

CAREERS 360

PREPARATION **Series**

CLAT 2026

English Language Concepts & Questions

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ABOUT THIS BOOK

Hello CLAT Aspirants,

We are thrilled to introduce our latest eBook, specially crafted to help you master the English section of your exams. This eBook is a comprehensive resource that includes previous years' official passage-based questions, complete with the answer key and detailed solutions.

Key Features

- 50 carefully selected passages covering a wide range of topics and difficulty levels.
- A total of 200 questions that will sharpen your skills and boost your confidence.
- Detailed solutions for each question to help you understand the concepts and techniques used in solving them.
- Access to official passages ensures you are practicing with high-quality material that closely simulates the actual exam experience.

Why Choose Our eBook

- Gain insight into the types of questions that have appeared in past exams.
- Develop a strategic approach to tackling passage-based questions.
- Build your reading comprehension, vocabulary, and critical thinking skills.
- Track your progress and identify areas where you need improvement.
- Whether you're preparing for standardized tests, competitive exams, or simply want to enhance your English language proficiency, this eBook is an invaluable resource to have in your study arsenal.
- It is designed to empower you with the knowledge and confidence needed to excel in the English section of your upcoming exams.

Don't miss this opportunity to elevate your English language skills and improve your test performance. Happy learning!

Best of Luck!

ENGLISH SECTION

WEIGHTAGE & PREPARATION TIPS

WEIGHTAGE:

The English language section accounts for 20% of the overall CLAT Question Paper. Achieving a strong performance in the English section can significantly enhance a CLAT aspirant's total marks, thereby increasing their chances of passing the examination. As per the most recent CLAT exam format, the English section includes around 450-word passages sourced from noteworthy historical and contemporary nonfiction and fiction texts. This section consists of 6 passages, each with 4 questions, resulting in a total of 24 questions in the English section.

PREPARATION TIPS:

The CLAT questions are designed to assess skills related to inference and conclusion, vocabulary, and reading comprehension. Here are some of the key pointers for preparing for the English Comprehension section of the CLAT exam:

Time Management: Allocate no more than 8 minutes for each passage and its associated questions to ensure you can complete the section within the time limit. Read the questions before the passage, underline answers in the passage, and focus on relevant details to manage time effectively.

Reading Practice: Regularly read novels, newspapers, magazines, and blogs to improve your reading speed and vocabulary. Active reading, such as highlighting and making notes, can aid comprehension.

Vocabulary Building: Strengthen your vocabulary by learning new words and their contextual meanings. Vocabulary apps can be helpful in this regard. Work on synonyms, antonyms, idioms, spell-check, and fill-in-the-blanks to excel in the vocabulary section.

Focus on Main Points: Identify the primary point of each passage. Look for statements that support or contradict this main point. Basic understanding is essential.

Central Idea: Understand the central theme, tone, and author's intent in the passage. Ask questions like "who, why, what, and where" to grasp the content better.

Attention to Details: Pay close attention to words, punctuation, grammar rules, and implied meanings. Watch for shifts in the passage's direction, signaled by words like "however" or "nevertheless."

Understanding: Ensure you thoroughly understand the passage before attempting the questions

Concentration: Maintain full concentration while reading the questions to avoid misinterpretation.

Avoid Rushing: Review all answer options before making a final choice. Overconfidence can lead to mistakes

Mock Tests: Take CLAT previous years' question papers and mock tests regularly to get a feel for the exam format and develop your own strategies, like making quick notes and mnemonics, for tackling questions.

Dear CLAT Aspirants,

Believe in your abilities, trust your instincts, and never underestimate the power of your dreams.

“You’ve got this”

PREVIOUS YEARS PAPER ANALYSIS

In previous years' CLAT exams, the English section typically comprised five long passages with direct passage-based questions and two short passages from which indirect questions were derived. These indirect questions often required candidates to draw inferences and apply critical reasoning skills. Vocabulary-related questions, including synonyms, antonyms, and idioms and phrases, were also a part of this section.

However, upcoming CLAT exams are expected to bring some changes to the English section. Candidates can anticipate a greater emphasis on critical reasoning-based questions, necessitating a deeper analysis of arguments and logical conclusions. There may also be an increased focus on grammar-based questions, requiring a strong grasp of English grammar rules.

Additionally, varied passage lengths, diverse topics, and advanced vocabulary usage are likely to be introduced, challenging candidates to adapt and enhance their comprehension skills and overall language proficiency. To excel in the evolving CLAT English section, candidates should practice extensively, work on critical reasoning abilities, and strengthen their grammar and vocabulary knowledge.

“The CLAT journey is tough, but so are you. Keep your focus sharp, your confidence high, and your goals within reach.”

Lets Begin With The Journey!

ENGLISH SYLLABUS

English Syllabus	Topic	Concepts
Reading Comprehension	Reading Comprehension	Reading Comprehension
		Types of Passages
		Central Idea and Title
		What is Inference
		Types of Tones
		Different Meanings of a Word
		Types of Application Based question
	Types of Passages	Reading Approach
	Central Idea and Title	Solving Main Central And Title Questions
	What is Inference	Predictions
		Drawing Conclusions
	Different Meanings of a Word	Contextual Meanings
		Metaphorical Meanings
		Literal Meanings
	Types of Application Based question	Approach to app based questions
	Tones of Passages	Positive Tones
		Negative Tones
		Neutral Tones
	Application Based Questions	Logical Corollary
		Parallel Reasoning
	Literary Devices	Figurative Language
		Sound Devices
		Rhetorical Devices
		Imagery and Sensory Language
		Allegory and Foreshadowing

ENGLISH COMPREHENSION CONCEPTS

Introduction to Reading Comprehension:

Reading Comprehension (RC) is a fundamental skill assessed in the VARC (Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension) section of the management exam. It is designed to evaluate your capacity to comprehend and interpret written passages. Here, we'll delve deeper into the concept, focusing on essential strategies and tips for mastering RC effectively.

| Key Points:

Read Actively: Active reading is the cornerstone of RC success. It means going beyond simply scanning the text. Instead, actively engage with the content, trying to understand the author's message, argument, and intent. Effective strategies for active reading include highlighting, note-taking, and asking questions while reading.

Skim First: Before diving into the passage, take a moment to skim through it quickly. This initial scan helps you get a sense of the passage's structure, main theme, and any notable headings or subheadings. This contextual understanding will guide your comprehension.

Identify the Main Idea: The main idea or thesis statement of the passage is its central point. It is usually found in the introduction or conclusion but may be implied throughout the text. Identifying the main idea is crucial as it helps you grasp the core message the author wants to convey.

Understand the Structure: Pay attention to how the passage is organized. Look for clues in the structure, such as the introduction, body paragraphs, and conclusion. This helps you recognize the flow of ideas and the relationships between different parts of the text.

Highlight Key Information: While reading, use a highlighting or underlining method to mark essential information. This includes facts, statistics, examples, and the author's viewpoints or arguments. Highlighting key details aids in revisiting them when answering questions.

Note the Tone: The tone of the passage reflects the author's attitude or stance towards the subject matter. It can be persuasive, informative, critical, or neutral. Understanding the tone is crucial as it provides insights into the author's purpose and perspective.

Vocabulary: Expect to encounter unfamiliar words during RC passages. Don't let them deter you. Instead, use the context surrounding these words to deduce their meanings. The CAT exam values your ability to grasp overall comprehension more than your vocabulary knowledge.

Example:

Let's put these strategies into practice using an example passage:

Passage:

"Climate change is a pressing global issue that demands immediate action. Rising temperatures, melting ice caps, and extreme weather events are all clear indicators of the impending crisis. In this essay, we will explore the causes of climate change and propose strategies to mitigate its effects."

Main Idea: The main idea of this passage is that climate change is a pressing issue, and the author intends to discuss its causes and propose solutions.

Structure: The passage follows a structure of introduction (setting the stage for the topic), body (listing indicators of climate change), and a future plan (exploring causes and proposing solutions).

Tone: The tone of the passage is persuasive, as the author is urging action to address climate change.

Key Information: Key information includes "climate change is a pressing global issue," "rising temperatures," "melting ice caps," and "strategies to mitigate its effects."

By actively applying these strategies and understanding these elements, you can significantly enhance your ability to approach RC questions with confidence during the exam.

Remember, consistent practice and exposure to various types of texts will further sharpen your RC skills, making you well-prepared for the exam's challenges.

Types of Passages:

In the VARC (Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension) section of management exams, you will encounter various types of passages. Familiarising yourself with these types is essential for effective comprehension and timely answering of questions.

Let's delve deeper into each type of passage mentioned:

1. Expository Passages:

Characteristics:

- Focuses on providing factual information.
- Aims to educate or explain a topic.
- Often presents a balanced view.

Reading Strategy:

- Look for key details, statistics, and data.
- Identify cause-effect relationships.
- Pay attention to any supporting evidence provided.

Example:

"A comprehensive study of the geological formations in the region reveals a rich history of tectonic activity. This has led to the diverse landscapes we observe today, ranging from towering mountain ranges to fertile valleys."

2. Argumentative Passages:

Characteristics:

- Presents a specific viewpoint or argument.
- Provides evidence, examples, or reasons to support the perspective.
- May acknowledge counterarguments.

Reading Strategy:

- Identify the author's viewpoint and the evidence presented.
- Evaluate the validity and strength of the arguments.
- Consider any counter arguments presented.

Example:

"The adoption of renewable energy sources is not only an ethical imperative but also an economic necessity. The long-term benefits far outweigh the initial investment, leading to a sustainable and resilient energy future."

3. Descriptive Passages:Characteristics:

- Focuses on providing vivid details about a subject.
- Aims to create a vivid mental image for the reader.
- Utilises sensory language and descriptive techniques.

Reading Strategy:

- Create a mental image of the subject being described.
- Pay attention to sensory details (sight, sound, smell, etc.).
- Consider the atmosphere and mood conveyed.

Example:

"The sun dipped below the horizon, casting a warm, golden glow over the tranquil lake. The gentle ripples mirrored the fiery hues, creating a mesmerising tableau of nature's beauty."

4. Narrative Passages:Characteristics:

- Tells a story or recounts an event.
- Includes characters, settings, and a chronological sequence of events.
- May have a plot with a beginning, middle, and end.

Reading Strategy:

- Follow the sequence of events and identify the main elements (characters, settings, etc.).
- Understand the purpose or message conveyed through the narrative.

Example:

"As the clock struck midnight, Emily's heart raced with anticipation. She stepped onto the cobbled path, guided only by the pale moonlight. The old manor loomed ahead, its dark silhouette holding secrets of generations past."

5. Analytical Passages:

Characteristics:

- Delves into deeper layers of a topic.
- Often dissects complex ideas, theories, or phenomena.
- May explore the implications and significance of concepts.

Reading Strategy:

- Break down complex ideas into manageable components.
- Identify the main theories or concepts being discussed.
- Understand how these components relate to each other.

Example:

"The theory of relativity revolutionised our understanding of the universe, challenging Newtonian physics. Einstein's groundbreaking work revealed the interplay between space, time, and gravity, reshaping the fabric of modern physics."

Mastering the nuances of each type of passage equips you with a versatile toolkit for tackling the diverse range of reading materials encountered in the VARC section of management exams.

Examples:

A. Passage (Analytical):

"In the realm of economics, the concept of 'elasticity' plays a pivotal role. Elasticity measures the responsiveness of demand or supply to changes in price. Understanding the different types of elasticity is essential for making informed market predictions."

Approach: For this analytical passage, focus on understanding the concept of elasticity and its importance in economics. Pay attention to the mention of responsiveness to price changes.

B. Passage (Argumentative):

"In the ongoing debate about urbanisation, proponents argue for its role in economic growth and innovation. They posit that concentrated urban centres foster collaboration and creativity. However, critics contend that rapid

urbanisation can lead to social inequality and environmental degradation, necessitating a balanced approach for sustainable development."

Approach: For this argumentative passage, focus on identifying the viewpoints of both proponents and critics of urbanisation. Evaluate the arguments presented by each side and consider any potential counterarguments. Pay attention to the need for a balanced approach to address the challenges posed by rapid urbanisation.

C. Passage (Descriptive):

"The ancient city of Petra, nestled within the rugged terrain of southern Jordan, stands as a testament to the architectural marvels of the Nabateans. Carved into rose-red cliffs, the city's intricate facades and tombs reveal a rich history dating back to 312 BC. Visitors are transported through time as they wander through the narrow Siq, beholding the grandeur of this UNESCO World Heritage site."

Approach: In this descriptive passage, focus on creating a vivid mental image of Petra. Pay attention to the sensory details provided, such as the rose-red cliffs and intricate facades. Immerse yourself in the historical context and appreciate the significance of this ancient city.

Remember, adapting your approach based on the type of passage is crucial for effective comprehension. This skill will greatly enhance your performance in the VARC section.

Main Idea and Title :

Main Idea:

Definition:

The main idea is the central message or theme that an author intends to convey through a passage. It represents the primary focus or purpose of the author's writing. Identifying the main idea is crucial for comprehensive understanding and effective summarization of a passage.

Importance:

Understanding the main idea is essential because it provides a roadmap for comprehending the supporting details and arguments within a passage. It acts as an anchor, helping the reader stay focused on the core message amid potentially complex or verbose content.

Locating the Main Idea:

1. **Introductory Paragraph:** Often, the main idea is explicitly stated in the opening paragraph. The author may present the central theme early on to provide readers with context.
2. **Concluding Paragraph:** Similarly, the main idea may be restated or summarised in the concluding paragraph. This serves to reinforce the core message and leave a lasting impression on the reader.
3. **Implicit Throughout:** In more complex passages, the main idea may be implicitly woven throughout the text. In such cases, readers must carefully consider the recurring themes, arguments, or concepts presented.

Approach to Main Idea Questions:

1. **Active Reading:** Engage with the passage, actively seeking out the author's main argument and key points.
2. **Identify Central Themes:** Look for recurring ideas, arguments, or concepts that underpin the passage's content.
3. **Opening and Closing Focus:** Pay close attention to the introductory and concluding paragraphs, as they often contain explicit statements of the main idea.
4. **Avoid Getting Bogged Down:** While details are important, prioritise capturing the overarching message of the passage.
5. **Consider the Author's Purpose:** Reflect on why the author is writing and what message they intend to convey to the reader.

Main Idea Examples:

1. Passage Excerpt:

"Advancements in artificial intelligence have revolutionised various industries, from healthcare to finance. The integration of AI-driven algorithms has led to increased efficiency and accuracy in decision-making processes."

Main Idea: The main idea of this passage is the transformative impact of artificial intelligence on various industries, emphasising its role in enhancing efficiency and accuracy.

2. Passage Excerpt:

"Exploring the intricacies of human behaviour, psychology sheds light on the underlying factors influencing our thoughts, emotions, and actions. It provides valuable insights for personal growth and interpersonal relationships."

Main Idea: The main idea here is the significance of psychology in understanding human behaviour and its applications in personal development and relationships.

3. Passage Excerpt:

"The concept of sustainability is at the forefront of global discussions, driving efforts to address environmental challenges. Embracing eco-friendly practices is paramount for a sustainable future."

Main Idea: The central theme of this passage is the importance of sustainability and the need for adopting environmentally-friendly practices.

Mastering the skill of identifying the main idea and crafting effective titles will greatly enhance your ability to comprehend and engage with passages in the VARC section of management exams.

Title:

Definition:

The title of a passage is a concise representation of the entire passage's content. It serves as a preview of the subject matter and should encapsulate the main idea.

Characteristics of an Effective Title:

1. **Reflects Main Idea:** The title should accurately represent the central theme or message of the passage.
2. **Concise and Clear:** It should be brief yet descriptive, providing a clear indication of the content to follow.
3. **Engaging:** A well-crafted title piques the reader's interest, encouraging them to delve into the passage.

4. **Avoids Misleading Information:** The title should not misrepresent the content or mislead the reader about the passage's focus.

Title Examples:

1. **Passage Topic:** "The Benefits of Mindfulness Meditation"
Title: "Cultivating Inner Peace: The Power of Mindfulness Meditation"
2. **Passage Topic:** "The Influence of Art on Society"
Title: "Brushstrokes of Change: Art's Impact on Cultural Shifts"
3. **Passage Topic:** "The Evolution of Urban Planning"
Title: "Blueprints for Progress: A Journey through Urban Planning"
4. **Passage Topic:** "The Role of Technology in Education"
Title: "Empowering Minds: Technology's Educational Revolution"
5. **Passage Topic:** "The Psychology of Decision-Making"
Title: "Deciphering Choices: Unravelling the Psychology of Decision-Making"

Remember, an effective title captures the essence of the passage, providing readers with a clear and engaging preview of the content. Additionally, understanding the main idea allows for a more nuanced comprehension of the supporting details within the passage.

Inference:

Understanding Inference:

Inference is a critical skill in reading comprehension, requiring the reader to draw conclusions based on evidence and implicit information provided in the passage. It involves making logical deductions beyond what is explicitly stated by the author.

Key Points:

Definition: An inference is a logical conclusion or deduction that is not explicitly stated in the passage but can be drawn based on the information provided.

Relying on Context: Inferences rely on understanding the context and implications of the information presented in the passage.

Use of Clues: Inferences are often supported by clues such as tone, language, and the relationships between ideas in the text.

Approach to Inference Questions:

- **Identify Contextual Clues:** Look for language, tone, and details in the passage that may hint at information that is not directly stated.
- **Consider Relationships:** Analyse the relationships between ideas in the passage to draw logical conclusions.
- **Avoid Making Assumptions:** Ensure that your inference is based solely on the information provided in the passage, without adding external assumptions.
- **Distinguish Between Fact and Inference:** Differentiate between information that is explicitly stated (fact) and what can be logically deduced (inference).
- **Practise Critical Thinking:** Hone your critical thinking skills by regularly practising inference questions to become adept at drawing accurate conclusions.

Additional Notes:

- Inferences are a crucial aspect of comprehension, as they allow the reader to delve deeper into the text and derive a fuller understanding of the author's intended meaning.
- They often require the reader to read between the lines and think analytically about the information presented.
- In the CAT exam, inference questions may ask you to identify implicit meanings, make deductions about characters' intentions, or draw conclusions about the overall message of the passage.
- It's essential to practise inferring meaning from various types of passages to become proficient in this skill.

Types of Inferences:

1. Factual Inferences:

Definition: These involve deducing specific facts or details that are not directly stated but can be logically derived from the information provided.

Example: If a passage mentions that Mary left her umbrella at home and it's currently pouring outside, we can infer that Mary will likely get wet on her way to work.

2. Conceptual Inferences:

Definition: These involve understanding abstract or implied ideas, concepts, or themes that are not explicitly stated in the passage.

Example: In a passage discussing the detrimental effects of deforestation, the conceptual inference could be the impact on biodiversity and climate change, which are not explicitly mentioned but are implied by the context.

Strategies for Making Inferences:

- 1. Analyse Context:** Pay close attention to the surrounding context, including the sentences before and after the information in question. Context often provides clues for making accurate inferences.
- 2. Consider Tone and Language:** The tone of the passage and the language used by the author can provide insights into the intended meaning. For example, a passage with a critical tone may imply negative consequences.
- 3. Look for Implied Relationships:** Identify relationships between ideas, events, or characters in the passage. For instance, if two characters are arguing, it implies a conflict, even if not explicitly stated.
- 4. Evaluate Cause-and-Effect Relationships:** Analyse the cause-and-effect relationships presented in the passage. Inferences often involve understanding the repercussions of certain actions or events.
- 5. Distinguish Between Fact and Inference:** It's crucial to differentiate between information that is explicitly stated in the passage (fact) and what can be logically deduced from the provided information (inference). Avoid making assumptions not supported by the text.

Example Application:**Passage Excerpt:**

"The dark clouds gathered overhead, casting a shadow over the town. The distant rumble of thunder signalled an approaching storm."

Inference:

Based on the description of dark clouds and the distant rumble of thunder, it can be inferred that a storm is imminent and will likely bring rain.

Significance of Inferences in management exams:

- In these exams, inference questions assess your ability to read critically and draw logical conclusions from the information provided. They may ask you to identify implicit meanings, make deductions about characters' intentions, or draw conclusions about the overall message of the passage.
- Proficiency in making accurate inferences is crucial for achieving a high score in the Reading Comprehension section, as it demonstrates a deep understanding of the passage beyond surface-level comprehension.
- Regular practice with inference questions will enhance your critical thinking skills and improve your ability to draw accurate conclusions, ultimately leading to success in management examinations.

Types of Tones:**Understanding Types of Tones:**

In the context of reading comprehension, identifying the tone of a passage is a crucial skill. The tone refers to the author's attitude or emotional stance towards the subject matter. Recognizing different types of tones enhances comprehension by providing insights into the author's intentions and underlying messages.

Let's delve deeper into the concept of identifying different types of tones:

1. Positive Tone:

Characteristics:

- Expresses approval, admiration, or enthusiasm.
- Often includes positive language, such as words like "inspiring," "uplifting," and "commendable."
- Encourages a favorable view of the subject matter.

Example:

"The team's unwavering dedication and exceptional performance led them to a well-deserved victory."

Signs to Look For:

- Positive adjectives and adverbs.
- Expressions of approval or praise.
- Encouraging language.

2. Negative Tone:

Characteristics:

- Reflects criticism, skepticism, or pessimism.
- Utilizes negative language, such as words like "concerning," "doubtful," and "problematic."
- Conveys a disapproving or unsatisfied perspective.

Example:

"The company's decision to cut employee benefits raised serious concerns among the staff."

Signs to Look For:

- Negative adjectives and adverbs.
- Expressions of doubt or criticism.
- Language indicating dissatisfaction.

3. Neutral Tone:

Characteristics:

- Presents information objectively, without conveying strong emotions or opinions.
- Focuses on providing facts or balanced viewpoints.
- Avoids language that leans towards either positive or negative extremes.

Example:

"The report outlines the financial performance of the company for the fiscal year 2021."

Signs to Look For:

- Absence of emotionally charged language.
- Presentation of facts without subjective evaluation.

4. Objective Tone:**Characteristics:**

- Aims to provide factual information without personal emotions, opinions, or bias.
- Often seen in academic or scientific writing.
- Focuses on presenting evidence and data.

Example:

"The study's results indicate a statistically significant correlation between exercise and improved cardiovascular health."

Signs to Look For:

- Use of data, statistics, and evidence.
- Avoidance of subjective language or personal opinions.

5. Sarcastic Tone:**Characteristics:**

- Employs irony to mock or convey contempt.
- Often involves saying the opposite of what is meant.
- Can be indicated by a discrepancy between the literal meaning of the words and the intended meaning.

Example:

"Oh, that's just what we needed – another meeting," said with heavy sarcasm.

Signs to Look For:

Statements that, when taken literally, seem positive or neutral but convey negativity or mockery when understood in context.

Importance of Recognizing Tones:

- Understanding the tone of a passage allows readers to interpret the author's attitude, providing insights into the intended message and emotional stance towards the subject.
- Recognizing the tone is particularly crucial for making accurate inferences about the author's opinions, intentions, or implied meanings, which are often assessed in reading comprehension questions.
- It guides the reader's response to the content, shaping their overall comprehension and enabling them to engage with the passage more effectively.
- Additionally, it helps in interpreting ambiguous or nuanced content by providing context for understanding the author's underlying attitude.

Approach to Identifying Tones:

- 1. Analyze Language and Diction:** Pay attention to the choice of words, adjectives, and adverbs used by the author. Positive tones often feature uplifting, optimistic language, while negative tones may use critical or skeptical words.
- 2. Consider Context and Emphasis:** Examine the context in which certain statements are made. It may provide clues about the author's emotional stance.
- 3. Detect Shifts in Tone:** Be alert for changes in tone within a passage. Authors may shift from a neutral tone to a more emotive one to emphasize certain points.
- 4. Trust Your Intuition:** Sometimes, your intuitive sense of the author's attitude can be a powerful tool in discerning tone.
- 5. Practice Identifying Tones:** Regular practice with passages of varying tones will help refine your ability to accurately recognize and interpret them.

By honing the skill of identifying different types of tones, students can significantly enhance their performance in the Reading Comprehension section of the CAT exam. Regular practice and exposure to passages with varying tones are instrumental in developing proficiency in this area.

Different Meanings of a Word:

Understanding Different Meanings of a Word:

In reading comprehension, it's vital to recognize that a single word can have multiple meanings based on context. Understanding these nuances is crucial for accurate interpretation and comprehension.

