by the avoidance of bilateral dispute and accommodation.
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Q 22. Which of the following is true regarding the organization of the passage?

- 1) The author evaluates certain possibilities behind the origin of a social phenomenon.
 - 2) The author chiefly focuses on qualitative research work to reinforce his personal views.
 - 3) The author cites a few theories to prove the superiority of one over the others.
 - 4) The author justifies his stance by rational and cognitive analysis of the term "conflict".
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Directions for questions 23-25: The questions below have a set of five statements each. Each statement can be classified as one of the following:

- * Facts, which deal with the pieces of information that one has heard, seen or read, and which are open to discovery or verification (the answer option indicates such a statement with an '1').
- * Inferences, which are conclusions drawn about the unknown, on the basis of the known (the answer option indicates such a statement with an '2')
- * Judgements, which are opinions that imply approval or disapproval of persons, objects, situations and occurrences in the

past, the present or the future (the answer option indicates such a statement with a '3')

Decide the categorization of the five sentences and write the answer in the space provided below the question. For example, if the first sentence is a fact and the second sentence is an inference, type them as 12. No comma or any other punctuation is required. Each digit typed will correspond to the statement in accordance to the former's position in the sentence.

Q 23.

I. In a breathtaking feat of rehabilitation, Ms. Jones, now 45, became a published scholar of American history while behind bars, and presented her work by video conference to historians' conclaves and the Indiana General Assembly.

II. N.Y.U. was one of many schools that recruited her for their doctoral programs.

III. Harvard's admission committed overturned Ms. Jones's admission as some professors termed her application "misleading as it downplayed her crime".

IV. Harvard has, indeed, made room for a wider range of voices on its campus in recent years, including the formerly incarcerated.

V. Jones had applied to eight schools but Harvard was her first choice because it was the Alma Mater of her favourite historian.

Directions for questions 23-25: The questions below have a set of five statements each. Each statement can be classified as one of the following:

* Facts, which deal with the pieces of information that one has heard, seen or read, and which are open to discovery or verification (these sentences will be marked as the digit '1').

* Inferences, which are conclusions drawn about the unknown, on the basis of the known (these sentences will be marked as the digit '2')

* Judgements, which are opinions that imply approval or disapproval of persons, objects, situations and occurrences in the past, the present or the future (these sentences will be marked as the digit '3')

Decide the categorization of the five sentences as fact/inference/judgement and write the answer in the space provided below the question. For example, if the first sentence is a fact and the second sentence is an inference, type them as 12. No special character is allowed.

Q 24.

I. Selma compelled many Americans to reconsider their perceptions of Johnson.

II. The curators of his legacy severely criticized the film for portraying the 35th president as a prickly antagonist to Martin Luther King Jr., asserting that the film unfairly reduces Johnson to an irascible politician who was forced by King into advancing the Voting Rights Act.

III. After the release of The Iron Lady in 2012, Rob Wilson, a member of parliament, called for a debate in the British House of Commons, claiming "its director, Phyllida Lloyd, painted an intrusive and unfair picture of the former prime minister".

IV. Edmund Pettus Bridge probably remembers the events in Selma differently since he was part of the film making process.

V. Fisher favours that the nation should have an opportunity to divorce, once and for all, memory from history.

Q 25.

- I. The couple accused in the case of alleged domestic slavery in London were reportedly the leaders of a Maoist sect, the Workers' Institute of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought, which had gone "underground" in the late 1970s.
- II. By the early-to-mid-1970s, these "Marxist-Leninist" groups had separated from their Communist parent movements.
- III. The Communist Party of England (Marxist-Leninist) remained particularly confrontational, as it was criticized by others on the far left for "political bankruptcy" and "political thuggery".
- IV. They avoided trade unions since they viewed them as corrupt agents of the imperialist fascist bourgeoisie.
- V. Maoism in Britain at that time was, to put it mildly, a very fragmented movement.