Key Points:

1. Polysemy:

Definition: Polysemy is a linguistic phenomenon where a single word has multiple related meanings. These meanings are often interconnected by a common underlying concept, making it essential to consider the context in which the word is used.

Example:

The word "bank" can refer to a financial institution, the side of a river, or even a place where something is stored. These diverse meanings are connected by the idea of a location or repository.

2. Contextual Meanings:

Word Meaning Varies with Context: In reading comprehension, the meaning of a word can vary significantly depending on the context in which it appears. Context includes the words and phrases that surround the word, as well as the overall theme or tone of the passage.

Example:

Consider the word "light." In a passage about physics, it might refer to electromagnetic radiation. In a literary context, it could represent hope or knowledge. The context clarifies its intended meaning.

3. Metaphorical Meanings:

Definition: Words are often used metaphorically to convey abstract concepts or ideas beyond their literal definition. This usage relies on comparisons or analogies to help readers grasp a deeper meaning.

Example:

In the phrase "the world is your oyster," the word "oyster" is used metaphorically to suggest that the world is full of opportunities waiting to be discovered, similar to a pearl inside an oyster.

Approach to Understanding Different Meanings:

1. **Consider Context:** Analyse the context in which the word is used. Look at the surrounding words, phrases, and the overall message of the passage.
2. **Recognize Patterns:** Pay attention to recurring words or themes in the passage. This can provide clues to the intended meaning.
3. **Look for Signal Words:** Signal words like "in this context," "metaphorically," or "figuratively" may indicate that a word is being used in a non-literal sense.
4. **Consult a Dictionary:** When in doubt, consult a reliable dictionary to explore various meanings of a word and its potential applications.

Importance of Understanding Different Meanings:

1. **Avoid Misinterpretation:** Recognizing different meanings of a word prevents misinterpretation, ensuring accurate comprehension of the passage.
2. **Enhance Precision:** It allows for a more nuanced understanding of the author's intended message, leading to a more precise interpretation.
3. **Facilitate Inference-Making:** Understanding figurative or metaphorical language aids in making accurate inferences about the author's intentions or implied meanings.
4. **Broaden Vocabulary:** Grasping multiple meanings of a word expands one's vocabulary and language proficiency.

Additional Note:

While recognizing different meanings of a word is crucial, it's equally important to be cautious of homonyms – words that sound alike but have different meanings (e.g., "to" and "too").

By honing the skill of understanding different meanings of a word, students can significantly enhance their performance in the Reading Comprehension section of management exams. This skill enables a deeper comprehension of passages and aids in accurately answering related questions.

Types of Application Based Questions :

Understanding Application Based Questions:

Application based questions in Reading Comprehension require students to apply their understanding of the passage to specific scenarios, often involving critical thinking and analysis. These questions assess the ability to extract relevant information and make reasoned conclusions.

Key Types of Application Based Questions:

Inference Questions:

Definition: Inference questions require students to draw conclusions or make educated guesses based on information provided in the passage.

Example: "What can be inferred about the main character's motivations from the passage?"

Vocabulary in Context:

Definition: These questions assess the ability to discern the meaning of a word based on how it's used in the passage.

Example: "In paragraph 3, what does the word 'ephemeral' most likely mean?"

Author's Perspective:

Definition: Students are asked to discern the author's stance or opinion on a particular issue presented in the passage.

Example: "What is the author's attitude towards advancements in technology?"

Application of Concepts:

Definition: These questions require applying information or concepts from the passage to solve a problem or analyse a scenario.

Example: "Using the information provided, evaluate the potential impacts of climate change on agricultural practices."

Approach to Answering Application Based Questions:

1. **Thorough Passage Comprehension:** Before attempting application based questions, ensure a clear understanding of the passage. This forms the foundation for accurate responses.

2. **Review Relevant Sections:** Identify the paragraphs or sections of the passage that pertain to the specific question. Focus on extracting relevant details.
3. **Eliminate Irrelevant Options:** In multiple-choice questions, eliminate answer choices that do not align with the information provided in the passage.
4. **Avoid Making Assumptions:** Base your answers strictly on information explicitly provided in the passage. Avoid making unwarranted assumptions.
5. **Use Context for Vocabulary Questions:** When determining the meaning of a word in context, consider the surrounding words and the overall message conveyed by the passage.
6. **Consider the Author's Tone:** For questions about the author's perspective, pay attention to the author's language and tone. Look for cues that reveal their stance.

Examples of Application Based Question:

Example 1: Inference Question

Passage Excerpt:

"The protagonist's hesitation before making a crucial decision hinted at a deep internal conflict. Her inner turmoil was palpable, revealing the weight of her choices."

Question:

"What can be inferred about the protagonist's state of mind from the passage?"

Approach:

It can be inferred from the passage that the protagonist is grappling with a significant internal conflict, as indicated by her palpable inner turmoil and hesitation before making a crucial decision.

Example 2: Vocabulary in Context

Passage Excerpt:

"The artist's work was characterised by its use of vibrant and effervescent colours, creating a sense of exhilaration in the viewer."

Question:

"In this passage, what does 'effervescent' most likely mean?"

Approach:

In this context, the word 'effervescent' is used to describe the colours, suggesting that they are lively, bubbly, and full of energy, thus creating a sense of exhilaration in the viewer.

Example 3: Author's Perspective

Passage Excerpt:

"The author's critique of the political system was scathing, highlighting its inherent flaws and inefficiencies. He advocated for a more transparent and accountable governance model."

Question:

"What is the author's attitude towards the current political system?"

Approach:

The author's perspective towards the current political system is negative, as indicated by the scathing critique that highlights its flaws and inefficiencies. Additionally, the author advocates for a more transparent and accountable governance model, implying a desire for improvement.

These examples illustrate different types of application based questions, including inference questions, vocabulary in context, and questions about the author's perspective. Mastering the ability to answer such questions is crucial for success in the Reading Comprehension section.

Importance of Application Based Questions:

1. **Assess Critical Thinking:** Application based questions evaluate a student's ability to think critically, analyse information, and make reasoned conclusions.
2. **Evaluate Reading Comprehension Skills:** These questions test a student's proficiency in comprehending and extracting relevant information from the passage.
3. **Bridge Passage Understanding and Real-World Application:** Application based questions connect passage content to broader concepts, helping students see the practical implications of the information.
4. **Enhance Analytical Skills:** Responding to these questions hones analytical skills, preparing students for more complex problem-solving scenarios.

By mastering the skill of answering application based questions, students can excel in the Reading Comprehension section of management exams. This proficiency not only leads to accurate responses but also cultivates critical thinking and analytical abilities.

Reading Approach:

Understanding the Reading Approach:

A strategic reading approach is imperative for tackling different types of passages effectively. It involves adopting specific techniques and mindsets to optimise comprehension and retention.

Key Components of a Reading Approach:

1. **Previewing the Passage:** Before delving into the details, quickly scan the passage to get an overview. Pay attention to headings, subheadings, and any highlighted or italicised text.
2. **Identifying the Passage Type:** Different types of passages (analytical, descriptive, narrative, etc.) require different reading strategies. Recognizing the type helps in tailoring your approach.
3. **Active Engagement:** Stay mentally engaged while reading. Ask questions, make connections, and note any unfamiliar terms or concepts. This active involvement enhances comprehension.
4. **Skim for Main Ideas:** After the initial preview, skim through the passage to identify main ideas, arguments, or central themes. This provides a roadmap for detailed reading.
5. **Analysing Paragraph Structure:** Pay attention to paragraph transitions, topic sentences, and supporting details. This reveals the logical flow of ideas within the passage.
6. **Note-taking and Annotation:** Jot down brief notes or underline key points. This aids in summarising and referencing important information later.

Let's delve deeper into adjusting the reading approach for different types of passages:

1. **Analytical Passages:**

Focus: Analytical passages present theories, concepts, or models for examination and understanding.

Approach:

- **Identify Key Concepts:** Pay close attention to the central concepts or theories being discussed. Understand their definitions and relationships.
- **Analyse Relationships:** Look for cause-and-effect relationships, comparisons, or any logical connections between different elements in the passage.
- **Consider Applications:** Consider how the presented concepts or theories might be applied in practical scenarios.

2. Descriptive Passages:

Focus: Descriptive passages vividly depict scenes, settings, or situations.

Approach:

- **Visualise the Setting:** Create a mental image of the described scene. Pay attention to sensory details, colours, sounds, and textures.
- **Note Figurative Language:** Look for metaphors, similes, and other figurative language that enhance the descriptive elements.
- **Consider Emotional Tone:** Assess the emotional tone conveyed by the description. Note how the author's language influences the reader's mood or feelings.

3. Narrative Passages:

Focus: Narrative passages tell a story, often involving characters, settings, conflicts, and resolutions.

Approach:

- **Identify Story Elements:** Recognize the main characters, settings, and the central conflict or problem to be resolved.
- **Follow the Plot:** Track the sequence of events, noting how characters' actions and decisions contribute to the narrative's progression.
- **Analyse Character Motivations:** Consider why characters behave the way they do. What are their goals, fears, or desires?

4. Comparative Passages:

Focus: Comparative passages juxtapose two or more subjects for analysis.

Approach:

- **Identify Subjects of Comparison:** Clearly understand what is being compared and contrasted in the passage.
- **Analyse Similarities and Differences:** Note the shared characteristics and distinctions between the subjects. Consider the implications of these comparisons.
- **Evaluate Author's Perspective:** Determine whether the author expresses a preference, critique, or neutrality towards the subjects.

5. Argumentative Passages:

Focus: Argumentative passages present a central thesis or argument supported by evidence.

Approach:

- Identify the Main Argument: Pinpoint the central claim or viewpoint the author is advocating.
- Evaluate Supporting Evidence: Assess the evidence, examples, or reasoning provided to support the argument.
- Consider Counterarguments: Be aware of any potential counterarguments or alternative perspectives presented by the author.

Here are four examples illustrating the adapted approach for different types of passages:

Analytical Passage:

Passage Excerpt:

"In the field of psychology, behaviourism emerged as a dominant theoretical framework in the early 20th century. Behaviourists emphasised the role of observable behaviour in understanding and shaping human actions."

Approach:

Identify Key Concepts: Recognize that this is an analytical passage discussing behaviourism in psychology. Focus on understanding the concept of behaviourism and its emphasis on observable behaviour.

Descriptive Passage:

Passage Excerpt:

"The sun dipped below the horizon, casting a warm golden hue across the tranquil waters. The silhouettes of trees stood tall against the backdrop of the evening sky, creating a serene tableau."

Approach:

Visualise the Setting: Envision the scene described, noting the warm golden hues, the calm waters, and the tall trees against the evening sky. Pay attention to sensory details.

Narrative Passage:

Passage Excerpt:

"As Sarah walked through the ancient forest, the whispering leaves seemed to tell tales of forgotten times. Suddenly, a rustling in the underbrush drew her attention, and she caught a glimpse of a fleeting figure."

Approach:

Identify Story Elements: Recognize Sarah as the main character, the ancient forest as the setting, and the mysterious figure as a plot element. Follow Sarah's journey through the forest.

Comparative Passage:

Passage Excerpt:

"In the debate between nature and nurture, psychologists seek to understand the relative influence of genetics and environment on human development. While some emphasise genetic predispositions, others highlight environmental factors."

Approach:

Identify Subjects of Comparison: Recognize that the passage is comparing the influence of nature (genetics) and nurture (environment) on human development.

Analyse Similarities and Differences: Note the shared goal of understanding human development, but also the differing emphasis on genetic and environmental factors.

These examples illustrate how adjusting the approach based on the type of passage enhances comprehension. By tailoring the reading strategy, students can extract the most relevant information, leading to accurate responses in management exams.

Benefits of a Structured Reading Approach:

1. **Efficient Time Management:** A well-defined approach ensures that time is allocated efficiently, allowing for thorough comprehension within the given time constraints.
2. **Enhanced Comprehension:** By actively engaging with the passage, students gain a deeper understanding of the content, leading to more accurate answers.
3. **Focused Note-taking:** Effective note-taking assists in summarising key points, making it easier to refer back to the passage during question-solving.
4. **Adaptability to Different Passages:** A structured approach is adaptable, allowing students to apply appropriate strategies for various types of passages encountered in the CAT exam.

A thoughtful reading approach is instrumental in navigating through the diverse range of passages encountered in the VARC section. By incorporating these strategies, students can significantly enhance their comprehension skills.

Main Idea and Title Questions:

Understanding Main Idea and Title Questions:

Main Idea questions assess the central theme or core message conveyed by a passage. They require a comprehensive understanding of the entire text, as opposed to specific details. Title questions, on the other hand, demand the identification of a suitable heading or title that accurately summarises the main theme of the passage.

Approach for Main Idea Questions:

1. Identify the Central Theme:

The central theme is the overarching idea or message that encompasses the entire passage. It is not specific to any particular detail or example. Look for the primary argument or main point that ties the passage together.

Example:

If a passage discusses the benefits of exercise for physical and mental health, the central theme might be the importance of a healthy lifestyle.

2. Analyse Supporting Details:

While the main idea is the central theme, it is often supported by various details, arguments, or examples in the passage. These supporting elements contribute to the overall message.

Example:

In the exercise passage, supporting details may include statistics on reduced risk of chronic diseases, improved mood, and enhanced cognitive function.

3. Avoid Distractions:

Be cautious of specific details or examples that may seem important but are not central to the overall theme. Focus on the broader message.

Example:

If the passage briefly mentions a specific study on exercise and mental health, it may be a supporting detail rather than the main idea.

Example:

Passage Excerpt:

"In the age of information, critical thinking skills are more crucial than ever. The ability to discern reliable sources from misinformation empowers individuals to make informed decisions in an increasingly complex world."

Main Idea Question:

"What is the central theme of the passage?"

Approach:

The main idea of this passage revolves around the significance of critical thinking skills in navigating the information age. It emphasises the importance of distinguishing reliable sources from misinformation for informed decision-making.

Approach for Title Questions:

1. Create a Comprehensive Summary:

Begin by summarising the passage in a sentence or two. This summary should capture the essence of the passage without getting into specific details.

Example:

If the passage discusses the benefits of mindfulness meditation for stress reduction, the summary might be: "Mindfulness meditation as a powerful tool for reducing stress and improving overall well-being."

2. Consider the Passage's Focus:

The title should reflect the primary focus or message of the passage. It should be broad enough to encompass all major points discussed.

Example:

In the meditation passage, the title should convey that the main focus is on the benefits of mindfulness meditation for stress reduction.

3. Avoid Specifics and Extraneous Details:

Titles should not delve into specific examples or minor details. They should provide a general overview of the passage's content.

Example:

A title like "Case Studies on Mindfulness Meditation Efficacy" would be too specific and not suitable for representing the entire passage.

Example:

Passage Excerpt:

"In the realm of environmental conservation, community engagement plays a pivotal role. Empowering local communities to take ownership of their natural resources fosters sustainable practices and long-term preservation."

Title Question:

"What would be a suitable title for the passage?"

Approach:

A fitting title for this passage might be "The Vital Role of Community Engagement in Environmental Conservation." This title captures the essence of the passage, emphasising the importance of involving local communities in conservation efforts.

Key Considerations:

- **Avoiding Misleading Details:** Titles should not be misleading or focus on a single aspect of the passage. They should represent the entire content accurately.
- **Balancing Specificity and Generality:** Titles should strike a balance between being too specific (focusing on one detail) and too general (lacking substance).
- **Using Clear and Concise Language:** Titles should be clear, concise, and directly related to the main theme of the passage.

Mastering the ability to discern the main idea and create suitable titles is crucial for success in the Reading Comprehension section of the management exams. By following these approaches, students can develop a structured method for tackling these types of questions effectively.

Predictions:

Understanding Predictions:

Predictions in the context of reading comprehension involve using the information provided in the passage to anticipate what may happen next, or what can be inferred from the given details. This skill is crucial for extracting implicit information and understanding the logical progression of ideas.

Approach for Making Predictions:

1. **Contextual Analysis:** Begin by thoroughly understanding the context in which the information is presented. Consider the events, circumstances, or situations described in the passage.
Example: In a passage discussing a character's fear of heights while on a mountain, the context provides cues for possible outcomes or reactions.
2. **Identify Causal Relationships:** Look for cause-and-effect relationships within the passage. Understanding what causes certain events or reactions can lead to predictions about their outcomes.

Example: If the passage mentions that the character's hands were trembling due to fear, it can be predicted that they may struggle to maintain their grip on a steep slope.

- 3. Analyze Foreshadowing and Clues:** Pay attention to any foreshadowing or subtle hints provided by the author. These can indicate future events or developments.

Example: If the passage hints at dark clouds gathering on the horizon, it may foreshadow an impending storm.

- 4. Consider Character Motivations and Intentions:** Analyse the motivations, desires, or intentions of characters in the passage. Predict their likely actions based on their established characteristics.

Example: If a character is shown to be highly competitive, it can be predicted that they will strive to outperform others in a given situation.

Example of predictions:

Example 1: Weather Forecasting

Passage Excerpt:

"Meteorologists have been closely monitoring the atmospheric pressure patterns over the region. The data suggests a significant drop in pressure, which typically indicates an approaching storm system."

Prediction Question:

"What can be predicted about the weather in the coming days based on the mentioned atmospheric pressure patterns?"

Prediction:

Based on the data presented, it can be predicted that there is a high likelihood of a storm system approaching the region in the coming days. This prediction is based on the observed drop in atmospheric pressure, which is indicative of stormy weather conditions.

Example 2: Market Trends

Passage Excerpt:

"Recent economic indicators show a steady increase in consumer spending and a decrease in unemployment rates. Additionally, there has been a surge in demand for tech stocks in the market."

Prediction Question:

"What can be predicted about the trajectory of the stock market in the near future based on the provided economic indicators?"

Prediction:

Based on the economic indicators presented, it can be predicted that the stock market is likely to experience a positive trend in the near future. The increase in consumer spending, decrease in unemployment rates, and high demand for tech stocks suggest a favorable market outlook.

Example 3: Academic Performance

Passage Excerpt:

"Studies have consistently shown a strong correlation between regular study habits and academic success. Students who engage in consistent study routines tend to achieve higher grades and demonstrate better comprehension of course material."

Prediction Question:

"What can be predicted about the academic performance of students who adopt regular study habits?"

Prediction:

Based on the presented studies, it can be predicted that students who establish and maintain regular study habits are likely to achieve higher academic performance. The established correlation between consistent study routines and improved grades supports this prediction.

These examples demonstrate how predictions are made based on the information provided in the passage. In each case, the prediction is grounded in the evidence and patterns presented, allowing the reader to make informed forecasts about future events or outcomes.

Key Considerations for Making Predictions:

- 1. Rely on Textual Evidence:** Ensure that predictions are based on information provided in the passage rather than personal assumptions or external knowledge.
- 2. Consider Multiple Perspectives:** Be open to various possible predictions, taking into account different ways the situation may unfold.
- 3. Practice and Familiarity:** Regular practice with a wide range of passages will enhance the ability to make accurate predictions, as it becomes easier to discern contextual cues and foreshadowing.

Application:

The skill of making predictions is invaluable in the management exam's VARC section, where questions may require candidates to anticipate outcomes or infer unspoken

details. By honing this skill, students can approach complex passages with confidence and extract implicit information effectively.

Drawing Conclusions :

Understanding Drawing Conclusions:

Drawing conclusions is a critical skill in reading comprehension, as it involves making logical inferences or deductions based on the information presented in a passage. It goes beyond summarising the text; it requires the reader to synthesise details, analyse evidence, and arrive at a well-reasoned judgement or inference.

Approach for Drawing Conclusions:

1. Identify Key Information:

Begin by identifying the key information in the passage that is relevant to the question at hand. This information may include facts, examples, statistics, or statements.

Example:

If the passage discusses the harmful effects of pollution on the environment and mentions rising global temperatures, these are key pieces of information.

2. Analyse Evidence:

Examine the evidence provided in the passage that supports a particular conclusion. Look for cause-and-effect relationships, comparisons, or correlations.

Example:

If the passage indicates that pollution levels have steadily increased over the past decade and that this corresponds with rising temperatures, it supports the conclusion that pollution contributes to global warming.

3. Consider Alternative Interpretations:

Be open to the possibility of alternative interpretations or conclusions. Sometimes, passages may present conflicting information or multiple perspectives.

Example:

If the passage mentions that while pollution has increased, some researchers argue that natural climate fluctuations also play a significant role, consider this perspective when drawing conclusions.

4. Avoid Overgeneralization:

Ensure that the conclusion is specific to the information presented in the passage. Avoid making sweeping generalisations that extend beyond the evidence provided.

Example:

If the passage discusses the impact of pollution on a particular ecosystem, limit the conclusion to that ecosystem rather than making broader claims about all ecosystems.

Examples:

Passage Excerpt 1:

"The recent survey of students in urban schools indicated a marked increase in graduation rates following the implementation of after-school tutoring programs. These programs provided students with additional support in core subjects."

Conclusion Question 1:

"What can be reasonably concluded about the impact of after-school tutoring programs on graduation rates?"

Approach:

Based on the passage, it can be reasonably concluded that after-school tutoring programs in urban schools have led to an increase in graduation rates. The evidence provided in the survey supports this conclusion.

Passage Excerpt 2:

"In the study comparing two diet plans, participants on the Mediterranean diet demonstrated a lower incidence of heart-related illnesses compared to those on a high-protein diet. The Mediterranean diet emphasises whole foods and healthy fats."

Conclusion Question 2:

"What can be concluded about the relationship between the Mediterranean diet and heart health?"

Approach:

Based on the passage, it can be concluded that the Mediterranean diet is associated with a lower incidence of heart-related illnesses compared to a high-protein diet. The evidence provided in the study supports this conclusion.

Passage Excerpt 3:

"While technology has revolutionised the way we communicate, some argue that it has led to a decline in face-to-face interactions. However, proponents assert that it has expanded our global connectivity."

Conclusion Question 3:

"What can be inferred about the impact of technology on face-to-face interactions?"

Approach:

Based on the passage, it can be concluded that there are differing viewpoints on the impact of technology on face-to-face interactions. Some argue it has declined, while others assert it has expanded global connectivity. Both perspectives are presented in the passage.

These examples illustrate the process of drawing conclusions based on evidence from the passage. It emphasises the importance of considering multiple perspectives and avoiding overgeneralization when arriving at a conclusion.

Approach for Drawing Conclusions:**1. Identify Key Information:**

Start by identifying the crucial information in the passage that is pertinent to the question. This includes facts, examples, statistics, or statements that are directly related to the conclusion being sought.

Example:

In a passage discussing the impact of technology on education, key information might include data on improved student engagement due to interactive learning apps.

2. Analyse Evidence:

Scrutinise the evidence provided in the passage that supports a specific conclusion. Look for cause-and-effect relationships, comparisons, or correlations that indicate a clear connection.

Example:

If the passage suggests that students who use the interactive learning apps showed a significant increase in test scores compared to those who did not, this serves as evidence supporting the conclusion that such apps enhance learning outcomes.

3. Consider Alternative Interpretations:

Stay open to the possibility of alternative interpretations or conclusions. Some passages may present conflicting information or multiple perspectives that need to be considered.

Example:

If the passage also mentions that some students prefer traditional classroom methods, it's important to acknowledge this perspective when drawing conclusions about the effectiveness of technology in education.

4. Avoid Overgeneralization:

Ensure that the conclusion is specific to the information presented in the passage. Avoid making sweeping generalisations that extend beyond the evidence provided.

Example:

If the passage focuses on a specific age group benefiting from the interactive learning apps, limit the conclusion to that group rather than assuming it applies universally to all age groups.

Application:

Drawing conclusions is a key competency assessed in the VARC section. Candidates are expected to read passages, extract relevant information, and draw logical conclusions based on the provided details. This skill is invaluable for success in comprehending complex texts and answering related questions accurately.

Contextual Meanings:

Definition:

Contextual meanings refer to the interpretations of words based on the specific context in which they are used. It involves understanding the nuanced sense of a word as it applies to a particular situation, sentence, or passage. Recognizing contextual meanings is essential for accurate comprehension, as words often have multiple meanings depending on their usage within a given context.

Importance:

- **Precision in Interpretation:** Recognizing contextual meanings allows readers to grasp the precise intended sense of a word in a given context, enhancing comprehension accuracy.
- **Avoiding Misinterpretation:** Without considering contextual meanings, a reader may misinterpret a word's intended sense and derive an incorrect understanding of the passage.
- **Appreciating Nuance:** Many words have subtle differences in meaning based on context. Understanding these nuances enriches the depth of comprehension.

Here's an approach to effectively identify and interpret contextual meanings:

1. **Read the Entire Sentence:** Begin by reading the entire sentence in which the word is used. This provides the immediate context in which the word operates.
2. **Consider Surrounding Phrases:** Analyse the words and phrases immediately preceding and following the target word. These neighbouring words can offer valuable clues about the intended meaning.
3. **Identify Word Relationships:** Determine how the word relates to other words in the sentence. Is it being used as a noun, verb, adjective, etc.? This can provide insights into its function and meaning.
4. **Consider Tone and Mood:** Evaluate the overall tone and mood of the passage. Some words may take on specific connotations based on the emotional or atmospheric tone set by the author.
5. **Draw from Prior Knowledge:** If you have prior knowledge of the subject matter, use it to inform your understanding of the word. Some fields may have specialised meanings for certain terms.
6. **Consult a Dictionary (if needed):** If the contextual meaning remains unclear, refer to a reputable dictionary for additional definitions and usage examples. This can provide further clarity.

Example:**Passage Excerpt:**

"The actor's delivery was so deadpan that the audience couldn't tell if he was serious or joking."

Approach and Explanation:

1. **Read the Entire Sentence:** The sentence discusses the actor's delivery, implying a way of presenting lines or performing.
2. **Consider Surrounding Phrases:** The term 'deadpan' is used to describe the actor's delivery. This suggests a lack of emotion or expression.
3. **Identify Word Relationships:** 'Deadpan' is an adjective here, describing the manner in which the actor delivers lines.
4. **Consider Tone and Mood:** The tone is likely to be humorous or ironic, given the contrast between the actor's deadpan delivery and the audience's uncertainty.
5. **Draw from Prior Knowledge:** If the reader is familiar with acting styles, they may already know that 'deadpan' refers to a style characterised by a deliberately impassive or expressionless presentation.

In this example, understanding the contextual meaning of 'deadpan' is crucial for comprehending the actor's performance style and the audience's reaction.

Remember, recognizing contextual meanings requires practice and attentiveness. Over time, this skill will become more intuitive, enhancing your overall reading comprehension.

Examples:

Example 1:

Passage Excerpt: "The conductor waved his baton, signalling the orchestra to begin."

Explanation: In this context, 'baton' refers to a thin wand used by a conductor to direct an orchestra. Its meaning changes depending on the situation.

Example 2:

Passage Excerpt: "The novel provided a window into the protagonist's psyche."

Explanation: Here, 'psyche' pertains to the mind, mental processes, and emotions of the protagonist. In a different context, it might refer to the soul or the entirety of a person's mental processes.

Example 3:

Passage Excerpt: "The journalist's article was a scathing critique of the government's policies."

Explanation: 'Scathing' means severely critical and harsh. In another context, it might refer to something that is intensely hot or burning.

Example 4:

Passage Excerpt: "The restaurant's ambiance was both cosy and inviting."

Explanation: 'Ambiance' in this context refers to the overall atmosphere and mood of the restaurant. In a different context, it could refer to the character or quality of a particular environment.

Example 5:

Passage Excerpt: "The CEO's charisma was evident in her ability to captivate the audience."

Explanation: 'Charisma' here implies a compelling attractiveness or charm that the CEO possesses. In a different context, it might refer to a spiritual power or quality.

Example 6:

Passage Excerpt: "The explorer marvelled at the diversity of flora and fauna in the rainforest."

Explanation: 'Flora' refers to the plants in a particular region or habitat, while 'fauna' refers to the animal life. In different contexts, they may have more specific or broader meanings.

These examples highlight how words can take on different meanings depending on the context in which they are used. Recognizing these contextual meanings is crucial for accurate comprehension and interpretation of a passage.

Practical Application:

- **Reading Scientific Texts:** In scientific literature, words may have specialised meanings that differ from their everyday usage. Understanding the contextual meanings is crucial for accurate comprehension.
- **Interpreting Literature:** In literature, authors may employ words with nuanced meanings to convey specific emotions or themes. Recognizing contextual meanings allows for a deeper understanding of the text.
- **Analysing Legal Texts:** Legal documents often contain terminology with precise legal definitions. Understanding the contextual meanings of these terms is vital for legal comprehension.

Recognizing contextual meanings is a fundamental skill in reading comprehension. It enables readers to accurately interpret words within their specific usage, leading to a more precise understanding of the overall passage. This skill is particularly valuable when dealing with passages that employ nuanced or specialised language. It enhances the reader's ability to engage with diverse texts across various subjects and genres.

Introduction to Metaphorical Meanings:

Metaphorical meanings of words or phrases involve a figurative use of language where words convey meanings beyond their literal definitions. Understanding metaphors is crucial in reading comprehension as they often appear in literary texts, persuasive essays, and other forms of communication. Recognizing metaphors adds depth to your comprehension and interpretation of a passage.

Key Points:

Metaphors Defined: A metaphor is a figure of speech that draws a comparison between two seemingly unrelated things to suggest a resemblance. It's not meant to be taken literally but rather to convey an abstract idea or create vivid imagery.

Figurative Language: Metaphors are a form of figurative language, along with similes, personification, and symbolism. They enrich the text by adding layers of meaning.

Context Matters: To decipher a metaphor, consider the context in which it appears. The surrounding words and sentences often provide clues about the intended meaning.

Interpretation: Metaphors can have multiple interpretations, and their meaning may vary depending on the reader's perspective. It's essential to justify your interpretation based on the passage's context.

Common Metaphors: Some metaphors are commonly used and easily recognizable, while others are more subtle and context-specific. Familiarity with common metaphors can aid comprehension.

Examples:

Let's explore some examples of metaphors within passages:

Passage:

"The city was a melting pot of cultures, where diversity simmered like a flavorful stew. Each neighbourhood was a unique ingredient, contributing its distinct spice to the communal pot."

Metaphor: In this passage, the metaphor is "the city was a melting pot of cultures." This metaphor compares the city to a melting pot, suggesting that people from various backgrounds come together and blend, much like different ingredients in a stew.

Interpretation: The metaphor implies that the city is a place where cultural diversity is celebrated and where people from different backgrounds coexist harmoniously.

Passage:

"Her smile was a ray of sunshine on a cloudy day, warming the hearts of everyone she met."

Metaphor: The metaphor here is "her smile was a ray of sunshine on a cloudy day." This metaphor compares the person's smile to sunlight, emphasising its positive and uplifting effect.

Interpretation: The metaphor conveys that the person's smile has the power to brighten people's moods and bring warmth and happiness, even in difficult times.

Recognizing and interpreting metaphors adds depth to your comprehension of passages and enables you to grasp the author's intended imagery and symbolism. When faced with metaphors in RC questions, consider their figurative meanings in the context of the passage to answer accurately.

Introduction to Literal Meanings:

Literal meanings refer to the straightforward, factual interpretations of words or phrases without any figurative or metaphorical connotations. In reading comprehension, it's essential to distinguish between literal and figurative language to understand the author's message accurately.

Key Points:

- 1. Literal vs. Figurative:** Literal meanings are the most basic, direct, and factual interpretations of words. They are in contrast to figurative meanings, which involve metaphors, similes, and symbolism.
- 2. Context Clues:** Understanding the literal meaning of a word or phrase often relies on context clues within the passage. The surrounding sentences and paragraphs provide context for interpretation.
- 3. Precise Interpretation:** Literal meanings leave no room for ambiguity or multiple interpretations. They are concrete and can be verified based on objective information.
- 4. Common Usage:** Many words have both literal and figurative meanings, and their usage depends on the context. Recognizing when a word is used literally is crucial for comprehension.

Examples:

Let's examine some examples of literal meanings within passages:

Passage:

"The temperature in Antarctica can drop to as low as -80 degrees Celsius, making it one of the coldest places on Earth."

Literal Meaning: In this passage, the phrase "as low as -80 degrees Celsius" is used literally. It means that the temperature in Antarctica can actually reach as low as -80 degrees Celsius, and this is a factual statement.

Passage:

"The author's words were like a sharp knife, cutting through the clutter of confusion to reveal the truth."

Literal Meaning: While this passage contains a metaphor comparing the author's words to a sharp knife, the term "sharp knife" is used figuratively. The literal meaning of "sharp knife" refers to a physical cutting tool, not the author's actual words.

Passage:

"The book contains 300 pages, and each page is filled with tiny print."

Literal Meaning: In this passage, the phrase "each page is filled with tiny print" is used literally. It means that the pages of the book have small-sized text covering them, and this is a straightforward description.

Recognizing literal meanings is essential for understanding the factual content of a passage. When encountering words or phrases in RC questions, assess whether they are used literally or figuratively based on the context, as this distinction can significantly impact your comprehension and ability to answer questions accurately.

Introduction to Application-Based Questions:

Application-based questions in reading comprehension go beyond assessing your understanding of the passage. These questions require you to apply your knowledge, reasoning skills, and the information gathered from the text to analyse, synthesise, and draw conclusions. Mastering the approach to application-based questions is crucial for success in the VARC section of the CAT exam.

Key Points:

Higher-Level Thinking: Application-based questions often involve higher-level cognitive skills such as critical thinking, inference, analysis, and synthesis. They require you to go beyond mere comprehension and think critically about the passage's content.

Understand the Question: Carefully read and understand the application-based question before attempting to answer it. Identify the specific task or action the question is asking you to perform.

Refer Back to the Passage: For application-based questions, you will need to refer back to the relevant parts of the passage. This may involve re-reading portions of the text to extract the necessary information.

Context Matters: Consider the context of the passage and the information provided within it. Ensure that your answer aligns with the passage's content and logic.

Eliminate Distractions: Application-based questions may include answer choices designed to confuse or mislead. Eliminate incorrect answer choices systematically by cross-referencing them with the passage.

Multiple Passes: If an application-based question seems challenging, consider making multiple passes through the passage, focusing on different aspects with each pass. This can help you gather the necessary information gradually.

Example:

Let's work through an application-based question to understand the approach:

Passage Excerpt:

"In the 21st century, technology has revolutionised the way we communicate. From smartphones to social media platforms, the world is more interconnected than ever before."

Application-Based Question:

"How has technology affected interpersonal relationships according to the passage, and what implications does this have for society?"

Approach:

Understand the Question: The question is asking about the impact of technology on interpersonal relationships and its implications for society.

Refer Back to the Passage: Review the relevant parts of the passage that discuss technology's influence on communication and interpersonal relationships.

Context Matters: The passage mentions that technology has revolutionised communication. You need to extract information on how this affects interpersonal relationships and what implications this might have.

Eliminate Distractions: Examine the answer choices and eliminate those that do not align with the passage's content. Focus on the choices that address the impact and implications of technology on relationships.

Synthesise Your Answer: Based on the passage's content, craft a response that discusses how technology has increased interconnectedness but may also raise questions about the quality of interpersonal relationships and their societal implications.

Application-based questions require you to think critically and draw meaningful conclusions from the passage's information. Practise these questions regularly to refine your skills in analysing and applying textual information effectively.

Introduction to Positive Tones in Passages:

In reading comprehension, identifying the tone of a passage is crucial for understanding the author's attitude and perspective. Positive tones indicate that the author has a favourable view or is expressing optimism about the subject matter. Recognizing and interpreting positive tones is essential for accurately comprehending the author's message.

Key Points:

Identifying Positive Tones: Positive tones can manifest in various ways, including expressions of enthusiasm, admiration, hope, or praise. Look for words, phrases, and statements that convey positivity.

Author's Perspective: Understanding the author's perspective is vital. Positive tones imply that the author supports or approves of the subject, idea, or situation being discussed.

Context Matters: Consider the context in which positive language is used. It should align with the overall theme or message of the passage.

Contrast with Other Tones: Be aware of the contrast between positive tones and negative or neutral tones within the same passage. This can provide insight into the author's complexity of thought.

Examples:

Let's explore examples of positive tones within passages:

Passage:

"The groundbreaking research conducted by Dr. Smith has opened up new possibilities in the field of renewable energy. Her innovative approach to harnessing solar power promises a cleaner and more sustainable future for our planet."

Positive Tone: The passage exudes a positive tone by using words like "groundbreaking," "innovative," "promises," "cleaner," and "sustainable." These words convey enthusiasm and optimism about Dr. Smith's research and its potential impact.

Passage:

"In the face of adversity, the community came together, displaying remarkable resilience and unity. Their unwavering support for one another during challenging times serves as a shining example of human compassion."

Positive Tone: This passage reflects a positive tone by praising the community's "remarkable resilience" and "unity." It highlights the positive aspects of human compassion and solidarity in the face of adversity.

Recognizing positive tones in passages helps you understand the author's perspective and the positive aspects of the subject matter being discussed. It's important to differentiate positive tones from negative or neutral tones, as this distinction can provide valuable context for interpreting the passage accurately.

Introduction to Negative Tones in Passages:

In reading comprehension, identifying the tone of a passage is crucial for understanding the author's attitude and perspective. Negative tones indicate that the author has a

critical or unfavourable view of the subject matter. Recognizing and interpreting negative tones is essential for accurately comprehending the author's message.

Key Points:

Identifying Negative Tones: Negative tones can manifest in various ways, including expressions of criticism, disappointment, scepticism, or pessimism. Look for words, phrases, and statements that convey negativity.

Author's Perspective: Understanding the author's perspective is vital. Negative tones imply that the author opposes or disapproves of the subject, idea, or situation being discussed.

Context Matters: Consider the context in which negative language is used. It should align with the overall theme or message of the passage.

Contrast with Other Tones: Be aware of the contrast between negative tones and positive or neutral tones within the same passage. This can provide insight into the author's complexity of thought.

Examples:

Let's explore examples of negative tones within passages:

Passage:

"The government's mismanagement of funds has led to a financial crisis that is affecting the lives of ordinary citizens. The lack of transparency and accountability in their actions has eroded public trust."

Negative Tone: The passage conveys a negative tone by using words like "mismanagement," "financial crisis," "lack of transparency," and "eroded public trust." These words reflect criticism and disappointment in the government's actions.

Passage:

"Despite the promises made by the pharmaceutical industry, the side effects of this medication are causing severe harm to patients. It raises questions about the ethics and safety standards in drug development."

Negative Tone: This passage exhibits a negative tone by highlighting the "side effects" causing "severe harm" and raising questions about "ethics" and "safety standards." The author is critical of the pharmaceutical industry's claims and practices.

Recognizing negative tones in passages helps you understand the author's perspective and the critical aspects of the subject matter being discussed. It's important to differentiate negative tones from positive or neutral tones, as this distinction can provide valuable context for interpreting the passage accurately.

Introduction to Neutral Tones in Passages:

In reading comprehension, identifying the tone of a passage is essential for understanding the author's attitude and perspective. Neutral tones indicate that the author is presenting information objectively and without expressing a strong positive or negative stance. Recognizing and interpreting neutral tones is crucial for accurately comprehending the author's message.

Key Points:

Identifying Neutral Tones: Neutral tones are characterised by the absence of strong emotional language or bias. The author presents facts, information, or arguments without taking a clear position.

Objective Presentation: Authors using neutral tones aim to provide a balanced and unbiased view of the subject matter. They avoid using language that could sway the reader's opinion.

Context Matters: Consider the context in which neutral language is used. It should align with the overall theme or message of the passage. Neutral tones are often employed in informative or explanatory texts.

Contrast with Other Tones: Compare neutral tones with positive or negative tones within the same passage. This can help you understand when the author is presenting information objectively or when there is a shift in tone.

Examples:

Let's explore examples of neutral tones within passages:

Passage:

"The research study examined the effects of climate change on marine ecosystems. The findings indicate changes in ocean temperatures and species distribution over the past decade."

Neutral Tone: The passage maintains a neutral tone by presenting the research findings objectively without expressing approval or disapproval. The language is factual and informative.

Passage:

"In the debate on immigration policy, there are varying perspectives. Some argue for stricter controls to protect national security, while others advocate for more inclusive policies to address humanitarian concerns."

Neutral Tone: This passage maintains a neutral tone by presenting the different perspectives on immigration policy without taking a stance on which perspective is right or wrong. It provides a balanced view of the debate.

Recognizing neutral tones in passages helps you understand that the author is presenting information objectively and without bias. When encountering neutral language, focus on understanding the information provided and be cautious about inferring the author's opinion, as they may intentionally withhold it to provide an unbiased presentation of the topic.

Introduction to Logical Corollary in Application-Based Questions:

Logical corollary questions assess your ability to draw logical conclusions or inferences based on the information presented in a passage. These questions require you to analyse the passage's content, identify relationships between ideas, and deduce logical implications or consequences. Mastering the skill of identifying logical corollaries is crucial for success in the VARC section of the CAT exam.

Key Points:

Understanding Logical Corollaries: A logical corollary is a statement or inference that logically follows from the information provided in the passage. It represents a direct consequence or implication of the facts or arguments presented.

Analyse the Passage: To identify logical corollaries, carefully analyse the content of the passage. Pay attention to cause-and-effect relationships, conditional statements, and any explicitly stated or implied connections between ideas.

Logical Reasoning: Logical corollary questions often involve logical reasoning and deductive thinking. You must apply your analytical skills to derive conclusions that logically flow from the passage's information.

Eliminate Incorrect Options: When answering logical corollary questions, consider each answer choice carefully. Eliminate choices that do not logically follow from the passage's content. The correct answer should be a logical consequence.

Multiple Steps: In some cases, identifying a logical corollary may require multiple steps of reasoning. Break down complex passages or arguments into smaller components to deduce the correct conclusion.

Example:

Let's work through an example of a logical corollary question:

Passage Excerpt:

"Recent studies have shown a strong correlation between regular exercise and improved cardiovascular health. Engaging in physical activity, such as jogging or swimming, can lead to a lower risk of heart disease."

Logical Corollary Question:

"Based on the passage, which of the following statements is a logical corollary?"

Approach:

Analyse the Passage: The passage discusses the relationship between regular exercise and improved cardiovascular health. It implies that engaging in physical activity reduces the risk of heart disease.

Identify the Corollary: To find a logical corollary, look for a statement that directly follows from this information. In this case, the logical corollary would be something that reinforces the idea of exercise reducing the risk of heart disease.

Evaluate the Answer Choices:

- a) "Exercise is the sole factor influencing cardiovascular health."
- b) "Heart disease can be completely eliminated with exercise."
- c) "Regular exercise has no impact on overall health."
- d) "Engaging in physical activity can decrease the risk of heart disease."

Correct Answer: Option d) "Engaging in physical activity can decrease the risk of heart disease."

Explanation: This statement logically follows from the passage's information about the correlation between exercise and improved cardiovascular health. It reinforces the idea presented in the passage.

Identifying logical corollaries requires careful analysis of the passage and the ability to deduce conclusions that logically align with the information provided. Practise logical reasoning questions to enhance your skills in drawing accurate logical inferences from passages.

Introduction to Parallel Reasoning in Application-Based Questions:

Parallel reasoning questions assess your ability to apply the same pattern of reasoning or logic found in a given passage to a new scenario or argument. These questions require you to identify the underlying structure of the original argument and then find the answer choice that uses a similar structure to reach a conclusion. Mastering parallel reasoning is important for success in the VARC section of the CAT exam.

Key Points:

Understanding Parallel Reasoning: Parallel reasoning questions present a passage or argument and ask you to find another passage or argument with a similar structure or pattern of reasoning. The content may be different, but the logical structure should be the same.

Identify the Structure: Begin by identifying the logical structure or pattern in the original passage. Look for elements such as premises, evidence, conclusions, and the relationships between them.

Analyse Answer Choices: Examine the answer choices to find the one that parallels the original reasoning. This means that the structure of the argument should match, even if the content is entirely different.

Beware of Trap Choices: Be cautious of answer choices that may seem similar on the surface but do not share the same logical structure as the original passage. Focus on the underlying reasoning.

Apply the Same Logic: Once you've identified the parallel reasoning structure, ensure that the conclusion drawn in the new argument is logically derived from the premises, just as in the original passage.

Example:

Let's work through an example of a parallel reasoning question:

Original Passage:

"The increased use of smartphones has led to a decline in face-to-face social interactions among young adults. As individuals spend more time on their devices, they have fewer opportunities for in-person conversations, which can impact their interpersonal skills."

Parallel Reasoning Question:

"Which of the following arguments parallels the reasoning in the original passage?"

Approach:

Identify the Structure: In the original passage, the structure involves a cause-and-effect relationship. Increased smartphone use (cause) leads to a decline in face-to-face interactions (effect). The passage also discusses the impact on interpersonal skills.

Analyse the Answer Choices: Examine the answer choices to find one that shares a similar cause-and-effect structure, even if the content is different.

Evaluate the Answer Choices:

a) "The expansion of online shopping has resulted in reduced foot traffic in physical stores. As more consumers shop online, traditional retail spaces are seeing a decline in customers, which affects their profitability."

b) "The popularity of streaming services has caused a decline in cable television subscriptions. With more people opting for streaming, cable providers are facing challenges in retaining customers, impacting their revenue."

c) "Recent environmental regulations have led to decreased industrial emissions. As stricter regulations are enforced, factories are reducing their emissions, which has a positive impact on air quality."

d) "The introduction of electric vehicles has decreased the demand for traditional gasoline cars. As consumers shift toward electric vehicles, gasoline car manufacturers are experiencing a decline in sales, affecting their profitability."

Correct Answer: Option a) "The expansion of online shopping has resulted in reduced foot traffic in physical stores. As more consumers shop online, traditional retail spaces are seeing a decline in customers, which affects their profitability."

Explanation: Option a) parallels the reasoning in the original passage. It presents a cause-and-effect relationship similar to the original argument, where increased smartphone use leads to a decline in face-to-face interactions, just as the expansion of online shopping leads to reduced foot traffic in physical stores.

Identifying parallel reasoning involves recognizing the logical structure of arguments and finding similar structures in answer choices. Practise parallel reasoning questions to improve your ability to apply the same pattern of reasoning across different scenarios.

Figurative Language:

Figurative language is like a secret code that writers use to make their writing more interesting and colorful. Instead of saying things in a straightforward way, they use words and phrases to create pictures in our minds. It's like painting a vivid picture with words. Let's explore some common types of figurative language:

1. Simile: Comparing with "Like" or "As"

A simile is a comparison between two things using the words "like" or "as." It helps us understand something better by comparing it to something familiar. Here are some examples:

- Her smile was as bright as the sun.
- The watermelon tasted sweet like candy.

In both sentences, we're comparing one thing to another using "as" and "like."

2. Metaphor: Saying One Thing Is Another

A metaphor is a way to say that one thing is another, even though they're not the same. It helps create strong and imaginative images. Here are some examples:

- His heart is a lion, strong and brave.
- The world is a stage, and we are all actors.

In these sentences, we're not saying that a heart is literally a lion or that the world is a real stage. It's just a way of painting a vivid picture in our minds.

3. Personification: Giving Human Traits to Non-Humans

Personification is when we give human qualities to objects, animals, or even ideas. It makes them seem more alive and relatable. Examples:

- The wind whispered through the trees.
- The stars danced in the night sky.

In these sentences, the wind and stars are given human-like actions.

4. Hyperbole: Exaggeration for Effect

Hyperbole is when you exaggerate a lot to make a point or create a strong impression. It's like stretching the truth for dramatic effect. Examples:

- I'm so hungry I could eat a horse.
- She has a million things to do.

Nobody is really going to eat a whole horse, but it shows just how hungry or busy someone feels.

5. Idiom: Phrases That Mean Something Different

Idioms are phrases that don't mean exactly what the words say. They have hidden meanings that we learn over time. Examples:

- It's raining cats and dogs. (It's raining heavily, not really cats and dogs falling from the sky.)
- I'm on cloud nine. (Feeling extremely happy, not literally floating on clouds.)

Idioms can be a bit tricky because you have to know what they mean; otherwise, they might sound strange!

Figurative language helps make stories and poems more interesting and fun to read. It paints pictures in our minds and lets us feel and imagine things in new and exciting ways. So, when you're reading, keep an eye out for these colorful language tricks, and when you're writing, try using them to make your words come alive!

Sound Devices:

Sound devices are like the magical tricks writers use to make their words sound like music. These tricks help create different sounds and feelings in stories and poems. Let's explore some of them:

1. Alliteration: Making Music with Letters

- Function: Alliteration is like a musical rhythm in writing. It happens when words in a sentence start with the same sound. It makes those words stand out and sound cool together.
- Example: "Sally sells seashells by the seashore." Notice how the 's' sound is repeated? It makes the sentence sound fun and catchy.