Directions for questions 26-31: The passage given below is followed by a set of six questions. Choose the most appropriate answer to each question.

Following the surprise result of the general election, a discussion began regarding the failure of political journalists, pundits and pollsters to sense the shifting mood of the electorate. In some respects, this echoed the discussion about the economics profession following the banking crisis of 2008, but there were some key differences. Economists and regulators are expected to make accurate predictions, partly to protect us from catastrophic events. Despite the fun and games of predicting election results, it is silly to place the identical expectation on political analysts. Politics is by nature a deeply uncertain process.

What was less forgivable was the acute arrogance of some commentators, who dismissed Jeremy Corbyn and his supporters out of hand – they didn't even bother to try to understand what might be emerging. For instance, Momentum, the group established following Corbyn's election as Labour leader to coordinate his supporters at grass-root level, was often treated as a cult-like group of troublemakers. But following 8 June, it was clear that Momentum was a very effective canvassing operation, which drew on hard work and enthusiasm rather than the big money and machine like messaging of their opponents. Pundits cannot know everything, nor should they be so quick to belittle that which they have never encountered.

Steve Richards's *The Rise of the Outsiders* was written too early to reflect on all of this. The book's most recent examples date to February, just after Donald Trump had settled into the Oval Office, and when a general election was barely a glint in Theresa May's eye. It would be interesting to know how, if at all, the book's central argument might have been tweaked, had it been completed four months later. I suspect very little, as Richards does not doubt the electoral appeal of "outsiders" such as Corbyn; indeed it is precisely the democratic successes of Trump, Brexit et al that motivate the book. The book nevertheless does invite questions about where politics takes place and to what political journalists (such as Richards himself) should be paying attention.

The Rise of the Outsiders is unabashed about where its sympathies lie. The heroes are the "insiders" – albeit tragic heroes, seeing as they are ultimately undone by their own innate flaws, short-sightedness and circumstances that overwhelm them. Richards offers a broadly convincing narrative regarding the last 30 years of political change in Europe and the US. A consensus emerged surrounding the inevitability and partial desirability of globalization, plus a need to escape the economic turbulence of the 1970s. Centre-left parties threw themselves into this consensus, desperate to be taken seriously as parties of government. Meanwhile, the rise of a more relentless and intrusive news media meant that politicians developed a somewhat paranoid relationship with their electorates.

The scramble in the 1990s for the centre ground meant that the differences between left and right diminished in the eyes of the public, something Richards believes could have been averted had politicians been more open about their values and goals. This created an opportunity for more distinctive political positions to be adopted by such people as Nigel Farage. Hesitancy regarding the role of the state set the stage for a financial free-for-all, resulting in the banking crisis. Both Labour and Conservatives failed to recognize the need for a more interventionist state, Richards argues. Again, outsiders exploited this, promising protectionism and higher state spending, across both left and right, as demonstrated by the platform of Marine Le

Pen.

Insiders became too neurotic about their media reputations and public sentiment. Contrary to the view that they are arrogant and unconcerned by public opinion, Richards believes they are oversensitive and shy of exercising real power. He claims that they showed undue deference to finance and the media, and chose to be less powerful than they could have been, leaving the door ajar to outsiders to force their way in. To put that another way, they brought populism on themselves. Regardless of events and alternatives, the same coterie of Blairites, Brownites, Clintonites and others remain the pivotal actors in this political drama.

Q 26. Which of the following cannot be inferred about ‘Momentum’ from the given passage?

- 1) Monetary assets did not play a major role in the success of Momentum.
 - 2) Momentum was regarded as a group of hellions.
 - 3) Creation of Momentum ensured utmost coordination amongst the antagonists of Corbyn.
 - 4) The adherents of Corbyn made this group successful by their labour and fervour.
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Q 27. For the readers of Steve Richards’s book, which of the following becomes a matter to probe about?

- 1) Political journalists and their points of focus
 - 2) Politics and political intrigues
 - 3) Events that lead political journalists to exaggerate on political intrigues
 - 4) Time and place of occurrence of political event
-

Q 28. According to the passage, why does the prognosis of the economists and political analysts fail?

- 1) Because too much is expected out of them.
 - 2) Because they are entitled with the responsibility of always protecting us from disastrous events that come along with politics.
 - 3) Because politics is something that cannot be clearly determined.
 - 4) Because perfection and accuracy exist only as terms.
-

Q 29. Which of the following is true about the representation of “heroes” in *The Rise of the Outsiders*?

- 1) The hero faces Hamartia.
 - 2) The hero can accurately foresee things.
 - 3) The hero has the ability to remain indifferent towards several things.
 - 4) The hero has an all pervasive vision that makes him invincible.
-

Q 30. On the basis of the information provided in the last paragraph, what do you think was Steve Richards’ purpose behind writing a book on politics?

- 1) To prove that politicians are worthy of all critique they receive.
- 2) To counter the scorn that is heaped on mainstream politicians.
- 3) To prove that the politicians are indifferent towards the common people.
- 4) To show how perfunctory the job of a politician is.

Q 31. What does the phrase- “unabashed about where its sympathies lie” mean?

- 1) Biased in taking sides
- 2) Embarrassed about what it has to side with
- 3) Modest about its preferences
- 4) Brazen about its inclination

Directions for questions 32-34: The passage given below is followed by a set of three questions. Choose the most appropriate answer to each question.

A perfect life from perfect skin – but only for those of the right shade – is the message and mindset that's being passed down. This has spawned a multibillion-dollar industry in cosmetic creams and invasive procedures such as skin bleaching, chemical peels, laser treatments, steroid cocktails, “whitening” pills and intravenous injections – all with varying effectiveness and health risks. It's more than a bias; it's a dangerous cultural obsession.

Multinational cosmetics brands have found a lucrative market: global spending on skin lightening is projected to triple to \$31.2bn (£24bn) by 2024, according to a report released in June 2017 by the research firm Global Industry Analysts. The driving force, it says, is “the still rampant darker skin stigma, and rigid cultural perception that correlates lighter skin tone with beauty and personal success”.

“This is not bias. This is racism,” says Sunil Bhatia, a professor of human development at Connecticut College. Bhatia recently wrote in US News & World Report about deep-rooted internalised racism and social hierarchies based on skin colour.

In India, these were codified in the caste system, the ancient Hindu classification in which birth determined occupation and social stratum. At the top, Brahmins were priests and intellectuals; at the bottom, outcastes were confined to the least-desired jobs such as latrine cleaners. Bhatia says caste may have been about more than just occupation: the darker you looked, the lower your place in the social hierarchy.

Fair skin bias was perpetuated and strongly reinforced by colonialism, not just in India but in dozens of countries ruled by a European power. It's the idea that the ruler is fair-skinned, says Emmanuel: “All around the world, it was a fact that the rich could stay indoors versus the poor who worked outside and were dark-skinned.”

Q 32. The statement, ‘A perfect life from perfect skin’, provides a glimpse of all of the following except:

- 1) Ethnic purity and the stigma associated with ethnic cleansing
- 2) Racial hierarchy which foreshadows a kind of cultural obsession
- 3) A method of beautification of the physique which can lead to health problems
- 4) The concept of purity associated with different skin types

Q 33. Internalised racism in India is primarily due to:

- 1) western influences which have flourished post economic liberalization.
- 2) a lingering colonial hangover.
- 3) influential marketing campaigns conducted by public figures.
- 4) codifications within the caste system.

Q 34. The statement, 'rigid cultural perception that correlates lighter skin tone with beauty and personal success' taken from the passage can be justified from the passage using which example?

- 1) Skin lightening products will triple their profit by 2024.
 - 2) The cultural obsession of being white
 - 3) Emmanuel's statement that the idea of the ruler is always that of being fair-skinned.
 - 4) Invasive procedures which help one to look fair and thus get better jobs.
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