2. Assonance: Playing with Vowels

- Function: Assonance is when the vowels (a, e, i, o, u) in words sound similar. It can make writing sound smooth and dreamy or create a sense of tension.
- Example: "The rain in Spain falls mainly on the plain." The 'ai' sound makes it sound like a nice, flowing song.

3. Consonance: Playing with Consonants

- Function: Consonance is when consonants (other letters besides vowels) are repeated. It can add a bit of harmony or a feeling of resolution.
- Example: "The ship has sailed to the farthest shore." The 'r' sound in "sailed" and "shore" makes the sentence feel complete and connected.

4. Onomatopoeia: Words That Sound Like What They Mean

- Function: Onomatopoeic words imitate sounds in real life. They make stories more exciting and help us imagine what's happening.
- Example: "The thunder rumbled in the distance, and the rain pattered against the window." The words "rumbled" and "pattered" sound just like thunder and rain.

5. Rhyme: Words That Sound Alike

- Function: Rhyme is like a fun game in poetry. It's when words at the end of lines or sentences sound the same. It makes poems sound sing-songy and fun.
- Example: "Twinkle, twinkle, little star, how I wonder what you are." The words "star" and "are" rhyme, making this nursery rhyme catchy.

6. Repetition: Saying Things Again for Impact

- Function: Repetition is like saying something over and over to make it important. It helps writers emphasise their ideas and make them stick in our heads.
- Example: Martin Luther King Jr. repeated the phrase "I have a dream" to make sure people understood how important his dream was.

7. Euphony: Pleasant Sounds that Soothe

- Function: Euphony is when words and sounds are smooth and pleasant to our ears. It creates a soothing and beautiful effect in writing.
- Example: "The gentle rustle of leaves in the breeze and the soft hum of distant waves provided a serene backdrop to the tranquil evening." This sentence sounds like a calm and peaceful night.

8. Cacophony: Chaotic and Noisy Sounds

- Function: Cacophony is when words and sounds clash and make noise. It's used to show chaos or strong emotions in writing.

- Example: "The crashing thunder, the screeching brakes, and the wailing sirens filled the air with a chaotic symphony of sound." This sentence feels noisy and intense.

Why Sound Devices Matter:

- Imagination: Sound devices help us imagine stories and poems better. They make us feel like we're in the middle of the action.
- Tone and Mood: These tricks help writers create different feelings in their writing. It can make us feel happy, sad, excited, or scared.
- Rhythm: Sound devices add a beat to writing, like in music. They make stories and poems more fun to read out loud.
- Emphasis: Writers use sound devices to make certain words or ideas stand out. It's like saying, "Pay attention to this!"
- Themes: Sound devices can connect to the big ideas in a story. They help us see what's important.

How to Spot Sound Devices:

Identify the Sound Device: First, figure out which sound device is being used. Is it alliteration, assonance, onomatopoeia, or something else?

Think About the Feeling: Consider how that sound device makes you feel when you read it. Does it sound smooth, exciting, or noisy?

Look at the Author's Intent: Try to understand why the writer used that sound device. What are they trying to tell you or make you feel?

Connect to the Story: See if the sound device connects to what's happening in the story. Does it help you understand the characters or the plot better?

Remember, sound devices are like the music of words. They make stories and poems come alive, and they're a big part of what makes reading so much fun!

Rhetorical Devices:

Rhetorical devices are like secret weapons that writers and speakers use to make their words powerful and convincing. They go beyond just the meaning of words and aim to make you feel or think a certain way. Let's explore why they're important and some common ones:

Why Rhetorical Devices Matter:

- Persuasion and Influence: Rhetorical devices help convince people and make them believe or agree with what's being said. They make words strong and persuasive.
- Emotional Connection: These tricks can make you feel emotions, like happiness, sadness, or excitement. They help you connect with the message on a deeper level.

- **Memorability:** When writers use rhetorical devices well, you remember what they said. This is super important, especially in exams like CLAT where you need to remember lots of information.
- **Artistic Expression:** Rhetorical devices make writing and speaking more like art. They make it interesting and captivating.

Common Rhetorical Devices:

Alliteration: This is when the same starting sound is repeated in words close together. It makes writing sound musical and catchy.

- Example: "Sally sells seashells by the seashore."

Metaphor: Metaphor is like comparing two things by saying one is the other. It helps create pictures in your mind and explain complex ideas.

- Example: "Time is a thief." Time doesn't really steal, but it helps you understand that it takes things away.

Simile: Similar to a metaphor, but it uses "like" or "as" to compare things. It makes descriptions clear and imaginative.

- Example: "Brave as a lion."

Personification: This is when non-human things are given human-like qualities. It makes them feel more relatable.

- Example: "The wind howled in the night."

Hyperbole: Hyperbole is an exaggeration that's not meant to be taken seriously. It's used to make a point.

- Example: "I'm so hungry I could eat a horse."

Anaphora: Anaphora is when a word or phrase is repeated at the beginning of sentences or clauses. It adds emphasis and rhythm.

- Example: "We shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets..."

How Rhetorical Devices Apply in CLAT:

In the CLAT exam, understanding rhetorical devices is vital for the reading comprehension section. It helps you understand the author's style, intent, and the emotions they want to convey. Here's how to analyse them:

- **Read Actively:** Pay attention to words or phrases that stand out or make you feel something while reading.
- **Identify Potential Devices:** Look for words or phrases that don't mean exactly what they say. These are often rhetorical devices.
- **Note Unusual Language:** Keep an eye out for patterns in language, like repeating sounds, words, or comparisons.
- **Consider Context:** Think about how these words or phrases fit into the overall meaning and tone of the passage.
- **Evaluate Effect:** Reflect on how these devices make you feel or what they make you think. Try to understand why the author used them.

- Ask Questions: Don't be afraid to ask questions if you're unsure about a phrase or word choice.

Example Application:

In the passage: "Education is the key to unlocking a world of opportunities. It is the beacon of hope that illuminates the path to success, dispelling the darkness of ignorance."

- Active Reading: Read it carefully.
- Identify Potential Devices: Notice phrases like "key to unlocking," "beacon of hope," and "dispelling the darkness of ignorance." These phrases aren't meant literally; they're metaphors.
- Consider Context: The author is saying that education can change lives. The metaphors help you see that education is like a key that opens doors and a light in the darkness.
- Evaluate Effect: The metaphors make education sound really important and positive. They make you feel hopeful and inspired.

By using these steps, you can get better at recognizing and understanding rhetorical devices, which is super helpful for doing well in the reading part of the CLAT exam. Practice is the key to becoming a pro at it!

Imagery and Sensory Language:

Imagery and sensory language are like the magic paint brushes that authors use to make their stories come alive in your mind. These tools help you see, hear, smell, taste, and feel what's happening in a story, making it feel real and exciting.

Why Imagery and Sensory Language Are Important:

- Enhanced Understanding: They help you understand the story's places, characters, and events better by giving you clear and detailed pictures in your mind.
- Emotional Impact: Authors use sensory language to make you feel emotions while reading. It makes the story more exciting and unforgettable.
- Improved Memory: Descriptive language helps you remember the details of the story long after you've finished reading.

Types of Sensory Language:

Visual: This type helps you see things in your mind. It describes what characters see and helps you imagine the scenes and people.

- Example: "The sun dipped below the horizon, casting long, golden rays across the tranquil lake."

Auditory: Auditory language is about hearing. It tells you about sounds in the story, letting you imagine the noises.

- Example: "The waves crashed against the shore, creating a rhythmic and soothing melody."

Olfactory: This type is all about smell. It brings scents into the story, making it feel more real.

- Example: "The air was filled with the fragrant aroma of blooming wildflowers."

Gustatory: Gustatory language talks about taste. It describes flavors and helps you imagine what things might taste like in the story.

- Example: "The soup was a perfect blend of savory spices, warming the palate with each spoonful."

Tactile: Tactile language relates to touch. It tells you about textures and how things feel, making you feel like you're right there.

- Example: "The cool, smooth surface of the marble statue sent shivers down her spine."

How to Identify Imagery and Sensory Language:

Look for Descriptions: Pay attention to parts of the story with lots of details. These are usually where you'll find imagery and sensory language.

Find the Senses: Figure out which sense (sight, sound, smell, taste, or touch) is being used in the description.

Imagine and Feel: Picture yourself in the story. What would you see, hear, smell, taste, or touch if you were there?

Think About Emotions: Consider how these descriptions make you feel and how they add to the mood of the story.

Example Application:

In the passage: "The city hummed with life, a symphony of car horns, distant chatter, and the occasional street performer's melody. Neon signs painted the buildings in vibrant hues, casting an otherworldly glow. The aroma of sizzling street food mingled with the sweet scent of blooming cherry blossoms, creating an intoxicating sensory tapestry. Each step on the cobblestone streets sent a jolt of energy through her feet, as if the very ground pulsed with the heartbeat of the city."

- Visual Imagery: You can see the colorful neon signs and the glow they cast.
- Auditory Imagery: You can hear the car horns, chatter, and the street performer's melody.
- Olfactory Imagery: You can smell the sizzling street food and the sweet scent of cherry blossoms.
- Tactile Imagery: You can feel the energy in the cobblestone streets.

The author uses these descriptions to make you feel like you're right there in the bustling city, hearing the sounds, smelling the scents, and feeling the energy. This kind of writing makes the story more exciting and memorable.

Understanding and recognizing imagery and sensory language helps you enjoy stories more and remember them better. It's like turning a book into a 3D movie in your mind!

Allegory and Foreshadowing:

Allegory and foreshadowing are like secret codes hidden in stories, waiting for you to uncover their hidden meanings and hints about what's coming next.

Allegory: A Deeper Story Within a Story

Definition: Allegory is like a hidden message within a story. It's when characters, events, or things in a story stand for bigger ideas or lessons.

Types of Allegory:

Political Allegory: Imagine a story about talking animals that actually represents a big political event in history. That's a political allegory. Like George Orwell's "Animal Farm" represents the Russian Revolution.

Religious Allegory: This kind of allegory uses characters and events to tell religious or spiritual stories. For example, John Bunyan's "The Pilgrim's Progress" is like a journey that represents the Christian life.

Social Allegory: Social allegory talks about issues in society through stories. Nathaniel Hawthorne's "The Scarlet Letter" can be seen as a social allegory criticising how society judges people.

Interpreting Allegory:

- **Identify Symbols:** Find things in the story that seem to mean more than what they are. They often show up a lot and are really important.
- **Context Matters:** Knowing the history or culture when a story was written can help you understand the hidden meanings.
- **Look at Characters:** Think about why characters do what they do. Sometimes, their actions stand for bigger ideas.
- **Plot Events:** Pay attention to events in the story. They might be like real things that happened in the world.

Foreshadowing: Clues About What's Coming

Definition: Foreshadowing is like a sneak peek of what's going to happen later in the story. It's like the author is leaving you hints to make you curious.

Techniques of Foreshadowing:

- **Dialogue:** Characters might say things that make you wonder what's going to happen. But they won't tell you everything.
- **Symbolism:** Sometimes, objects or symbols have hidden meanings that give away what's coming next.

- **Weather and Setting:** The way the author describes the weather or the place can hint at what's going to happen. For example, a stormy night might mean something bad is about to occur.
- **Character Reactions:** Pay attention to how characters react to things. Their reactions might show you that something important is coming up.

Why Foreshadowing Matters:

Foreshadowing makes stories exciting by giving you little clues about what's next. It's like a puzzle that keeps you guessing.

How to Spot Allegory and Foreshadowing:

- **Watch for Symbols:** Look for things or people that might mean more than what's obvious.
- **Think About Character Actions:** Consider why characters do what they do. Sometimes, it's more than just their personal choices.
- **Notice Clues:** Keep an eye out for hints, clues, or statements that make you think, "Hmm, I wonder what that means."
- **Think Big Picture:** Consider how these hidden meanings or hints fit into the overall story or message.

Example: "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" by C.S. Lewis

In C.S. Lewis's magical story, "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe," the story isn't just about kids and talking animals. It also carries hidden meanings and hints:

Allegory: Aslan, the powerful lion, is like a symbol for Jesus Christ. Just like Jesus, Aslan is wise, strong, and willing to sacrifice himself. His sacrifice mirrors Jesus's crucifixion and resurrection, adding deep meaning to the story.

Foreshadowing: Mr. Beaver hints that Aslan isn't a "tame" lion, which means he's powerful and unpredictable. This foreshadows Aslan's important role in the story and his fierce nature. Also, the White Witch's fear of a prophecy hints at the eventual triumph of good over evil.

Allegory and foreshadowing add layers of excitement and meaning to stories. Understanding them helps you dive deeper into the text and uncover hidden treasures, making it a crucial skill for the CLAT exam's VARC section. Happy reading!

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Passage 1

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow-

Evolution is the way life changes through time, all living things are connected together like branches in a tree. Plants and animals are related to one another through their ancestors, for example, we share a common ancestor in gorillas, dogs or even mushrooms. Evolution shows us how and why all living beings change over a certain period of time. We cannot watch changes in life directly; they take place over thousands of years. However, scientists cannot find proof that these changes have taken place. Important evidence for evolution comes from fossils, when animals or plants die they are pressed into sand or clay, over millions of years and rocks are formed. Fossils also show that certain groups of animals have evolved from other groups. Amphibians evolved from fish that could breathe air and move on land, they had legs along with scales and fins. Birds probably evolved from dinosaurs, the Archaeopteryx was an animal that had feathers like a bird and could fly, and it also had teeth claws on its wings and a skeleton that looked like a dinosaur. Even without fossils, there is enough evidence which confirms evolution. Living creatures might also have structures that they have inherited from an ancestor but have become useless, pythons; for example, have the remains of back leg bones, whereas snakes don't. The appendix was used by animals that ate only plants but in our bodies, this organ has become useless. Similar species are found together in certain areas, all types of kangaroos are found in Australia because the kangaroos' ancestors also lived there for many years.

Living beings do not always live in ideal places. Tropical ocean islands, for example, are ideal places for frogs to live, but no frogs are found there, this is because the frogs' ancestors lived on the mainland and could not get to ocean islands far away. Although we are all human beings, each one of us is different, we belong to the same species but there are never two people on earth who are exactly the same, we resemble our parents because we inherit certain features from them. As there is not always enough food for living beings to eat, they compete against each other in order to survive, some are better than others because they have certain advantages. On average, those that are better or stronger will survive, the advantages that they have are then passed on to

their children and as time goes on these characteristics will be passed onto the whole species, this is called natural selection. Today, scientists know that a molecule called DNA has all the information which controls the way life will develop, this information is stored in genes and the structure of genes is called the genetic code.

Q1. What is the main purpose of the author in the passage?

- To reveal the importance of genetic code in evolution
- To explain the survival of the fittest theory.
- To give a description of fossil fuels transformation.
- To highlight the need for evolution.

Q2. According to the passage, from whom did the frogs evolve?

- Prehistoric mammals
- Dinosaurs who could swim in water
- Fish which have scales and fins.
- Kangaroos who could swim in the water.

Q3. What is the most important evidence of evolution?

- Oldest rocks which are 3.8 billion years old.
- DNA found in the bodies of ancient living beings.
- Common ancestors
- Fossils of ancient living beings

Q4. What do you think about the contextual necessity of the last paragraph of the passage?

- Absolutely necessary to understand the author's point about the history of evolution.
- Superfluous with trivial information.
- Divert the discussion from evolution to DNA as genetic code for better understanding.
- Can be improved with discussion on RNA.

Passage: 2

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

Regrettably, when discussions surrounding the India-Russia partnership unfold within policy circles, they frequently remain shrouded in the misty veils of nostalgia, evoking sentiments of the close diplomatic, military, commercial, and cultural ties that characterized the bygone Cold War era. All too often, these conversations fail to

acknowledge the new realities that have emerged in both nations, casting a shadow of stagnation upon the potential for progress. It becomes abundantly clear that the oratory steeped in the rich history shared between the Soviet Union and India does not seamlessly translate into practical prescriptions for revitalizing a relationship that, despite its privileged status, is now grappling with structural challenges and entrenched patterns of thinking.

Thus, the pressing need arises for a concerted effort to bolster these bilateral ties, an effort that must extend beyond the scholarly realm. Indeed, it necessitates the active involvement of political leaders, media representatives, and, critically, corporate figures. Gone are the days when the Indo-Russian alliance basked in the radiant bloom of youth. Today, it must be built upon a foundation of pragmatic assessments, grounded in an honest recognition of the mutual strengths and opportunities, rather than being ensnared in the trap of idealized and unattainable fantasies about a bright future encapsulated in the phrase "Hindustan-Russia Bhai Bhai."

Amidst the challenges and complexities, however, one cannot overlook the reservoirs of goodwill that still flow between Russia and India. This goodwill derives not only from their shared historical heritage but also from the enduring political trust that binds them. In international forums, the two nations have consistently found themselves on the same wavelength, with their voting patterns aligning at the United Nations. Furthermore, Russia has lent its support to India's aspirations for a seat in the UN General Council, serving as a testament to their camaraderie.

Q5: What is the meaning of the word "ensnared" as used in the passage?

- a. Trapped or caught
- b. Entangled or intertwined
- c. Enclosed or confined
- d. Constrained or restricted

Q6 From the passage, what can be inferred about the impact of the collapse of the Soviet Union on the India-Russia relationship?

- a. It led to a significant decline in the relationship.
- b. It has created new challenges and realities for the relationship.
- c. It has strengthened the historical bonds between the two nations.
- d. It has increased the involvement of scholars in the relationship.

Q7 What tone does the author primarily adopt when discussing the current state of the Indo-Russian relationship in the passage?

- a. Cynical
- b. Ambivalent
- c. Pragmatic
- d. Concerned

Q8 Based on the passage, what can be concluded about the perception of India's views on Russia?

- a. India's positive views of Russia have declined in recent years.
- b. India's views on Russia align with global trends.
- c. India's views on Russia have remained constant over time.
- d. India's positive views of Russia have increased despite global trends.

Passage 3

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow-

Social networking has undeniably exerted a profound impact on both individuals and enterprises, significantly altering the landscape of contemporary society. This influence is particularly conspicuous among the youthful cohort, for whom the virtual realm has become an omnipresent social milieu. The exigencies of urban existence often curtail face-to-face social interactions among these burgeoning denizens. Prolonged scholastic commitments, protracted commuting durations, and the specter of escalating criminality converge to form a compelling impetus, confining many adolescents within the confines of their abodes for extended periods. Consequently, those endowed with Internet connectivity turn to digital social networks as a conduit for interpersonal communication, whilst concurrently serving as a platform for disseminating shared affinities. In this regard, these digital enclaves manifest as an efficacious arena for teenagers to foster interactions and cultivate social bonds. Moreover, these networks have proven instrumental in coalescing individuals of congruous predilections with celerity and efficiency, a feat arduous to replicate in the absence of cyberspace. In spite of contentions positing the impersonality of the Internet, the very fabric of social networks often gives rise to tangible, corporeal activities, effectively refuting such assertions.

The ramifications of social networking permeate diverse domains of human activity, encompassing not only interpersonal discourse but also realms such as politics and education. The watershed 2008 Malaysia General Election provides irrefutable evidence of the pivotal role played by blogs and social networking platforms in shaping public sentiment and steering political discourse. This epochal event engendered a surge in the creation of online weblogs, including the noteworthy endeavors of Prime Minister Najib Tun Razak and former Premier Tun Dr Mahathir. Similarly, within the United

States, President Barack Obama adroitly harnessed the potential of social networks as a potent campaign tool during his ascendancy to power.

Furthermore, the domain of education has been indelibly transformed by the advent of social networking, with pedagogues and students alike adroitly leveraging these platforms as potent instruments of communication. Educators deftly employ digital forums and groups to augment classroom deliberations, whilst embracing platforms like Twitter to expeditiously disseminate vital announcements and pedagogical information to their charges.

Q 9 In the passage, what does the word "efficacious" most likely mean?

- a. Unreliable
- b. Ineffective
- c. Efficient
- d. Impersonal

Q10 What can be inferred about the impact of social networking on social interactions among urban youth?

- a. Social networking has completely replaced face-to-face interactions.
- b. Urban youth engage in social networking primarily due to limited physical interaction opportunities.
- c. The spectre of escalating criminality has no influence on the social networking habits of urban youth.
- d. Prolonged scholastic commitments have no impact on the social networking habits of urban youth.

Q11: Which figure of speech is used in the following sentence from the passage?

"The virtual realm has become a bustling marketplace of social interactions."

- a. Simile
- b. Metaphor
- c. Hyperbole
- d. Personification

Q12: Based on the passage, what can be concluded about the role of social networking in social activism?

- a. Social networking has no impact on social activism.
- b. Social networking platforms are ineffective in raising awareness for causes.
- c. Social networking has facilitated the spread of social activism globally.

- d. Social activists do not utilize social networks for their causes.
-

Passage 4

Read the passage given below to answer the questions that follow-

For the past 33 years, I have looked in the mirror every morning and asked myself: "If today were the last day of my life, would I want to do what I am about to do today?"

And whenever the answer has been "No" for too many days in a row, I know I need to change something. Remembering that I'll be dead soon is the most important tool I've ever encountered to help me make the big choices in life. Because almost everything — all external expectations, all pride, all fear of embarrassment or failure - these things just fall away in the face of death, leaving only what is truly important. Remembering that you are going to die is the best way I know to avoid the trap of thinking you have something to lose. You are already naked. There is no reason not to follow your heart.

About a year ago, I was diagnosed with cancer. I had a scan at 7:30 in the morning, and it clearly showed a tumor on my pancreas. I didn't even know what a pancreas was. The doctors told me this was almost certainly a type of cancer that is incurable, and that I should expect to live no longer than three to six months. My doctor advised me to go home and get my affairs in order, which is the doctor's code for 'prepare to die'.

This was the closest I have been to facing death, and I hope it's the closest I get for a few more decades. Having lived through it, I can now say this to you with a bit more certainty than when death was a useful but purely intellectual concept: No one wants to die. Even people who want to go to heaven don't want to die to get there. And yet death is the destination we all share. No one has ever escaped it. That is as it should be, because Death is very likely the single best invention of Life. It is Life's change agent.

Q13 What is the mood of the author in the passage?

- a. Didactic
- b. Gloomy
- c. Sarcastic
- d. Rebellious

Q14 Why is a description of the experience of 'death' so important for the passage?

- a. Everyone would instinctively relate to it.

- b. Death is the most dreaded and everyone would be forced to understand it.
- c. People understand the value of time only when they are short of it.
- d. Inevitability of death can be a motivating factor for everyone.

Q15 Based on the passage, what is the author's perspective on the importance of considering death in making life choices?

- a. The author believes that thinking about death can help prioritize what is truly important.
- b. The author believes that thinking about death is a pointless exercise.
- c. The author believes that thinking about death leads to fear and anxiety.
- d. The author believes that thinking about death is only relevant for people with terminal illnesses.

Q16 What can be inferred about the author's experience with cancer?

- a. The author's cancer was diagnosed at an early stage.
- b. The author underwent successful surgery to cure their cancer.
- c. The author's cancer was incurable and they only had a few months to live.
- d. The author ignored their doctor's advice and delayed treatment for their cancer.

Passage 5

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

Young children, we understand, are born philosophers. They ask exasperated parents such deep questions as 'Where is my mind?' or 'Is Granny living with all the other dead people in the churchyard?'. The spirit for philosophy which is born out of naïveté is soon extinguished, so the taste for philosophical reflection has to be rediscovered. I conjecture that it is an acquired taste, prompted by some strange contingency. Who knows the story behind your picking up this book? Still, some brands of philosophical enquiry are more likely to be prompted than others. An adolescent who found himself pondering the nature of numbers would be a splendid eccentric. By contrast, youthful rebellion can be relied upon to kindle low-level philosophical musings about the rules of behaviour. If parents say such and such is the right thing to do and the teenager insists that he does no wrong in not doing it, the conflict of views is likely to raise all sorts of philosophical questions: What is the nature and extent of parents' authority? What sort of respect is required for their rules? They can enforce their demands and prudence may dictate compliance, but does that make it right?

If the question of who decides what behaviour is acceptable and what is not seems up for grabs, the question of how to decide will surely follow. Is it a matter of choice or preference or personal belief? And so on. Such questions (and many more) comprise the subject of ethics, and I suspect that most people dip their toes into the water in the minimal sense of recognizing that there are questions to be answered, and issues to be debated. Political life has the same character of putting philosophical questions upfront. Authoritarian regimes prompt the same reflections as authoritarian parents. Democratic regimes conduct debates about competing policies in terms of the values such policies embody. Liberty may be opposed to justice. The public interest may require the sacrifice of persons' rights. This is the diet of editorials in tabloids as well as the broadsheet newspapers. Questions of ethics and political philosophy are ubiquitous, in the very air we breathe.

Q17. Based on the passage, what is the author's view on the philosophical inclination of young children?

- a. The author believes that young children are inherently philosophical.
- b. The author believes that young children lose their philosophical spirit as they grow older.
- c. The author believes that young children acquire a taste for philosophical reflection through experience.
- d. The author believes that young children have a natural curiosity that prompts philosophical questions.

Q18 What does the author suggest about the nature of philosophical reflection in adolescence?

- a. Adolescents are naturally inclined to ponder abstract concepts.
- b. Philosophical reflection in adolescence is driven by rebellion and questioning authority.
- c. Philosophical reflection in adolescence is primarily focused on the nature of numbers.
- d. Philosophical reflection in adolescence is a result of acquiring an acquired taste.

Q 19 What can be inferred about the subject of ethics based on the passage?

- a. Most people are actively engaged in ethical debates and discussions.
- b. Ethics is a subject that only philosophers and intellectuals delve into.
- c. The subject of ethics is primarily concerned with personal beliefs and preferences.
- d. Ethics is a topic that is largely ignored or overlooked by society.

Q20 How does the passage characterize political life in relation to philosophical questions?

- a. Political life prompts the same philosophical reflections as family dynamics.
- b. Political life often neglects philosophical questions in favour of practical considerations.
- c. Political debates primarily revolve around economic policies rather than philosophical values.
- d. Political life raises philosophical questions about authority, values, and the public interest.

Passage 6

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

Literature is an art form that transcends time and space, allowing us to explore the depths of human imagination and emotion. It encompasses a wide range of genres, including poetry, novels, plays, and short stories, each offering a unique perspective on the human experience. Through its vivid imagery, compelling characters, and thought-provoking themes, literature has the power to transport us to different worlds, challenge our perspectives, and evoke profound emotions.

One remarkable literary work that exemplifies the power of literature is Leo Tolstoy's masterpiece, "War and Peace." Set against the backdrop of Napoleon's invasion of Russia, the novel weaves together the lives of various characters, ranging from aristocrats to soldiers, as they navigate love, war, and the complexities of society. Tolstoy's rich and intricate storytelling captivates readers, immersing them in a sweeping tale that explores themes of destiny, free will, and the impact of historical events on individual lives. With its vivid descriptions, philosophical musings, and profound insights into human nature, "War and Peace" stands as a testament to the enduring power of literature.

Literature not only entertains and enchants but also serves as a reflection of society and a catalyst for change. In the works of authors like Jane Austen, Charles Dickens, and Harper Lee, we witness social critiques. They also expose injustices, and provoke introspection.

Moreover, literature offers solace and comfort in times of personal turmoil. It provides an escape from reality, allowing readers to lose themselves in worlds of imagination and beauty. The timeless classics of William Shakespeare, such as "Romeo and Juliet" and

"Hamlet," continue to resonate with audiences worldwide, offering insights into the human condition and exploring themes of love, betrayal, and existential dilemmas.

In conclusion, literature is a profound art form that speaks to the core of our humanity. It expands our horizons, deepens our empathy, and ignites our imagination.

Source: Various literary works by Leo Tolstoy, Jane Austen, Charles Dickens, Harper Lee, and William Shakespeare.

Q21. What is the main idea of the passage?

- a. Literature is a reflection of society and a catalyst for change.
- b. Literature offers solace and comfort in times of personal turmoil.
- c. Literature encompasses various genres like poetry, novels, plays, and short stories.
- d. Literature transports readers to different worlds and evokes profound emotions.

Q22. What tone is conveyed in the passage?

- a. Informative
- b. Critical
- c. Sarcastic
- d. Humorous

Q23. Based on the passage, which of the following statements can be inferred?

- a. Literature has no influence on society.
- b. Literature is solely a form of entertainment.
- c. Literature provokes introspection and can inspire change.
- d. Literature is a dying art form.

Q24. Which figure of speech is used to describe literature as a profound art form that "speaks to the core of our humanity"?

- a. Simile
- b. Metaphor
- c. Hyperbole
- d. Personification

Passage 7

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

Traditionally held as part of Pongal celebrations in Tamil Nadu, for the last decade, Jallikattu has been caught in the cross hairs of the law preventing cruelty to animals. The argument against it is narrowly couched in constitutional terms — the Constitution should be read in a manner that secures justice for all animals. Since Jallikattu involves cruelty to bulls, it is the duty of the State to prohibit it. But there is a wider argument — a liberal constitutional framework has no place for certain traditional practices that may offend modern sensibilities. Our quest to be a modern nation-state necessarily requires such traditions to be abjured. On May 18, 2023, the Supreme Court rejected these contentions. In one of the most understated, yet well-reasoned judgments in recent times, the court, speaking through Justice Aniruddha Bose, held that the sport of Jallikattu is regulated by the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Tamil Nadu Amendment) Act, 2017 and related rules. Taken together, these enactments, while permitting Jallikattu, lay down strict conditions to ensure the safety and the dignity of bulls. No beating or poking is permitted, the bull collection yard and spectators' gallery are strictly regulated, and rest periods mandated to ensure that the bulls are not treated cruelly. As a result, the court held that the state had fulfilled its obligations to ensure that animals are not treated cruelly. The judgment is remarkable in its simplicity. For a student of constitutional law, its value lies both in what it holds and also in what it refuses to be drawn into. Its fundamental legal basis is that the state of Tamil Nadu has the legislative competence to amend the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, a Central law, to create a customized legal regime for Jallikattu, held only in the state. It is open to the state, with presidential assent, to amend a Central law because the subject of prevention of cruelty to animals is in the Concurrent List of the Constitution. While this is a simple proposition of law, in the current political climate of creeping centralization, a judgment that upholds the rights of states to carve out customized legal regimes is valuable.

Q25. What is the main idea of the passage?

- a. The Supreme Court's judgment on Jallikattu and its significance in protecting animals.
- b. The cultural significance of Jallikattu and its connection to Pongal celebrations.
- c. The debate over constitutional terms and the legality of Jallikattu in Tamil Nadu.

- d. The need for a liberal constitutional framework to address modern sensibilities.

Q26. Which of the following figures of speech is used in the sentence from the passage that is given here?

"The judgment is remarkable in its simplicity."

- a. Simile
- b. Metaphor
- c. Hyperbole
- d. Personification

Q27. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?

- a. Jallikattu is a dangerous sport that should be banned nationwide.
- b. The Supreme Court's decision has effectively put an end to Jallikattu.
- c. An old custom legal regime for Jallikattu has received presidential approval.
- d. The debate on Jallikattu has caused divisions within the Supreme Court.

Q28 In the sentence "The court held that the state had fulfilled its obligations to ensure that animals are not treated cruelly," what does the phrase "fulfilled its obligations" mean?

- a. The court confirmed that the state had completed its duties to ensure the welfare of animals.
- b. The court found the state guilty of neglecting its responsibilities towards animals.
- c. The court ordered the state to fulfill certain requirements for the welfare of animals.
- d. The court-imposed penalties on the state for not fulfilling its duties towards animals.

Passage 8

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

One of the aims of social psychology and related fields is to understand and improve relations between cultural, ethnic, and national groups. During the past 30 years, researchers investigated thoroughly how certain constructs predict positive/negative

intergroup attitudes and behaviour. Promising ways to increase intergroup relations in culturally heterogeneous groups refer to cultural majority members' ethnic identity, prejudice, acculturation strategies, and dimensions of competence in intercultural interaction, i.e., intercultural intelligence and multicultural personality (Sims and Killen, 2020). While research on and measures for these constructs mostly stem from Western cultures, researchers apply them to Eastern European settings more and more. However, studies on culture-specific and cross-cultural aspects of intergroup relations referring to factor structure and linguistic idiosyncrasies are scarce. As a consequence, it is unclear to what extent established measures for intergroup attitudes and intercultural competence display comparable ideas, thoughts, and feelings. In order to further examine intergroup relations in Eastern Europe, careful analysis of culture-specific and cross-cultural aspects of intergroup relations is required. Therefore, we analyzed factor structures and item characteristics of scales for five important intergroup relation constructs (ethnic identity, subtle and blatant prejudices, acculturation strategies, intercultural intelligence, and multicultural personality) among samples from cultural majority groups in Germany, Czech Republic, Hungary, and Serbia. Previous analysis of the relationship between intercultural competence and prejudice revealed violations of measurement invariance but did not address the identification and interpretation of cross-cultural differences in relation to culture-specific results appropriately. In the current study, we thus conducted secondary data analysis to explore in greater detail which constructs, dimensions, or single aspects concur or differ across the samples and discuss potential relations to cultural idiosyncrasies. Thereby, we aim to contribute to the understanding of intergroup relations in an international research context.

Q29. Which of the following is the tone of the passage predominantly?

- Objective and informative about social psychology research.
- Optimistic and celebratory about cultural diversity.
- Critical and dismissive of Western research methods.
- Concerned and cautious about cross-cultural differences.

Q30. Which of the following figures of speech is used in the sentence from the passage that is given here?

"...refer to cultural majority members ethnic identity, prejudice, acculturation-strategies, and dimensions of competence in intercultural interaction..."

- Enumeration
- Metonymy
- Personification
- Synecdoche

Q31 Based on the passage, what can be inferred about the author's implied perspective on intergroup relations in Eastern Europe?

- a. The author believes that intergroup relations in Eastern Europe are well understood and do not require further analysis.
- b. The author is concerned about the lack of research on culture-specific and cross-cultural aspects of intergroup relations in Eastern Europe.
- c. The author is critical of the application of Western research measures to intergroup relations in Eastern European settings.
- d. The author suggests that cultural idiosyncrasies play a minor role in shaping intergroup relations in Eastern Europe.

Q32 Which title best summarizes the main theme of the passage?

- a. Intergroup Relations in Culturally Heterogeneous Groups: A Comprehensive Study
- b. Culture-Specific and Cross-Cultural Aspects of Intergroup Relations in Eastern Europe
- c. The Impact of Western Research Measures on Intercultural Competence in Eastern Europe
- d. Understanding and Improving Relations Between Cultural, Ethnical, and National Groups

Passage 9

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

If members of the jury, there should happen to be present among us here today anyone who is unfamiliar with our laws, courts, and way of doing things, I am sure he would wonder what terrible enormity this case involves, since on a day of festivities and public games, when all other legal business is suspended, this court alone remains in session-and he would have no doubt at all that the defendant must be guilty of a crime so terrible that, unless action was taken, the state could not possibly survive! And if he were then to be informed that there is a law* for rebellious and criminal Roman citizens who have besieged the senate-house with arms, used violence against the magistrates, and attacked their country, and that under this law trials may be held on any day of the year without exception, he would not object to the law but would enquire what charge it

is that is before this court. If he were then to be told that no crime, no enormity, and no act of violence has been brought before the court, but that a brilliantly able, hard-working, and popular young man is being accused by the son of someone he has prosecuted once and is now prosecuting again,* and that this attack on him is being financed by a prostitute,* he would find no fault with the prosecutor's sense of filial duty, he would consider that a woman's passions should be kept under control, and he would conclude that you yourselves are overworked since even on a public holiday you are not allowed the day off. In fact, if you are prepared to pay close attention and form an accurate view of the case as a whole, you will realize, gentlemen, that none of the accusers would have taken on this prosecution if they had had any choice, nor, having taken it on, would they have had any hope of winning, were it not for their reliance on the insupportable passion and bitter hatred of some other person.* I shall forgive Atratinus, however, a civilized and altogether excellent young man and a friend of mine. He can plead as his excuse either filial duty, or compulsion, or his tender years. If he brought the charge voluntarily, I put it down to his sense of filial duty, if he was acting under orders, I put it down to compulsion, and if he expected to gain something from it, I put it down to his youthful naivety. As for the other accusers, they deserve no such indulgence, and must be vigorously opposed.

Q33. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage

- The accused has a history of violent crimes against the state.
- The prosecutor is biased due to a personal vendetta against the defendant.
- The court is handling the case unfairly during a day of festivities.
- The defendant is likely to be found guilty due to public pressure.

Q34 Which of the following can be concluded from the passage?

- The defendant is involved in a scandalous relationship with a prostitute.
- Atratinus, a friend of the author, should not have been involved in the prosecution.
- The court proceedings are conducted with impartiality and fairness.
- The accusers are driven by emotions rather than evidence.

Q35. What does the expression "put it down to his youthful naivety" mean in the context of the passage?

- Blaming someone's lack of experience for their actions.
- Praising someone for their youthful energy and enthusiasm.
- Assuming someone's innocence due to their young age.
- Refusing to consider someone's actions as significant.

Q36. What can be inferred about the author's attitude towards the court proceedings and the accusers based on the passage?

- a. The author sympathizes with the defendant and is critical of the court's handling of the case.
- b. The author is indifferent to the outcome of the trial and shows no preference for either side.
- c. The author supports the court's decision to hold the trial on a public holiday and praises the accusers.
- d. The author is skeptical about the court's ability to deliver a fair judgment and questions the motives of the accusers.

Passage 10

Read the passage given below to answer the questions that follow.

In the grand dance of existence, I, a humble traveler of consciousness, found myself deeply immersed in the profound mysteries woven into life's intricate tapestry. From my earliest moments of awareness, I longed to unravel the cryptic symbols that adorned reality's hidden pages. Cloaked in contemplation, I embarked on a lifelong journey toward enlightenment, seeking the essence of wisdom concealed within the intricate pathways of consciousness. From academic halls to places of deep reflection, I explored, driven by curiosity and awe. The wisdom of the past and ancient sages became my guides, sharing hidden truths and revealing the secrets that govern the cosmic symphony. Engaging in philosophical debates and existential inquiries, I explored paradoxes and unveiled the mystery of life's dance.

With each wave of thought, I perceived the intricate connection linking the small and the vast, realizing that the mysterious currents of causality intertwined with synchronicity. Delving into the elusive nature of time, I embraced the eternal present, transcending the constraints of time to connect with the timeless patterns underlying reality. Yet, amid this intellectual journey, I discovered the inner sanctum of the self, where the philosopher's deepest insights lie veiled. Looking into the mirror of introspection, I confronted my inner shadows, embracing the duality that formed the core of my being. This inner exploration led to a merging of intellect and intuition, forging a harmonious union.

Through ages of contemplation, I learned that wisdom is not solely about possessing knowledge, but about sharing enlightenment with others. And so, I took on the role of a teacher, passing on sacred knowledge to those in search of truth, igniting the spark of curiosity within them.

As time flows onward, I find comfort in the knowledge that the quest for wisdom is endless, and the mysteries remain inviting. Through the account of this philosopher's journey, I humbly hope to awaken the dormant desire for transcendence in the hearts of those who dare to embark on their own journey of self-discovery and embrace the ineffable symphony of the universe.

Q37. What is the main idea conveyed in the passage about the author's philosophical journey and exploration of existence's mysteries?

- a. The author's exploration of different dance forms and their significance.
- b. The author's search for material wealth and possessions.
- c. The author's lifelong pursuit of wisdom and understanding in the complexity of life.
- d. The author's critique of modern society's obsession with consumerism.

Q38. What does the phrase "the philosopher's stone" symbolize in the passage?

- a. A literal stone used by philosophers for alchemical experiments.
- b. The pinnacle of intellectual achievement in the academic world.
- c. A metaphorical representation of profound wisdom and self-realization.
- d. A reference to a physical location where philosophers used to gather.

Q39. What is the predominant tone of the author throughout the passage?

- a. Sarcasm and criticism towards traditional philosophy.
- b. Enthusiasm and excitement about material possessions.
- c. Reverence and earnestness in discussing their philosophical journey.
- d. Indifference and detachment from the topic of exploration.

Q40. What is the concluding message of the passage?

- a. Accumulating material possessions leads to true happiness and fulfillment.
- b. The pursuit of wisdom is futile and irrelevant in the modern world.
- c. The author aims to inspire others to embark on a journey of self-realization and understanding of life's intricacies.
- d. Philosophical exploration has no practical application in today's fast-paced society.

Passage 11

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

In today's complicated world, there's a troubling trend that keeps growing – people being overly obsessed with owning things. This obsession is carefully encouraged by a culture focused on making profits. This not only damages real human connections but also harms people's sense of who they are and their purpose in life. As people chase after more and more stuff, they're falling into a trap where they believe that having things will make them truly happy. This modern world's strong focus on materialism leads to everyone chasing after possessions to prove they're successful and to fit in. But this constant craving for things hides a deep emptiness inside. Even though people buy and throw away so much, they're left feeling like something is missing. This way of thinking is flawed because it ties people to superficial things that don't last.

When people start thinking that their worth is only based on what they own, they lose touch with their real selves and what truly matters. Underneath the surface, there's an interesting irony: the more people have, the less connected and fulfilled they often feel. The happiness from owning things doesn't last long, and people end up feeling empty. They try to fix this emptiness by getting more stuff, which only makes

them want even more, creating a never-ending cycle of wanting and dissatisfaction. Society keeps pushing the idea that buying things is a sign of success, and this just makes the problem worse. It also creates a situation where people compare themselves to others based on what they have. This makes social differences more obvious and damages the empathy and kindness that hold everyone together. To change this, people who think critically need to challenge the current way of thinking. As agents of change, we need to rethink what really matters, change how we define success, and shift our values away from just owning things. Instead, we should focus on our overall well-being and finding our true selves. By being careful about what we buy and questioning the idea that owning things will make us happy, we can make the world a more caring and connected place.

Q41. What is the main idea of the passage?

- a. The detrimental effects of consumerism on society and individual well-being.
- b. The importance of material possessions in defining one's self-worth.
- c. The correlation between material wealth and genuine human connection.
- d. The need for a more prosperous and consumer-driven society.

Q42. Which of the following is the tone of the passage predominantly?

- a. Indifferent and apathetic towards consumerism.
- b. Critical and condemning materialistic culture.
- c. Optimistic and celebratory of material possessions.
- d. Neutral and informative about societal trends.

Q43. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?

- a. Consumerism leads to a more environmentally conscious society.
- b. Possessing material wealth results in genuine human connection and happiness.
- c. The pursuit of material possessions leads to an endless cycle of dissatisfaction.
- d. Materialistic individuals are more empathetic and compassionate towards others.

Q44. What is the main flaw in the mindset of materialistic individuals?

- a. They think that only material possessions can make them realize their dreams.
- b. They believe that material wealth is the only source of genuine fulfilment and happiness.
- c. They promote a culture of environmental conservation and waste reduction in society.
- d. They value authentic self-discovery but not material accumulation.

Passage 12

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

At the heart of Martin Luther King Jr.'s transformative impact on his country lies an incandescent political vision that sought to reshape the very fabric of American society. Beyond his role as a civil rights leader, King emerged as a visionary statesman, wielding the potent tools of morality, justice, and democratic ideals to orchestrate a profound transformation in the United States. Central to King's political vision was the pursuit of racial integration and the dismantling of institutionalized segregation. His dream of an America where individuals would be judged not by the colour of their skin but by the content of their character reverberated with an unparalleled resonance. By illuminating the profound injustice of segregation, King confronted the nation with the moral imperative to rectify its long-standing sins and to align its actions with the principles enshrined in its Constitution. King's strategic brilliance lay in his commitment to

nonviolent civil disobedience as a means to achieve social and political change. He understood that by exposing the brutality and injustice perpetrated against African Americans in the face of peaceful resistance, he could sway public opinion and place immense pressure on policymakers to enact meaningful reforms. Through nonviolent protests and demonstrations, King showcased the stark contrast between the unyielding pursuit of justice and the reactionary violence of segregationists, underscoring the inherent righteousness of his cause.

Beyond the immediate goal of ending segregation, King's political vision encompassed a broader commitment to economic justice and opportunity for all. He recognized that the shackles of poverty and inequality were intricately linked to the chains of racial discrimination. To address this, he advocated for policies that would uplift the marginalized, calling for fair wages, access to quality education, and an end to economic disparities. His vision sought to forge an inclusive society where all citizens could partake in the fruits of progress and prosperity. Moreover, King's political acumen extended beyond domestic boundaries. He recognized the global significance of the Civil Rights Movement and understood that the struggle for racial justice in America resonated with oppressed people around the world. King's advocacy extended to opposing the Vietnam War, as he decried the allocation of resources to war while pressing domestic issues of poverty and inequality remained unaddressed. In the crucible of his political vision, King held a steadfast belief in the transformative power of democracy. He regarded the democratic process as an instrument through which the oppressed could secure their rights and aspirations. While challenging the nation to live up to the democratic ideals enshrined in its founding documents, he sought to strengthen and invigorate the very foundations of American democracy.

Q45. What is the primary purpose of the author in this passage?

- a. To provide a historical account of Martin Luther King Jr.'s impact on American society.
- b. To explore the role of nonviolent civil disobedience in achieving social and political change.
- c. To highlight Martin Luther King Jr.'s political vision and its transformative effect on the United States.
- d. To discuss the global significance of the Civil Rights Movement and its impact on oppressed people.

Q46. How is the passage structured?

- a. It presents an argument against Martin Luther King Jr.'s approach to civil rights.
- b. It provides a chronological account of Martin Luther King Jr.'s life and achievements.

- c. It follows a cause-and-effect structure to explain the impact of segregation in the United States.
- d. It introduces Martin Luther King Jr.'s political vision and then explores its various aspects.

Q47. What does the expression "forge an inclusive society" mean in the context of the passage?

- a. To physically build a society that includes all racial groups.
- b. To forcefully create a society without racial discrimination.
- c. To work together to shape a society that welcomes everyone, regardless of race.
- d. To form an exclusive society that prioritizes the interests of a specific racial group.

Q48. According to the passage, how did Martin Luther King Jr. believe nonviolent civil disobedience could achieve social and political change?

- a. By encouraging violent protests and demonstrations against segregationists.
- b. By urging policymakers to enforce harsher laws against racial discrimination.
- c. By showcasing the contrast between peaceful resistance and the violence of segregationists to sway public opinion.
- d. By advocating for radical economic reforms to address poverty and inequality.

Passage 13

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

Child labour is a disease that afflicts our country much like most other third-world economies. However, we turn a blind eye to this affliction until a case like Rizwana's comes to light. Then, for a few days or weeks, we highlight the issue of child labour, talk about the inhumane treatment meted out to minors employed by the privileged, and raise awareness about child rights and workers' rights but, soon, the news is put on the back-burner as something else becomes 'news of the day' and we go back to our lives without a thought for the countless children who are out of school, who don't have enough to eat at home, who are forced to work due to poverty, who lose their childhood from the day that they are born to underprivileged parents. Consider the issue of the rights of workers. Most people around us don't even pay the minimum wage to their domestic staff because they need the work and are thus forced to work for less money

and more hours. As a friend pointed out, those who employ domestic help have a sense of power and invincibility. Those who employ a child who is physically and socially vulnerable and, hence, at their mercy can beat them black and blue because they know that nine out of 10 times (or maybe almost always), they will not be held accountable for their shameful and heinous actions. From news reports of young domestic workers being burnt with an iron, or being tied down with ropes, or locked up with no food and water so as to ‘punish’ them for something they inadvertently did or for ‘teaching them a lesson’ because they tried to eat or drink something that wasn’t meant for them — each of these incidents shows us the dark side of society, but one that is right amongst us.

Rizwana’s isn’t the only case that will leave us shocked to the core. It was recently reported that a 15-year-old boy, Asad Masih, was forced by his contractor to enter a manhole, which left him exposed to toxic gases, leading to his death “within the confines of the sewer”. Asad worked for a contractor at the Water and Sanitation Agency in Faisalabad. Now imagine that you’re a young child who has to work for money and is thus forced by a contractor to get into a manhole without any protective gear, without any consideration that you — a young child — may be afraid of going into the sewer. The contractor does this with impunity every day without any fear of repercussion because even the death of a minor will not lead to an end to this horrific practice.

Q49. What can be inferred about the condition of child labour in the country?

- (a) Child labour is not a significant issue in the country as it is in other third-world economies.
- (b) The country takes immediate action to address cases of child labour as soon as they come to light.
- (c) The country faces challenges in addressing and eliminating child labour effectively.
- (d) Child labour is prevalent only in underprivileged families and is not a widespread problem.

Q50. What is the primary purpose of the passage?

- (a) To provide a detailed account of specific cases of child labour in the country.
- (b) To criticize the government for not taking sufficient action against child labour.
- (c) To raise awareness about the prevalence and challenges of child labour in the country.
- (d) To advocate for the rights of child labourers and workers.

Q51. What can be concluded about the contractor mentioned in the passage?

- (a) The contractor shows concern for the safety and well-being of child workers.
- (b) The contractor is involved in the horrific practice of forcing child workers into dangerous situations.
- (c) The contractor faces legal consequences for his actions regarding child workers.
- (d) The contractor's actions are justified as necessary for completing the necessary work.

Q52. What would be the most appropriate title for the passage?

- (a) The Plight of Child Labour in Third World Economies.
- (b) The Unfortunate Reality of Child Labour in Our Country.
- (c) The Inhumane Treatment of Child Workers by Employers.
- (d) The Perils of Being a Child Worker in Underprivileged Families.

Passage 14

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

As I traverse the convoluted convolutions of India's socioeconomic tapestry, I find myself enamoured of a nuanced narrative of transcendence, where the ascension of the

middle class emerges as an ethereal phoenix, soaring from the embers of erstwhile circumstances. A symphony of serendipitous shifts and stratagems has unfolded, orchestrating a kaleidoscopic metamorphosis that beguiles the most perspicacious eye. In the ceaseless cadence of progress, the Indian middle class, like a majestic gryphon taking flight, has transcended the confines of its humble origins, ascending to new summits of affluence and ascendancy. The alchemy of economic liberalization, meticulously wrought by visionary architects, has unfurled a gilded era of opportunities, fostering the bloom of entrepreneurship, investment, and a burgeoning spirit of enterprise. With an intrepid quill, I inscribe my observations, for I too have traversed this opulent odyssey. As the crepuscular dusk of yesteryears yielded to the auroral dawn of aspirations, I found myself ensconced in the eddies of a transformative tide. Education, erstwhile an elusive prerogative, unfurled its sacred scrolls to embrace the curious and committed, rendering knowledge a compass to navigate the ever-expanding seas of opportunity. The Indian middle class, like an intricate labyrinth of aspirations, has found itself entwined in the enchanting dance of consumerism. A cascade of consumption patterns, descending like an ethereal cataract, now graces the lives of many. The erstwhile modest abodes, now metamorphosed into sanctuaries of sophistication, breathe the ambience of a cosmopolitan renaissance. Yet, amidst this opulent opus, I discern a cadenza of contemplation. The rise of the middle class, akin to a celestial ballet, has not been bereft of enigmas. Tapestries of disparities, intricately interwoven into the social fabric, hint at the elusive elixir of equitable growth. The chiaroscuro of income inequality, like intricate arabesques upon a canvas, challenges the harmonious melody of our societal symphony.

As I tread the cobbled streets of experience, I cannot help but glimpse the enigma of identity that permeates the labyrinthine edifice of the Indian middle class. Converging at the crossroads of tradition and modernity, we grapple with the conundrum of cultural assimilation, savouring cosmopolitanism while cherishing the cryptic crypts of ancestral heritage. Yet, despite these ruminations, the rise of the Indian middle class remains an ineffable testament to the tenacity of human endeavour, where the acolytes of progress, resplendent with resilience, script a saga of societal metamorphosis. In this intricate journey of transcendence, I have borne witness to the rise of the Indian middle class

with awe and introspection. With each footfall upon this transformative trail, I become both a participant and a chronicler of this ineffable enigma. As the curtain rises on the next act of India's socioeconomic drama, I, like a spectre of introspection, shall stand poised to traverse the labyrinthine paths of our collective future.

Q53. What does the phrase "like a majestic gryphon taking flight" suggest about the rise of the middle class in India?

- (a) The rise of the middle class is swift and powerful.
- (b) The rise of the middle class is mythical and unreal.
- (c) The rise of the middle class is obscure and enigmatic.
- (d) The rise of the middle class is gradual and unremarkable.

Q54 What can be inferred about the author's perspective towards the rise of the Indian middle class?

- (a) The author is critical of the middle class for neglecting their roots.
- (b) The author is fascinated by the transformative journey of the middle class.
- (c) The author is dismissive of the middle class's progress as superficial.
- (d) The author is indifferent to the impact of the middle class on society.

Q55. Which word in the passage can replace 'convolutions' without changing the context?

- (a) Permutations
- (b) Vortex
- (c) Complexity
- (d) Transformations

Q56. What is the primary purpose of the passage?

- (a) To criticize the societal disparities arising from the middle class's rise.
 - (b) To highlight the economic growth brought about by the middle class.
 - (c) To narrate the author's personal experience of the middle class's rise.
 - (d) To explore the complexities and contradictions of the middle class's journey.
-

Passage 15

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

In the shadows of obdurate iron bars, ensconced within the dreary confines of a penitentiary, I find myself cast adrift in a timeless abyss of perpetual confinement. My somber odyssey commenced on the harrowing day of my arraignment, where the gavel of justice descended, sealing my fate to a life sentence – a sepulchral existence bereft of hope, pining for absolution from the unforgiving edicts of society. Within these sanctified walls of isolation, I dwell as a pariah, a dolorous specter haunting the precincts of my own mind. As the cadence of each day wanes, I traverse the labyrinthine corridors of my memories, retracing the cataclysmic events that led me to this desolate threshold. Each reverie etched in the marrow of my being, an indelible testimony to the errant choices and the byzantine vicissitudes of life that consigned me to this perpetual purgatory. In this apathetic crucible of incarceration, the quotidian rigmarole unfolds like a monotonous dirge, as I languish amidst the dolorous symphony of prison routines. Time, once a buoyant river coursing through the vivacious landscapes of freedom, now resembles a stagnant pond, immured in the relentless embrace of penance. The diurnal epoch extends its relentless grasp, ensnaring my soul in a cyclopean continuum, unyielding to redemption. The fortuitous visits of kin and

kindred souls are fleeting solace amidst the interminable shadows. Their fleeting presence breathes fleeting gusts of life into my corporeal frame, akin to a zephyr sweeping across a parched wasteland. I endeavour to partake in their terrestrial tales, to vicariously experience the ebb and flow of a world beyond these ashen ramparts, yet the enervating weight of remorse renders me an ephemeral echo of the man I once was.

Solitude becomes my silent companion, nurturing my introspections and sculpting the contours of my repentance. Amidst the hallowed hours of nocturnal reprieve, I pen my thoughts into an ethereal palimpsest, as ink becomes the artificer of my emancipated mind. In the confluence of ink and parchment, I find my salvation – a testament to the indomitable spirit that transcends these sullen bars. As life weaves its enigmatic patterns, I resign myself to the intricacies of my enigmatic existence. Every heartbeat bears witness to the ethereal procession of time, and I find solace in the ephemeral sparks of humanity that spark amidst these somber halls. In the crepuscular twilight of my days, I strive to grasp the enigmatic enigmas of my own journey and glean meaning from the ineffable mysteries that cloak my destiny.

Thus, I remain a denizen of the penumbral precincts of confinement, an esoteric silhouette cloaked in the veils of retrospection. The warden of my own conscience, I grapple with the implications of my life's narrative, seeking to unearth the enigmatic revelations that could illuminate my soul's pilgrimage. With each passing hour, my memoir transpires, unraveling the tapestry of my existence, a symphony of contrition and a paean to resilience, in the annals of a life confined to the enigmatic embrace of perpetual imprisonment.

Q57. Which word in the passage can replace 'ensconced' without changing the context of the passage?

- (a) Imprisoned
- (b) Limited
- (c) Displaced

(d) Entrapped

Q58. What can be inferred about the author's perspective towards solitude in the prison?

- (a) The author finds solitude in prison to be a tormenting experience.
- (b) The author finds solitude to be a valuable time for self-reflection and writing.
- (c) The author finds solitude to be an opportunity for social interactions with other inmates.
- (d) The author finds solitude in prison to be a means of escape from reality.

Q59. What is the primary purpose of the passage?

- (a) To narrate the experiences of serving a life sentence.
- (b) To highlight the oppressive conditions of life imprisonment.
- (c) To explore the significance of redemption and forgiveness.
- (d) To describe the architectural features of a penitentiary.

Q60. How does the author describe the passage of time within the prison?

- (a) Time in prison flows like a tranquil river.
 - (b) Time in prison resembles a fleeting gust of wind.
 - (c) Time in prison stretches like an eternal desert.
 - (d) Time in prison ebbs and flows like the tide.
-

Passage 16

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

Esteemed dignitaries, distinguished guests, and my erudite compatriots,

Today, I stand before you to expound upon the pervasive conundrum of overburdened jails that plagues the very foundation of our nation's criminal justice system. This Gordian knot, woven with the intricacies of countless cases, lies at the crossroads of an enigmatic labyrinth, ensnaring both the accused and the keepers of justice. The specter of overcrowded penitentiaries casts a lugubrious pall over the edifice of justice, impeding its pursuit of equity and clemency. Within the suffocating confines of these enclosures, humanity wrestles with its own reflection, attempting to decipher the impetus behind the burgeoning numbers of inmates, which chronicle the manifold dilemmas besieging our society.

One of the paramount implications of overcrowded prisons is the harrowing toll it takes on the reformation of errant souls. In the absence of a conducive environment for rehabilitation, the penitentiaries metamorphose into abodes of recidivism, breeding a vicious cycle of crime and despair. The poignant tragedy of once-incarcerated individuals returning to the confines of incarceration looms like a specter of ignominy, perpetuating the enigma of an elusive redemption. The ramifications extend beyond the incarcerated, permeating the realms of prison personnel. The surfeit of inmates engenders a dire dearth of resources, fomenting suboptimal conditions within these corrective institutions. The custodians of justice themselves grapple with the alchemy of maintaining order amidst an inordinate mélange of detainees. Alas, the concept of correctional reform wanes, eclipsed by the exigencies of an overburdened system.

Moreover, the labyrinthine judicial process only exacerbates the quandary, contributing to the burgeoning ranks of inmates awaiting trial. This sclerotic cortege of justice begets

a morass of unrequited predicaments, rendering the scales of justice precariously askew. The complexities intensify when one contemplates the differential impact on marginalized and indigent sections of our society. The enigmatic disparities of social stratification seem to magnify within these steel-walled precincts, where the indigent often bear the brunt of this jarring predicament. The question of justice, thus, assumes an ontological hue, questioning the very essence of an equitable society. To extricate ourselves from this quagmire, we must embrace a holistic approach, infusing the justice system with compassion, pragmatism, and redoubled efforts. As we navigate the obscure alleys of this labyrinth, the restoration of faith in the edifice of justice shall rely on multifaceted measures. Decarcerating, as a prudent stratagem, must find its rightful place on the annals of corrective history. Innovative alternatives to incarceration, such as community-based corrections and diversionary programs, ought to light the path toward pragmatic reform. Concurrently, the expedited dispensation of justice through augmenting judicial efficiency shall alleviate the tribulations faced by the detainees awaiting their day in court.

Q61. Which word in the passage can replace 'lugubrious' without changing the context?

- (a) Melancholic
- (b) Jubilant
- (c) Serene
- (d) Mirthful

Q62. What can be inferred about the impact of overburdened jails on marginalized sections of society?

- (a) Marginalized sections bear the brunt of overcrowded prisons.
- (b) Marginalized sections are unaffected by the overburdened jails.
- (c) Overcrowded prisons have a positive impact on marginalized sections.

(d) The impact of overcrowded jails on marginalized sections is insignificant.

Q63. What is the primary purpose of the passage?

- (a) To advocate for innovative alternatives to incarceration.
- (b) To highlight the consequences of overburdened jails.
- (c) To discuss the differential impact of overcrowded jails.
- (d) To emphasize the need for correctional reform.

Q64. How does the author describe the impact of overcrowded penitentiaries on correctional personnel?

- (a) The impact is akin to a breeze of tranquility.
- (b) The impact is comparable to a tide of emotions.
- (c) The impact is like a mélange of disparate elements.
- (d) The impact is similar to a crucible of challenges.

Passage 17

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

Within the intricate landscape of geopolitics, an enigmatic and abhorrent narrative unfolds, shrouding the sinister machinations of state-sponsored terrorism in Pakistan with a cloak of covert malevolence. Hidden amidst the corridors of diplomatic parlance lies a cryptic alliance that perpetuates a harrowing symphony of violence and subterfuge. The odious patronage of non-state actors, veiled within the façade of diplomatic immunity, unleashes a virulent strain of extremism that transcends the nation's borders. This insidious dance of alliances finds succor in the shadows,

embracing an enigmatic embrace of covert cooperation, where plausible deniability becomes a veil for unspeakable malevolence. Beneath the veneer of international camaraderie, a clandestine ecosystem burgeons, nurturing the roots of terror with an enigmatic blend of financing, logistics, and clandestine communications. This network perpetuates a torrent of nefarious activities, festering within the labyrinthine crevices of the underworld. The repercussions of this enigmatic dance of terror transcend national boundaries, wreaking havoc upon the innocent and challenging the very foundations of international security. In this crucible of malevolence, the enigmatic visage of diplomacy obscures a sinister symphony that inflicts untold suffering upon humanity.

It is incumbent upon the global community to transcend the allure of diplomatic rhetoric and unveil the enigmatic masquerade of state support for terror. Only through unequivocal censure and unyielding solidarity can we shatter the façade of deniability and hold those responsible accountable. In this epoch of geopolitical upheaval, the symphony of peace can only resound through a collective chorus of condemnation, striding forth with unwavering unity and inimitable resolve. As we navigate the labyrinthine intricacies of this enigmatic menace, let us cast aside the veils of illusion and confront this crucible of terror with valor and indomitable spirit. In conclusion, the enigmatic state support of terrorism in Pakistan epitomizes a nefarious saga of covert malevolence. This labyrinth of deceit and terror demands an unequivocal response from the international community. Together, we must forge an indelible symphony of peace, dismantling the enigma of terror and illuminating the path towards a harmonious and secure world order.

Q65. What can be inferred about the impact of state-sponsored terrorism on global peace?

- (a) State-sponsored terrorism is inconsequential to global peace.
- (b) State-sponsored terrorism poses a serious threat to global peace.
- (c) State-sponsored terrorism leads to global harmony.
- (d) The impact of state-sponsored terrorism on global peace is uncertain.

Q66. What is the primary purpose of the passage?

- (a) To condemn state support of terrorism
- (b) To describe the impact of government-supported terrorism
- (c) To advocate for global unity against terrorism in Pakistan
- (d) To analyze the consequences of diplomatic alliances.

Q67. What does the phrase "cast aside the veils of illusion" mean in the context of the passage?

- (a) To embrace the enigmatic allure of plausible narratives.
- (b) To uncover the hidden truths and face reality.
- (c) To perpetuate the facade of deniability.
- (d) To indulge in diplomatic rhetoric.

Q68. What is the overall tone of the passage?

- (a) Euphoric and optimistic.
 - (b) Somber and ominous.
 - (c) Neutral and informative.
 - (d) Sympathetic and empathetic.
-

Passage 18

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

All citizens have the right to vote. The few exceptions for specific reasons are mentioned in Article 326 of the Constitution, which emphasises that ‘every person that is a citizen of India’ shall be ‘entitled’ to be registered as a voter if they are of the stipulated age and are not barred for the reasons given. Voting, therefore, is the mark of an inclusive, universal and equality-driven democracy. A recent Supreme Court ruling on an election petition reportedly said it was ‘paradoxical’ that the right to vote had not been given the status of a fundamental right although democracy was a basic feature of the Constitution. Earlier rulings of 1982 and 2006 had declared the right to vote as a ‘constitutional’ right and a ‘statutory’ right, respectively. In March this year, a five-judge bench had reportedly indicated that voting could be a fundamental right, although in the ruling four judges followed earlier Supreme Court decisions; one judge dissented. The Supreme Court’s latest ruling suggests that since voting is fundamental to universal suffrage, it is a right for all citizens; not anybody else’s decision, like the right to life.

This comes like a reminder in an environment riven by exclusion and divisiveness. Most striking was the Supreme Court’s ruling on the election petition, that voting was based on informed choice. The voter had the right to be informed fully about the candidates’ backgrounds; so — pertaining to the petition — whether or not the rule that charges that would lead to less than two years of jail time need not be mentioned was up to the relevant courts to decide. The ruling elucidated the implications of informed choice, which was integral to the ‘inalienable’ right to vote. The emphasis on the impossibility of exclusion by authorities was underlined in this ruling. More, informed choice brought out the right to know, or the right to information, about public figures competing to run the country. Since the number of legislators with serious charges pending against them is increasing every year in the Lok Sabha and assemblies, the judicial insistence on the voter’s right to know the full background of candidates was as significant as the right to

vote. 'Paradox' notwithstanding, the ruling was a strong reminder of the people's power. It is there to be used.

Q69. What is the main idea of the passage?

- (a) Voting is a fundamental right for all citizens in a democracy.
- (b) The Supreme Court emphasized the importance of informed choice in voting.
- (c) The Constitution guarantees the right to vote for every citizen of India.
- (d) Voting is a powerful tool to counter exclusion and divisiveness in society.

Q70. What can be inferred from the passage about the right to vote in India?

- (a) The right to vote is not guaranteed in the Constitution.
- (b) The right to vote is considered a fundamental right by the Supreme Court.
- (c) The right to vote is subject to specific exceptions mentioned in Article 326.
- (d) The right to vote is not considered significant in a democracy.

Q71. What does the word 'inalienable' mean in the passage?

- (a) Impossible to exclude or remove.
- (b) Uninformed and unaware.
- (c) Irrelevant and insignificant.
- (d) Influenced by public figures.

Q72. What can be concluded from the passage?

- (a) Democracy in India is flawed due to the lack of a fundamental right to vote.
- (b) The Supreme Court's ruling on informed choice strengthens democracy in India.

- (c) The right to vote in India is subject to frequent changes and interpretations.
- (d) The right to vote is a powerful tool for citizens to assert their influence.

Passage 19

Read the passage given below to answer the questions that follow.

What is it, then, the move from the periphery to the metropolis, the 'backward' south to the 'developed' north, the colony to the heart of the Empire — a flight from the sunny to the cold and the grey? That was quite literally my experience when, in February this year, I took a direct flight from Cape Town to Amsterdam, flying over all of Africa through the night, cruising over the Mediterranean at daybreak and over southern Europe to land in the beautiful winter-frozen city by the Amstel River at mid-morning. Set to drop anchor in the Cape Town area for six months, I'd already had nearly a month's immersion in the sound of Afrikaans, the Creolised African language derived primarily from Dutch, migrants from the low country, the earliest settlers and still the largest white population group in the southern African nation. But brought up on omnipresent colonial ties between England and India, my first jolt was the lack of any such tie between the Netherlands and South Africa, notwithstanding the news of local support of the Dutch soccer team during the 2010 Fifa World Cup in South Africa that had spread across the world and had invoked troubled memories of the apartheid nation. But the European city of art and torture museums and dense pot smoke scarcely seemed to be aware of South Africa, much less its historical ties with it — beyond the cab driver who told me that many South Africans — whites, naturally — are trying to emigrate to the Netherlands due to rising crimes in the now black-led nation.

What makes for a relation of coloniality? And how does its legacy make history? Those were the big questions floating in my mind. I realised I'd sensed a greater colonial awareness of South Africa in England, much like the British consciousness of India. Cecil John Rhodes was, after all, a part-time Oxonian who struck diamond in Kimberley, who pointed to Cairo and dreamt of building the great pan-African railroad from the Cape Colony to Egypt, the man who had announced: "I would annex the planets if I could." Colonialists do get mixed up in history sometimes. The infamous Rhodes statue still stands in the garden landscaped by the Dutch East India Company in the heart of Cape Town, unfallen, mocking the "Rhodes Must Fall" movement that had rocked universities from South Africa to England but losing steam eventually, failing to steal shine from the Rhodes scholarships still funded by Cecil's estate.

Q73. What is the main idea of the passage?

- (a) The author's flight from Cape Town to Amsterdam and observations on colonial ties.
- (b) The colonial awareness of South Africa in England compared to the lack of it in the Netherlands.
- (c) The legacy of coloniality and its impact on history.
- (d) Cecil John Rhodes' influence on South Africa's colonial past.

Q74. What can be inferred about the author's view on Cecil John Rhodes?

- (a) The author supports the "Rhodes Must Fall" movement and believes the Rhodes statue should be removed.
- (b) The author admires Cecil John Rhodes for his contributions to building the great pan-African railroad.
- (c) The author is critical of Cecil John Rhodes' colonialist beliefs and actions.
- (d) The author believes Cecil John Rhodes' legacy is celebrated and well-respected.

Q75. What can be concluded from the passage?

- (a) South Africa and the Netherlands have strong historical ties due to colonialism.
- (b) The lack of colonial awareness in the Netherlands may lead to a misunderstanding of South Africa's history.
- (c) Cecil John Rhodes' statue in Cape Town is widely celebrated and respected.
- (d) The "Rhodes Must Fall" movement in South Africa was successful in removing the Rhodes statue.

Q76. What does the phrase "drop anchor" mean in the passage?

- (a) To disembark from a flight.
- (b) To stop at a port during a sea voyage.
- (c) To arrive at a destination after a long journey.

(d) To experience a sudden change in weather conditions.

Passage 20

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

A yawning gap between intent and application has been one of the enduring features of India's policies on the environment. The Narendra Modi-led dispensation is not immune from such mischief. Consider the forest (conservation) amendment bill, 2023, which was recently passed in Parliament with the objective of amending the Forest (Conservation) Act of 1980 under the guise that the realities on the ground have changed and affirmative steps are needed to address them. The Centre has justified the legislative reform as being part of its commitment to mitigate climate change and argued that the bill — scientists and environmentalists have raised concerns about it — includes provisions that would make India 'atmanirbhar' in agroforestry while increasing the forest cover. The intentions are made to sound noble. But what is unfathomable is the government's vigour for recalibrating the FCA that was watertight as well as effective in achieving the aforementioned objective. Could it be that the FCA's success in reducing non-forest activities on forest lands led to the clipping of its wings? Other ironies abound in the amended bill. It dilutes the broad-based definition of 'forest' to include only those lands that are recorded as such, thereby leaving vast tracts of ecologically critical spaces, including the Aravallis and the Western Ghats, unprotected. Further, it makes a mockery of the community rights over forests envisaged in the Forest Rights Act of 2006 and diminishes the role of gram sabhas. It must also be pointed out that the overarching powers retained by the Centre regarding the classification of forest activities illustrate its continued efforts to undermine the federal spirit. Alarming, the prioritisation of private forestry — plantations — would lead to deforestation at a time when the country has been experiencing extreme weather events on account of the stripping of forests. The provision of compensatory afforestation — the usual fig leaf — has also been found to do little to correct the ecological imbalance caused by disruptive undertakings. Moreover, the bill exempts forest lands within 100 kilometres of the international borders, paving the way for 'strategic' projects to come up on ecologically sensitive turf. Prioritising the rhetoric of security at the cost of environmental protection is the new devil in the details. What underpins such lopsided policy — it is a global contagion — is the faulty idea of envisioning the environment as a resource to be exploited ceaselessly. A paradigm shift from the resource-based approach towards greater accountability for governance on ecological protection will not happen unless the electorate demands such a transition in politics.

Q77. What is the main idea of the passage?

- (a) The Forest (Conservation) Amendment Bill, 2023, undermines environmental protection in India.
- (b) India's policies on the environment have a yawning gap between intent and application.
- (c) The Narendra Modi-led dispensation is committed to mitigating climate change.
- (d) The faulty idea of viewing the environment as a resource needs to be addressed.

Q78. What can be inferred about the government's motivation behind amending the Forest (Conservation) Act?

- (a) The government seeks to protect ecologically sensitive spaces like the Aravallis and the Western Ghats.
- (b) The government aims to prioritize private forestry to enhance forest cover.
- (c) The government wants to exercise more control over forest activities at the state level.
- (d) The government is driven by concerns about environmental protection and ecological balance.

Q79. What does the word 'fig leaf' mean in the passage?

- (a) A symbol of environmental protection.
- (b) A deceptive covering for wrongdoing.
- (c) A term related to forestry practices.
- (d) An ecologically sensitive plant species.

Q80. What can be concluded from the passage?

- (a) The Forest (Conservation) Amendment Bill will have positive implications for environmental protection.
- (b) The government's focus on private forestry may lead to increased deforestation.

- (c) India's policies on the environment have been highly effective in achieving their objectives.
- (d) The amended bill strengthens community rights over forests.

Passage 21

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow the passage.

Athletes attested to the diverse forms of social support they sought from their coaches and sports medicine practitioners (i.e., informational, emotional, and practical) at various junctures during the recovery process. Emotionally, support was found to be particularly crucial during the initial stages of rehabilitation, wherein athletes grappled with the severity of their injuries and the need to adapt to their altered circumstances. As the rehabilitation neared its conclusion, informational support assumed paramount importance, ensuring that athletes did not return to sports prematurely, with one athlete stating the pressing need for someone to oversee their re-entry into the competitive arena and to ensure a gradual and prudent return without risking re-injury (Johnston & Carroll, 1998,). During this phase, some athletes expressed a sense of dearth in sport-specific advice, encouragement, and feedback, especially from physiotherapists and coaches, further underscoring the indispensable role of such support in facilitating a successful return to play. Alas, some athletes conveyed an unsettling perception of their coaches, perceiving them as distant and unsympathetic to their injury concerns, failing to provide adequate or appropriate rehabilitation guidance, and lacking faith in their capabilities (Johnston & Carroll, 1998). These athletes lamented the inadequacy of informational support from coaches and physiotherapists upon their return to play, expressing dissatisfaction with the level of advice, guidance, and information pertaining to their training as they re-entered the competitive arena. This lack of support stands in stark contradiction to the extensive evidence extolling the benefits of social support in the context of injury recovery.

Thus, social support from coaches, family members, and medical practitioners emerges as an indispensable factor in assisting athletes in navigating the challenges of injury recovery and adhering to the rigorous demands of rehabilitation regimens (Johnston & Carroll, 1998). Coaches and sports medicine practitioners are, therefore, strongly encouraged to maintain active involvement in the athlete's journey and to devise alternative activities, such as specialized practice routines, to facilitate the acquisition of essential clinical outcomes and sport-specific skills upon reintegration into training and competition. This sustained involvement not only mitigates feelings of isolation from the team but also enables athletes to continue honing their skills, assuages anxieties of

falling behind, and bolsters their self-confidence as they embark on their return to the realm of sports.

Q81. What can be inferred from the passage regarding the role of emotional support during the rehabilitation process

- (a) Emotional support is most crucial during the later stages of rehabilitation.
- (b) Athletes rely solely on emotional support to cope with their injuries.
- (c) Emotional support is not necessary during the initial stages of rehabilitation.
- (d) Emotional support plays a significant role in helping athletes adapt to their injuries.

Q82. What is the primary purpose of the passage?

- (a) To highlight the challenges faced by athletes during the rehabilitation process.
- (b) To emphasize the importance of external support in injury recovery.
- (c) To explain the role of coaches and sports medicine practitioners in rehabilitation.
- (d) To analyze the psychological impact of injuries on athletes and rehabilitation

Q83. Based on the information in the passage, what can be concluded about the relationship between athletes and their coaches?

- (a) Athletes view their coaches as crucial sources of emotional support during rehabilitation.
- (b) Athletes feel neglected and unsupported by their coaches during the recovery process.
- (c) Coaches play a limited role in the rehabilitation journey of athletes.
- (d) Coaches provide specialized practice routines to help athletes recover from injuries.

Q84. What does the idiom "turning around like Orpheus" mean in the context of the passage?

- (a) Being cautious and hesitant in making decisions.
- (b) Returning to a previous state or condition too soon.
- (c) Seeking emotional support during challenging times.

(d) Failing to adapt to altered circumstances.

Passage 22

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

Undoubtedly, amidst the apostolic factions, a prevailing belief endured, wherein they firmly held their faith in malevolent, otherworldly forces and spectral beings, who wielded control over the fate of humans. Within these religious abodes, certain spirits were considered holy, resembling celestial beings like angels. Seers, as a result, were encompassed by spirits with names reminiscent of biblical figures such as Joshua, Daniel, Gabriel, and Jacob. During their sacred gatherings, time was devoted to dispelling demons and expelling evil apparitions. In one observed group, a ceremony called "kutanda midzimu nemashave" (the purging of ancestral and maleficent spirits) was performed, accompanied by hymns dedicated to this endeavor. Male followers earnestly anointed the foreheads of converts and afflicted members to provoke and reveal the demon's manifestation. These individuals, colloquially known as Maporofita, assumed the role of prophets and possessed the ability to dispel malevolent spirits. This effort followed the prescribed method mentioned earlier, supplemented by the use of sanctified water ("mvura yemuteuro") and occasionally applying pressure on the abdomen of the possessed with a prophet's walking staff ("tvimbo"). In this cosmological framework, malevolent spirits were believed to dwell within the bowels of the possessed, compelling them to commit violent acts, requiring the restraint of congregants to facilitate the ensuing exorcism. Prophets, communicating with these maleficent entities, provided instructions for their swift departure from the victims.

Evil entities banished during these exorcisms were classified as follows: animal spirits, spirits of deceased relatives, spirits linked to specific ancestral trades and professions, avenging and foreign spirits. Once revered in certain lineages, animal spirits manifested within their descendants over time. Neglecting or refusing to acknowledge these spirits led to misfortune for the afflicted individuals. Frequently, those tormented sought prophets' counsel to uncover the root cause of their woes. Prophets often revealed the specific animal spirit afflicting them, referred to as "mashave" in the vernacular. The designation of the possessed depended on the animal species; those suffering from baboon spirits were termed "mashave emakudo."

The belief in malevolent spirits and the practice of exorcism were deeply ingrained in the apostolic groups, forming an integral part of their religious and cultural fabric. The ritual performances and the prophets' role as intermediaries between the earthly realm and maleficent entities were central to their worldview. These spirits were considered potent forces, capable of influencing human life and determining individuals' destinies.

The act of exorcism not only aimed to banish malevolent entities but also sought to restore harmony and balance within the afflicted individuals and their communities.

Understanding the historical and cultural context of these beliefs and practices is crucial. For the apostolic factions, the belief in malevolent spirits and the practice of exorcism were deeply rooted in their traditions, providing a framework to comprehend and cope with life's challenges and uncertainties. The rituals and ceremonies served as a means of seeking protection and guidance from the spiritual realm, offering comfort and reassurance to the afflicted individuals and their communities. Hence, the apostolic groups' belief in malevolent spirits and their rituals exemplify the intricate interplay between religion, culture, and the human psyche in shaping people's perceptions of the world.

Q85. Which of the following statements best reflects the role of prophets in the apostolic groups mentioned in the passage?

- (a) Prophets were revered as celestial beings and were believed to have the power to control malevolent forces.
- (b) Prophets were viewed as intermediaries between the earthly realm and maleficent entities, capable of communicating with spirits.
- (c) Prophets were considered malevolent themselves and performed exorcisms to possess individuals with animal spirits.
- (d) Prophets were responsible for organizing sacred gatherings but did not have any direct involvement in exorcism rituals.

Q86. What is the primary purpose of the "kutanda midzimu nemashave" ceremony mentioned in the passage?

- (a) To honor and worship celestial beings like angels.
- (b) To expel demons and banish maleficent spirits from the possessed individuals.
- (c) To celebrate the lineage of certain apostolic groups.
- (d) To demonstrate the power of the prophets to the apostolic followers.

Q87. According to the passage, what led to the misfortunes of afflicted individuals possessed by animal spirits?

- (a) Neglecting the spiritual guidance provided by the prophets.

- (b) Failure to acknowledge the existence of malevolent spirits.
- (c) Resistance to participating in the "kutanda midzimu nemashave" ceremony.
- (d) Lack of adherence to sacred gatherings and hymn recitations.

Q88. What conclusion can be drawn from the passage regarding the apostolic groups' belief in malevolent spirits?

- (a) The belief in malevolent spirits was based on scientific evidence and empirical observations.
- (b) The apostolic groups relied on malevolent spirits to maintain harmony within their communities.
- (c) Malevolent spirits played a central role in shaping the apostolic groups' worldview and religious practices.
- (d) The belief in malevolent spirits was limited to a few isolated individuals within the apostolic factions.

Passage 23

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

There will be people leading small bourgeois lives (those countless and almost invisible bones of its articulation, lacking any one of which the whole skeleton might collapse) whose bread will derive from it--polyglot boys and girls progressing from tenement schools to editorial rooms and art galleries, men with grey hair and paunches who run linotype machines and take up tickets at concerts and then go sedately home to Brooklyn and suburban stations where children and grandchildren await them--long after the descendants of Irish politicians and Neapolitan racketeers are as forgotten as the wild Indians and the pigeon.

And of Chicago too: of that rhythm not always with harmony or tune; lusty, loud voiced, always changing and always young; drawing from a river basin which is almost a continent of young men and women into its living unrest and then spewing them forth again to write Chicago in New England and Virginia and Europe. But in the South art, to become visible at all, must become a ceremony, a spectacle; something between a gypsy encampment and a church bazaar given by a handful of alien mummers who must waste themselves in protest and active self-defense until there is nothing left with which to speak--a single week, say, of furious endeavor for a show to be held on Friday

night and then struck and vanished, leaving only a paint- stiffened smock or a worn out typewriter ribbon in the corner and perhaps a small bill for cheesecloth or bunting in the hands of an astonished and bewildered tradesman. Perhaps this is because the South (I speak in the sense of the indigenous dream of any given collection of men having something in common' be it only geography and climate, which shape their economic and spiritual aspirations into cities, into a pattern of houses or behavior) is old since dead. New York, whatever it may believe of itself, is young since alive; it is still a logical and unbroken progression from the Dutch. And Chicago even boasts of being young. But the South, as Chicago is the Middle west and New York the East, is dead, killed by the Civil War. There is a thing known whimsically as the New South to be sure, but it is not the south. It is a land of Immigrants who are rebuilding the towns and cities into replicas of towns and cities in Kansas and Iowa and Illinois, with skyscrapers and striped canvas awnings instead of wooden balconies, and teaching the young men who sell the gasoline and the waitresses in the restaurants to say O yeah?

Q89.What does the passage imply about the future of the South compared to cities like New York and Chicago?

- (a) The South will continue to thrive economically and culturally due to its indigenous dreams and traditions.
- (b) Cities like New York and Chicago are more likely to preserve their cultural identity and heritage.
- (c) The South is struggling to adapt to modern changes and is losing its distinctiveness.
- (d) Cities like New York and Chicago are doomed to decline due to the influx of immigrants.

Q90.What is the primary reason behind the struggle of art to become visible in the South, as stated in the passage?

- (a) Lack of interest and support from the local community.
- (b) The dominance of gypsy encampments and church bazaars in the art scene.
- (c) Limited resources and short-lived nature of art exhibitions.
- (d) The need for art to transform into a ceremony or spectacle to gain recognition

Q91. What sets New York apart from Chicago and the South, according to the passage?

- (a) New York boasts of a rich and continuous heritage dating back to Dutch origins.
- (b) The South and Chicago are shaped by indigenous dreams and aspirations, while New York is influenced by its young and alive status.
- (c) New York is the only city that preserves its historic wooden balconies and retains its cultural identity.
- (d) The South is undergoing significant changes due to immigration, unlike New York and Chicago.

Q92. According to the passage, what impact has the Civil War had on the South?

- (a) It has led to the creation of the New South, a vibrant and thriving region.
- (b) It has resulted in the decline and loss of the South's distinct identity and culture.
- (c) It has caused the South to become more open to immigrants and their traditions.
- (d) It has fostered a spirit of resilience and adaptation among the people of the South.

Passage 24

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

I stand before you, with a heart heavy with remorse and burdened by the weight of my sins. My hands, stained with the blood of innocent lives, bear the indelible marks of my heinous acts. I have walked the dark path of evil, succumbing to the darkness that resided within me, and now I must face the consequences of my unforgivable actions. In the cold solitude of my cell, I find no solace, only the haunting echoes of the lives I have taken. Their faces, etched in my memory, appear before me in the shadows of my nightmares, haunting me day and night. Their cries for mercy reverberate in the chambers of my soul, a constant reminder of the irreparable damage I have caused. As the days turn into weeks and the weeks into months, I have had time to reflect on the path that led me to this abhorrent fate. I was once a man, with dreams and aspirations, but in a moment of weakness, I allowed the darkness to consume me. I succumbed to the allure of violence, seeking revenge and retribution, blinded by the distorted reality I had created for myself. I now see the faces of those I have left behind, the families torn

apart by my actions. I hear the cries of the widows and the orphans, left to bear the burden of my atrocities. My heart aches with the knowledge that I have caused irreparable pain and suffering to so many, forever altering the course of their lives. I cannot undo the past, nor can I erase the blood that stains my hands. I am forever marked as a murderer, condemned to live with the guilt and shame of my actions. I am no longer a man but a monster, a creature of darkness who has lost all semblance of humanity. As the day of my execution draws near, I find myself grappling with the magnitude of my crimes and the realization that there is no redemption for a soul as tainted as mine. I have sought forgiveness from a higher power, but I know that my sins are too grave to be absolved. In my final moments, I can only hope that my death brings some measure of closure to the families I have torn apart. I do not seek pity or mercy, for I know that I am undeserving of either. I only ask that my death serves as a reminder of the consequences of giving in to the darkness within us, and the irreversible destruction it can unleash.

I stand here today, a broken man, ready to face the judgment that awaits me. I have no illusions of escaping the fate that has been handed to me. I accept my punishment, for I know that it is just. My only regret is that I did not heed the warning signs, that I allowed the darkness to overtake me and steer me down this treacherous path. To those whose lives I have destroyed, I offer my sincerest apologies, knowing that mere words can never heal the wounds I have inflicted. May my death bring you some semblance of closure and peace, and may you find solace in the knowledge that justice has been served. As the executioner prepares to end my life, I pray that my soul finds no rest, that I may forever be haunted by the faces of those I have wronged. May their spirits forever haunt me, a constant reminder of the evil I once was, and the fate I have brought upon myself. May their memories never fade, serving as a testament to the darkness that resides within us all, a darkness that I allowed to consume me, with devastating consequences. In the end, I am just another lost soul, damned for eternity, a warning to others of the price one pays for giving in to the darkness. May my death serve as a cautionary tale, a reminder that evil exists within us all, waiting to be unleashed upon the world. May my story be a testament to the devastating consequences of succumbing to that darkness, and the irreversible destruction it can bring.

Q93. Based on the passage, what was the turning point that led the speaker down the path of darkness?

- (a) A moment of clarity and self-awareness.
- (b) An encounter with a higher power seeking redemption.
- (c) A moment of weakness and the allure of violence.

(d) A realization of the consequences of their actions.

Q94. In the passage, what effect does the speaker hope their death will have on society?

- (a) To instill fear and terror among criminals.
- (b) To inspire others to follow their path of evil.
- (c) To serve as an example of redemption and forgiveness.
- (d) To act as a reminder of the consequences of giving in to darkness.

Q95. What does the phrase "etched in my memory" suggest about the faces of the innocent lives the speaker has taken?

- (a) The faces are fading away from the speaker's memory.
- (b) The faces are deeply and permanently imprinted in the speaker's mind.
- (c) The faces are constantly changing and unrecognizable.
- (d) The faces are haunting the speaker's dreams and nightmares.

Q96. What does the phrase "lost soul" imply about the speaker's current state?

- (a) The speaker is feeling disconnected from their emotions and thoughts.
- (b) The speaker is without hope or salvation.
- (c) The speaker is struggling to find their purpose and identity.
- (d) The speaker is experiencing a spiritual awakening.

Passage 25

Read the passage given below to answer the questions that follow.

Self-deception, an intricate psychological labyrinth in which individuals ensnare themselves, remains an enigmatic yet ubiquitous aspect of the human psyche. Despite its inescapable presence, the repercussions of self-deception are far-reaching, permeating social, political, and even scientific realms. This perennial conundrum warrants a multidisciplinary exploration, as our collective understanding of

self-deception remains, at best, fragmentary. The intricate dance between self-awareness and cognitive bias ensnares even the most astute minds, blurring the lines between reality and illusion. According to recent studies conducted at leading research institutions, such as Stanford University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), self-deception is deeply ingrained in human nature, often functioning as a cognitive defense mechanism. Researchers posit that this mechanism acts as a comforting balm to shield ourselves from harsh truths, buffering the psyche against psychological distress. Nevertheless, the perilous embrace of self-deception harbors the potential to distort public discourse, perpetuate fallacies, and impede societal progress. The implications of this phenomenon are particularly pronounced in the realm of politics. Recent political events, such as the rise of populist movements in various democracies, underscore the potency of self-deception as a catalyst for polarizing narratives and misinformation. Furthermore, self-deception's insidious tendrils extend beyond the individual level, infiltrating corporate environments and even scientific research. In a landmark study published in the *Journal of Organizational Behavior*, it was revealed that self-deceptive individuals were more likely to attain leadership positions in organizations. However, their leadership style was found to be less effective in decision-making and problem-solving, leading to suboptimal outcomes. As we grapple with the intricacies of self-deception, it is crucial to distinguish it from other cognitive biases, such as confirmation bias and the illusory truth effect. These distinctions, while subtle, offer valuable insights into the complex interplay of human cognition and perception. The phenomenon of self-deception remains an enigmatic facet of human psychology that warrants rigorous exploration. With far-reaching implications in politics, organizations, and society at large, understanding and addressing self-deception demands a collaborative effort from psychologists, neuroscientists, and sociologists alike.

Q97. Which term describes the intricate psychological phenomenon where individuals deceive themselves

- a) Confirmation bias
- b) Cognitive defense mechanism
- c) Lateral thinking
- d) Logical reasoning

Q98. What is the primary purpose of the passage?

- a) To explore the political implications of self-deception
- b) To highlight recent studies on cognitive biases
- c) To discuss the enigmatic nature of self-deception
- d) To propose solutions for combating cognitive biases

Q99. Based on the passage, which statement is true about self-deception?

- a) It is limited to the realm of politics and organizations.
- b) It can be completely eliminated through self-awareness.
- c) It serves as a protective mechanism against psychological distress.
- d) It is not a prevalent aspect of human psychology.

Q100. What is NOT discussed by the author in the passage

- a) Recent studies conducted at leading research institutions
- b) The connection between self-deception and emotional intelligence
- c) The potential consequences of self-deception on public discourse
- d) The role of self-deception in political events and movements

Passage 26

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

Amidst the relentless cacophony of global challenges, the role of Amazon forests stands as a formidable linchpin in the intricate web of ecological equilibrium. The irrefutable truth remains: these verdant lungs of our planet wield unparalleled influence in regulating the climate, preserving biodiversity, and mitigating the perilous specter of carbon emissions. According to data compiled by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and corroborated by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the Amazon rainforest accounts for a staggering 20% of the world's total oxygen production.

Moreover, it plays a pivotal role in regulating the Earth's climate by sequestering approximately 2.2 billion metric tons of carbon dioxide annually. However, these crucial carbon sinks are under imminent threat, with deforestation rates reaching an alarming 17,000 square kilometers per year, according to satellite data from NASA's Earth Observatory.

The current situation demands profound reflection on the stewardship of this invaluable resource. Escalating deforestation rates and encroachment threaten to unravel the intricate tapestry of life, compromising the very survival of both indigenous communities and global ecosystems. According to a comprehensive report by the Union of Concerned Scientists, if deforestation continues at the current rate, the Amazon rainforest could reach a tipping point within the next two decades, transitioning from a lush ecosystem to a savannah-like landscape. In addition to its ecological significance, the Amazon rainforest harbors unparalleled biodiversity. Home to approximately 10% of the world's known species, the region teems with an extraordinary array of flora and fauna. However, the rapid loss of habitat due to deforestation poses an imminent threat to countless species, many of which remain undiscovered by science. A decisive and concerted global response is required to embolden the preservation of these priceless woodlands, for their fate resonates far beyond the borders of their native realms. International collaborations, bolstered by initiatives like the United Nations' REDD+ program, hold the potential to curb deforestation by providing financial incentives for developing nations to protect their forests.

Q10. In the passage, what does the phrase "formidable linchpin in the intricate web of ecological equilibrium" imply about the role of Amazon forests?

- a. The Amazon forests are crucial in maintaining a delicate balance in the global ecosystem.
- b. The Amazon forests are resistant to changes in the environment.
- c. The Amazon forests are at risk of being destroyed by external forces.
- d. The Amazon forests play a secondary role in preserving biodiversity and climate regulation.

Q102. Which statement reflects the main idea of the passage?

- a. The Amazon rainforest is not as crucial to the environment as previously believed.
- b. Deforestation rates in the Amazon rainforest are decreasing due to global efforts.
- c. The Amazon rainforest is a vital resource threatened by deforestation.
- d. The Amazon rainforest has no significant impact on climate regulation.

Q103. What can be inferred from the passage about the Amazon rainforest's biodiversity?

- a. It is decreasing at an alarming rate.
- b. It is only home to a limited number of species.
- c. It remains largely undiscovered by science.
- d. It does not play a significant role in ecological equilibrium.

Q104. Which figure of speech is used in the phrase "verdant lungs of our planet" to describe the Amazon forests?

- a. Simile
- b. Hyperbole
- c. Metaphor
- d. Personification

Passage 27

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

India's trajectory in space missions has been nothing short of awe-inspiring, as the nation boldly treads the celestial path, seeking to unravel the mysteries of the cosmos. The resolute endeavor to explore celestial frontiers not only emboldens scientific discovery but also symbolizes India's burgeoning prowess on the global stage. Recent milestones in India's space odyssey, from audacious lunar explorations to forays into interplanetary realms, serve as poignant exemplars of the nation's unyielding commitment to harnessing the vast potential of space exploration. According to the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), the successful Chandrayaan and Mangalyaan missions have bolstered India's position as one of the few countries to have reached the Moon and Mars, respectively, on its maiden attempts. The advancements in India's space endeavors are not only a testament to the nation's technological prowess but also serve as potent catalysts for inspiring future generations. According to a recent survey conducted by the Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology (IIST), there has been a significant uptick in the number of young students aspiring to pursue careers in space sciences and aerospace engineering, with enrollments in related courses rising by over 40% in the past five years. However, as India ventures further into the cosmos, it must grapple with new challenges and augment its infrastructure. In light of the recent burgeoning interest in space exploration, the Indian government, in collaboration with private stakeholders, is investing in

cutting-edge research facilities, bolstering satellite communication capabilities, and promoting international partnerships in space research. Nonetheless, India's space ambitions are not immune to geopolitical complexities. The intensifying global space race, characterized by escalating competition for lunar resources and extraterrestrial research, demands India's strategic foresight and diplomatic acumen. India's pursuit of international space cooperation, exemplified by its involvement in the Artemis Accords, reinforces its commitment to advancing humanity's understanding of the cosmos. India's space odyssey is a testament to the nation's unwavering spirit of exploration and technological ingenuity. With each milestone, India draws closer to unlocking the secrets of the universe while inspiring the next generation of scientific innovators. As India navigates the astrophysical terrain, strategic planning, and international collaboration will be critical in propelling the nation to even greater heights among the celestial pantheon.

Q105. The passage suggests that India's space missions have had what effect on the country's youth?

- a. Decreased interest in space sciences and aerospace engineering
- b. Limited advancements in the field of space exploration
- c. Increased aspirations to pursue careers in space sciences and aerospace engineering
- d. Decreased focus on technological innovation

Q106. What is the main idea of the passage?

- a. India's space missions are contributing to global scientific advancements and technological progress.
- b. India's space odyssey serves as an inspiration for future generations of scientists and engineers.
- c. India's pursuit of space exploration requires strategic planning and international cooperation.
- d. India's recent milestones in space missions have solidified its position among global space-faring nations.

Q107. What can be inferred from the passage about India's position in the global space race?

- a. India leads in the number of lunar resources exploration missions.
- b. India has achieved more milestones in space exploration than other countries.
- c. India collaborates with other nations in space research endeavors.
- d. India has the most advanced satellite communication capabilities.

Q108. In the passage, what does the phrase "unraveling the mysteries of the cosmos" symbolically refer to?

- a. Discovering the secrets of the universe through scientific exploration.
 - b. Solving the complex challenges of space missions.
 - c. Uniting the global scientific community for celestial research.
 - d. Untangling the intricacies of India's space endeavors.
-

Passage 28

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

In the dynamic landscape of professional service, the primacy of Emotional Intelligence (EQ) emerges as an inexorable imperative. Beyond the traditional virtues of Intellectual Quotient (IQ), EQ serves as an indomitable lodestar, illuminating the path to profound interpersonal connections, empathetic leadership, and effective collaboration. Research conducted by esteemed psychologists at Harvard University reveals that EQ constitutes a staggering 80% of success in leadership roles, dwarfing the 20% attributed to IQ. Such findings dismantle the long-held notion that raw intellectual prowess alone guarantees professional efficacy. Instead, the ability to discern and navigate complex emotional terrains emerges as the defining characteristic of exceptional leaders.

In the domain of service, whether in healthcare, customer relations, or philanthropy, the cultivation of EQ assumes paramount significance. A case study by the World Economic Forum highlights how medical professionals with heightened emotional acuity exhibit greater patient satisfaction, adherence to treatment plans, and overall positive health outcomes. Empathy, a cornerstone of EQ, fosters a patient-centric approach that transcends the transactional nature of service, forging enduring bonds of trust. Moreover, within the corporate realm, the convergence of technological advances and the exigencies of a diverse workforce underscores the urgency for EQ-driven leadership. A study published in the Harvard Business Review illustrates that corporations led by emotionally intelligent executives witness higher employee engagement, reduced turnover rates, and heightened organizational resilience in times of adversity. While cognitive abilities remain crucial, nurturing EQ in the domain of service mandates a multifaceted approach. The integration of emotional intelligence training in educational curricula, professional development programs, and leadership initiatives stands as a linchpin in this endeavor. Moreover, organizations and institutions

must adopt recruitment and assessment strategies that emphasize emotional intelligence as a core competency, alongside technical qualifications.

Q109. What is the significance of Emotional Intelligence (EQ) in professional leadership, according to the passage?

- It constitutes 80% of success in leadership roles.
- It is irrelevant compared to Intellectual Quotient (IQ).
- It contributes to better decision-making in technical fields.
- It only impacts leadership in customer relations.

Q110. What is the primary purpose of the passage?

- To explore the correlation between EQ and IQ in leadership roles
- To highlight the role of EQ in customer relations
- To discuss the importance of EQ in professional service
- To explain the difference between IQ and EQ

Q111. Based on the passage, what can be inferred about the impact of EQ on employee engagement in corporations?

- EQ has no effect on employee engagement.
- Corporations led by emotionally intelligent executives have lower employee engagement.
- EQ-driven leadership leads to higher employee engagement.
- EQ and IQ have equal impact on employee engagement.

Q112. All of the following facts are implied in the passage EXCEPT

- The importance of cognitive abilities in service professions
- The integration of EQ training in educational curricula
- The role of EQ in healthcare professions
- The impact of technological advances on EQ in leadership roles

Passage 29

Read the passage given below to answer the questions that follow.

India's recent unveiling of its new education policy signifies a paradigmatic shift in the nation's vision for fostering intellectual enlightenment and unleashing human potential. Laden with transformative intentions, this policy overhaul seeks to embolden holistic learning, research-oriented pedagogy, and interdisciplinary knowledge acquisition. The

National Education Policy 2020 envisions an education system that nurtures critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving skills from an early age. A fundamental departure from rote learning practices, the policy emphasizes experiential learning methodologies that encourage students to explore and discover knowledge independently. By integrating arts, vocational skills, and physical education into the curriculum, the policy aims to create well-rounded individuals capable of adapting to the challenges of the 21st century. The policy's commitment to multidisciplinary aims to break down traditional barriers between subjects and disciplines, fostering a holistic understanding of complex societal issues. This interconnected approach not only promotes lateral thinking but also cultivates empathy and understanding among students from diverse backgrounds. The ambitious goals of the policy, however, necessitate a comprehensive overhaul of the existing education infrastructure. According to data from the Ministry of Education, nearly 50% of Indian schools lack basic facilities like electricity, clean water, and proper sanitation. Addressing these infrastructural gaps is critical to ensuring equitable access to quality education for all students, regardless of their geographical location or socio-economic status. Additionally, the successful implementation of the policy hinges on the effective training and professional development of teachers. According to a report by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the current teacher-pupil ratio in India is 1:35, which poses significant challenges to personalized learning and individual attention. The policy envisions teacher training programs that foster continuous professional growth, equipping educators with the tools to deliver innovative and engaging pedagogy. The adoption of technology in education emerges as a pivotal component of the policy's vision for a digitally empowered learning environment. Expanding digital infrastructure and promoting online resources can bridge the learning divide, reaching remote areas and marginalized communities. However, policymakers must navigate the ethical and privacy implications of digital learning while ensuring accessibility for all.

Q113. Based on the passage, what can be inferred about the current state of India's education infrastructure?

- a) Most Indian schools have basic facilities like electricity and clean water.
- b) The lack of basic facilities hinders equitable access to quality education.
- c) India's education infrastructure is highly advanced compared to other countries.
- d) Infrastructural gaps have been completely addressed by the government.

Q114. The passage mentions the need for effective training and professional development of teachers. Why is this important?

- a) To ensure personalized learning for every student
- b) To reduce the number of enrollments in related courses
- c) To meet the requirements of the new education policy
- d) To improve the teacher-pupil ratio in schools

Q115. The passage states that India's new education policy envisions nurturing critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving skills from an early age. Which term best represents this approach?

- a) Rote learning
- b) Lateral thinking
- c) Logical reasoning
- d) Confirmation bias

Q116. In the passage, what does the phrase "bridging the learning divide" most likely refer to

- a) Creating a more comprehensive curriculum that includes various subjects and disciplines.
- b) Integrating technology and online resources into the education system.
- c) Reducing the teacher-pupil ratio in schools to promote personalized learning.
- d) Addressing infrastructural gaps in Indian schools to ensure equitable access to education.

Passage 30

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

The human mind, an intricate web of cognitive processes, manifests various thinking patterns that influence decision-making and problem-solving. Logical thinking, characterized by systematic reasoning and evidence-based conclusions, represents the bedrock of critical analysis. However, the interplay between logical thinking, complex thinking, and irrational thinking patterns is a multifaceted and nuanced domain. Logical

thinking, founded upon empirical evidence and deductive reasoning, entails a linear thought process wherein conclusions are derived from well-established premises. In contrast, complex thinking transcends traditional linear approaches, encompassing a network of interconnected ideas, lateral associations, and creativity. Researchers at the Institute for Advanced Study of Cognitive Science propose that complex thinking is essential for navigating complex problems and adapting to dynamic environments. Despite the inherent merits of logical and complex thinking, the human mind remains susceptible to irrational thinking patterns. According to behavioral psychologists, cognitive biases such as confirmation bias, availability heuristic, and anchoring effect tend to distort objective reasoning, leading to suboptimal decisions. Confirmation bias, for instance, induces individuals to seek and interpret information in a manner that aligns with their pre-existing beliefs, reinforcing cognitive echo chambers. The availability heuristic, on the other hand, leads individuals to overestimate the likelihood of events based on the ease with which relevant examples come to mind. Such biases, though unwitting, can exert profound implications on personal, organizational, and societal levels. Moreover, the advent of the digital age has accentuated the challenge of combating irrational thinking patterns. Social media platforms, with their algorithmic echo chambers and misinformation propagation, inadvertently amplify cognitive biases, entrenching individuals in polarized worldviews. The repercussions of such echo chambers were evident in the disinformation campaigns and polarizing narratives that emerged during the recent elections in various democracies. Unraveling the complexities of human thought and mitigating the impacts of irrational thinking necessitate a multipronged approach. Critical thinking education, starting from early childhood, can foster logical reasoning, creative problem-solving, and resilience against cognitive biases. Incorporating diverse perspectives and interdisciplinary learning in educational curricula can nurture complex thinking, enriching the cognitive toolkit of future generations. Additionally, raising awareness about cognitive biases and their potential ramifications is pivotal in cultivating a vigilant and discerning populace. Fact-checking initiatives, media literacy programs, and responsible journalism can help counter the proliferation of misinformation and minimize the influence of echo chambers.

Q117. The passage suggests that the interplay between logical thinking, complex thinking, and irrational thinking patterns

- a) Leads to balanced decision-making in individuals.
- b) Can be fully eliminated through critical thinking education.
- c) Forms an intricate and nuanced domain of human cognition.
- d) Is more pronounced in children than in adults.

Q118. Based on the passage, what can be inferred about the impact of cognitive biases on societal levels?

- a) Cognitive biases lead to objective reasoning and decision-making.
- b) Cognitive biases have little impact on society as a whole.
- c) Cognitive biases can distort public discourse and perpetuate fallacies.
- d) Cognitive biases are more prevalent in scientific research than in politics.

Q119. Which of the following best describes the tone of the passage?

- a) Optimistic and encouraging, emphasizing the potential for critical thinking education to combat cognitive biases.
- b) Pessimistic and critical, highlighting the inherent flaws in logical thinking and complex reasoning.
- c) Neutral and objective, presenting a balanced view of the interplay between different thinking patterns.
- d) Cynical and skeptical, expressing doubt about the effectiveness of fact-checking initiatives and media literacy programs.

Q120. What figure of speech is used in the sentence: "Her smile is as bright as the sun"?

- a) Simile
- b) Metaphor
- c) Personification
- d) Hyperbole

Passage 31

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

In 2017, I embarked on writing a memoir with Caroline Calloway, my friend and fellow writer. Little did I know that our collaboration would be marked by competing narratives,

leading to the unfinished manuscript gathering dust. But when it comes to Caroline, it seems that nothing stays unwritten. Our journey together began nearly a decade ago in a creative nonfiction class, where we co-wrote Instagram captions introducing her, or rather, a character named Caroline, to the online world. The captions caught my attention, and we even managed to sell a book proposal based on them. However, Caroline was a unique writer who, instead of putting pen to paper, lived her character, making it challenging to bring the book to fruition. In frustration, I decided to write my own personal essay about the experience, which ended up receiving an overwhelming response and opened new doors for me to explore my own writing. Since then, the story has taken on a life of its own, sparking think pieces, a dedicated subreddit, and discourse all around. The media frenzy led to a publicly traded company owning the rights to my life and a showrunner adapting my essay into a limited series, proving that there's always room for more adaptations.

To facilitate the TV deal, I was obliged to provide supporting material, which included essay drafts, emails, and even my diaries. Handing over these personal artifacts felt like entrusting plutonium in a lead box. I found myself in interviews with the showrunner, discussing everything from my fashion choices to my political views and childhood memories. Despite the flattering process, I was haunted by a specific question: When did I decide to write about Caroline as myself instead of as her? The question triggered an overwhelming sense of dread, as looking back to 2019 felt like turning myself into salt.

In the original essay, I left my motivation for writing about Caroline ambiguous. I didn't explicitly state why I decided to do it. In retrospect, my reasons were far from bloodless. After two years of avoiding thoughts of Caroline, her reappearance in 2019 with creativity workshops for her fans reignited my suppressed emotions. I had spent years serving her artistic vision, molding myself into whatever literary device she needed, while barely pursuing my own writing. The realization of this imbalance fueled my decision to finally write about her. Yet, I didn't anticipate the whirlwind of attention and consequences that would follow.

Q121. What led to the author's decision to write about Caroline as herself instead of as her?

- a) The media frenzy and public interest in their story
- b) Caroline's reappearance with creativity workshops in 2019
- c) The realization of an imbalance in their creative partnership
- d) The flattering process of the TV deal and show adaptation

Q122. How does the author feel about the media frenzy and consequences that followed their essay?

- a) Dreadful
- b) Elated
- c) Ambivalent
- d) Disinterested

Q123. What is the central idea of the passage?

- a) The author's collaboration with Caroline Calloway in writing a memoir.
- b) The media frenzy and consequences of the author's essay about Caroline.
- c) The motivation behind the author's decision to write about Caroline.
- d) The challenges faced by the author in handing over personal artefacts for a TV deal.

Q124. Based on the passage, what can be inferred about the author's relationship with Caroline Calloway?

- a) They had a harmonious and successful creative partnership.
- b) They had a challenging and unfulfilling creative partnership.
- c) They had a distant and indifferent creative partnership.
- d) They had a competitive and adversarial creative partnership.

Passage 32

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

My mother was not the typical stay-at-home mom who followed traditional norms. She had a unique and adventurous spirit that influenced our childhood in the most exciting ways. Instead of sticking to the conventional routine, she would surprise us by pulling us out of school to go on fun trips like antiquing and getting treats at Friendly's, where Reese's sundaes were a favourite. She encouraged our creativity by sending us into the woods to collect materials for art projects, resulting in moss, Princess pine, blue-jay feathers, and dried Queen Anne's lace adorning her craft table.

One of our cherished memories was spending afternoons with her, digging in an old bottle dump behind our picturesque nineteenth-century Massachusetts farmhouse, searching for hidden treasures. Whenever we stumbled upon a rare cobalt-blue medicine bottle, which happened rarely, she would express delight as if we had found a precious gem. Her energy and enthusiasm taught us that only boring people got bored, and she always inspired us to explore and embrace life's wonders.

Her exceptional motherhood left a profound impact on me. As a child, I never questioned whether I would become a mother someday, as she had already shown me that being a mother was the most thrilling and empowering role one could have. She made me believe that motherhood had the power to shape a world where I could be my truest and best self. Her mothering was so captivating that I often found myself immersed in her performance, and she became a role model for what a mother could be.

The next day, I decided to follow the example of @mamawatters and create beauty in my everyday life. I started my day with a calming ritual, adhered to a homeschool schedule, and focused on maintaining an organized and beautiful home. However, amidst the chaos of motherhood, I began to question the value I placed on appearances and social media portrayals. I found myself feeling guilty for not showcasing my children's "ugly art" on Instagram and realizing that motherhood should not be about seeking validation through pretty pictures.

As I tried to create a more beautiful environment, I encountered challenges like my baby smearing ink on the floor, and the mess adding to the chaos during dinner prep. The stress and frustration mounted, and I found myself feeling envious of my husband's uninterrupted hours in his home office. I contemplated driving away from it all.

Q125. What can be inferred about the author's mother from the passage?

- a) She was a strict and traditional stay-at-home mom.
- b) She encouraged her children to explore and be creative.
- c) She focused on maintaining a tidy and organized home.
- d) She was more interested in social media than her family.

Q126. What is the tone of the passage?

- a) Excited
- b) Critical
- c) Appreciative
- d) Neutral

Q127. Based on the passage, what lesson does the author learn from her mother?

- a) Motherhood should be about seeking validation through social media.
- b) Motherhood is a source of ultimate power and control.
- c) Motherhood involves embracing messy and imperfect moments.
- d) Motherhood requires adhering to strict schedules and routines.

Q128. What can be concluded about the author's view of motherhood before her experience with Amanda Watters' post?

- a) She believed that motherhood was all about perfection and maintaining a well-organized home.
- b) She had a positive and idealized view of motherhood influenced by social media.
- c) She considered motherhood to be monotonous and unexciting.
- d) She believed that motherhood was a source of ultimate power and control.

Passage 33

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

The healthcare system in India has been a longstanding topic of discussion and controversy. Despite being the most populous country in the world, India's healthcare system has been plagued by issues such as inadequate funding and a shortage of medical professionals, leading to a myriad of unresolved challenges. The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic further exposed the weaknesses of the current system while also presenting an opportunity to reimagine and rebuild India's healthcare infrastructure. This blog will delve into the future of Indian healthcare and the obstacles that must be overcome.

India's healthcare system is a mix of public and private services. The government-run public healthcare system aims to provide free or heavily discounted healthcare to the general public. However, it has been criticized for long wait times and a scarcity of physicians and nurses. Additionally, the system suffers from chronic underfunding and understaffing, leading to disparities in medical services and quality of care, especially in rural and underprivileged areas. To address these issues, the government has launched initiatives like the National Health Mission, with the goal of improving health outcomes and accessibility for all citizens.

In addition to the challenges brought on by the pandemic, India's healthcare system faces other pressing issues. One significant problem is the lack of adequate infrastructure in many healthcare institutions, particularly in rural areas. Basic amenities such as power, clean water, and sanitation facilities are lacking, hindering the delivery of quality healthcare services.

Looking ahead, India's healthcare system holds both possibilities and challenges. The COVID-19 pandemic has shed light on the deficiencies that need to be addressed urgently, but it has also presented an opportunity for the government to invest in

healthcare and elevate the standard of services. Factors like technological advancements, demographic changes, and evolving healthcare regulations are expected to influence the future trajectory of Indian healthcare. The expanding middle-class segment may lead to increased investments in the private healthcare sector, while the growing elderly population may bring an upsurge in chronic diseases like diabetes and heart ailments.

The current circumstances provide an opportunity for the government to boost healthcare spending and invest in healthcare infrastructure. This may result in the establishment of more healthcare facilities, increased education and training for healthcare workers, and the enhancement of medical supply networks. By addressing the existing challenges and seizing the opportunities, India can work towards building a robust and inclusive healthcare system that caters to the needs of its vast and diverse population.

Q129. In the context of the passage, what does the term "underfunded" mean?

- a) Receiving adequate financial support
- b) Receiving excessive financial support
- c) Lacking sufficient financial support
- d) Lacking medical professionals

Q130. Based on the information in the passage, which program was launched by the government to improve health outcomes and equal access to healthcare for all Indians?

- a) COVID-19 Relief Fund
- b) National Health Mission
- c) Medical Supply Network
- d) Private Healthcare Initiative

Q131. According to the passage, what are some of the difficulties faced by India's healthcare system?

- a) Lack of technological advancements
- b) Shortage of mental health resources
- c) High number of healthcare workers
- d) Scarcity of medical professionals and underfunding

Q132. Based on the passage, what could be a possible consequence of the expanding middle-class segment in India's healthcare sector?

- a) Decrease in investments in private healthcare
- b) Increase in investments in public healthcare
- c) Shortage of medical supplies
- d) Reduced healthcare spending by the government

Passage 34

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

India's information technology (IT) services companies are facing significant challenges amid fears of a recession in developed markets and the aftermath of a banking crisis in the US and Europe. Unfortunately, the situation is not expected to improve until the end of the year, according to analysts.

The weakness in the sector has also led foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) to sell their stakes in IT companies. In March, FPIs turned bearish on the IT and oil and gas sectors, collectively selling equities worth ₹13,734 crore.

Analysts predict that the pain for the IT sector will persist until the end of 2023, mainly due to macroeconomic challenges such as high inflation, interest rates, and the banking crisis in the US and Europe. The primary issue facing the IT sector is a slowdown in growth and the possibility of a recession. As long as global growth remains uncertain, IT companies may experience lesser order flow, slower execution, and pricing challenges.

The struggles of the IT sector are evident from the recently-posted fourth-quarter results and FY24 growth predictions of major IT companies. Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), one of the leading players in the sector, reported an 11-quarter low constant currency revenue growth in Q4, standing at \$7.2 billion. The company's outgoing CEO, Rajesh Gopinathan, expressed concerns about stress in one of its largest markets, North America, and mentioned that the expected recovery had not materialized.

Sanjeev Hota, the Vice President and Head of Research at Sharekhan BNP Paribas, shares a similar sentiment, stating that the macro uncertainty faced by the sector is unlikely to improve before 2-3 quarters. He expects the industry to witness some stability only by the end of this year. Notably, the US and North America, which are crucial markets for the IT sector, are not expected to improve in the near term.

The ongoing global growth slowdown has taken a toll on the stock market performance of IT companies, with the entire IT pack experiencing significant declines in 2023. The Nifty IT index has witnessed a substantial 30% decrease so far this year, in contrast to the 3% fall in the broader Nifty50 index.

Q133. Which of the following statements closely resembles the reasoning used by analysts to predict the IT sector's challenges?

- a) The IT sector will recover quickly because of the recent government policies.
- b) The IT sector's struggles are due to global economic conditions and the banking crisis.
- c) The IT sector is facing difficulties because of the lack of skilled workers in the industry.
- d) The IT sector will benefit from increased investments in other sectors of the economy.

Q134. What is the overall tone of the passage?

- a) Optimistic and hopeful
- b) Neutral and informative
- c) Critical and pessimistic
- d) Enthusiastic and encouraging

Q135. Based on the passage, what impact did the COVID-19 outbreak have on India's IT sector?

- a) The IT sector experienced growth and witnessed increased revenue during the outbreak.
- b) The IT sector remained unaffected by the COVID-19 outbreak.
- c) The IT sector faced increased challenges and stress due to the outbreak.
- d) The IT sector benefited from the global growth slowdown during the outbreak.

Q136. What is the central idea of the passage?

- a) India's IT sector is expected to recover quickly from the ongoing challenges.
- b) The banking crisis in the US and Europe has had a positive impact on India's IT sector.
- c) Analysts predict continued challenges for India's IT sector due to global economic conditions.
- d) The IT sector in India is thriving and has witnessed significant growth in recent times.

Passage 35

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

Atticus Finch's moral compass and unwavering values play a central role in shaping the narrative and themes of Harper Lee's "To Kill a Mockingbird." As a devoted father, a principled lawyer, and a compassionate human being, Atticus sets a powerful example for his children and the community of Maycomb, Alabama.

First and foremost, Atticus is a loving and caring father to his two children, Scout and Jem. He instills in them the importance of empathy, tolerance, and standing up for what is right, regardless of social norms. Atticus often imparts wisdom to his children, such as when he tells Scout, "You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view... Until you climb into his skin and walk around in it." This lesson in empathy becomes a recurring theme throughout the novel, challenging readers to see the world from others' perspectives.

As a lawyer, Atticus epitomizes integrity and fairness. He takes on the daunting task of defending Tom Robinson, a Black man accused of raping a white woman, knowing that the odds are stacked against them in a deeply racist society. Despite facing hostility and threats from the community, Atticus remains resolute in his pursuit of justice. His commitment to upholding the principles of a fair trial and his belief in the fundamental equality of all people underscore the novel's exploration of racial injustice and moral courage.

Furthermore, Atticus's interactions with Boo Radley, the reclusive neighbour, demonstrate his compassionate nature. He teaches Scout and Jem not to fear Boo based on rumours but instead to empathize with him as a human being. Atticus's lessons about empathy and understanding culminate in the poignant moment when Scout stands on Boo Radley's porch and sees her neighbourhood from his perspective, recognizing the shared humanity beneath their differences.

Atticus Finch's unwavering moral compass serves as a guiding light in the face of prejudice, ignorance, and hate. His values influence his children, neighbors, and even readers, challenging them to confront their own biases and reevaluate their perceptions of others. Through Atticus's character, Harper Lee delivers a powerful message about the importance of standing up for justice, embracing empathy, and treating all individuals with dignity and respect.

In conclusion, Atticus Finch's moral integrity and values have a profound impact on the narrative and themes of "To Kill a Mockingbird." As a loving father, principled lawyer,

and compassionate human being, Atticus serves as a beacon of moral courage and empathy.

Q137. Which of the following can be logically inferred from Atticus Finch's commitment to defending Tom Robinson in "To Kill a Mockingbird"?

- a) Atticus believed in the innocence of Tom Robinson.
- b) Atticus was motivated by personal gain to take on Tom Robinson's case.
- c) Atticus was indifferent to the racial tensions prevailing in Maycomb.
- d) Atticus was determined to uphold the principles of justice and fairness.

Q138. Based on the passage, what can be inferred about the impact of Atticus Finch's teachings on his children, Scout and Jem?

- a) Scout and Jem become prejudiced and intolerant like many others in Maycomb.
- b) Scout and Jem are influenced by Atticus to show empathy and stand up for justice.
- c) Scout and Jem are indifferent to the plight of marginalized communities in Maycomb.
- d) Scout and Jem are heavily influenced by societal norms and prejudices.

Q139. Which of the following best describes the tone of the passage?

- a) Optimistic and hopeful
- b) Cynical and pessimistic
- c) Informative and factual
- d) Excited and enthusiastic

Q140. Based on the passage, what approach does Atticus Finch take when defending Tom Robinson?

- a) He avoids taking on difficult cases.
- b) He prioritizes personal gain over justice.
- c) He remains resolute in upholding justice despite challenges.
- d) He withdraws from the case due to community pressure.

Passage 36

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

Equity, in its essence, is about providing individuals with what they need to succeed rather than treating everyone the same. The misconception of fairness often arises from the assumption that equal treatment means offering the same resources to all,

disregarding the fact that people start from different circumstances. History has witnessed the evolution of equity, particularly in the context of English courts during the Medieval period, where the concept of uniform justice without considering individual circumstances was questioned.

While equality remains a crucial foundation of democracy, the ongoing discourse raises questions about whether equity should take precedence as a more effective principle for societal progress. Acknowledging that people do not begin life on equal footing, equity addresses the systemic and structural barriers that hinder equal opportunities. It aims to uplift marginalized communities, such as women, people of colour, disabled individuals, the economically disadvantaged, and the LGBTQ+ community, who have historically faced inequities.

Equality-based solutions may advocate for impartiality and uniformity in services and policies, but equity-based solutions recognize the diverse lived experiences of individuals and tailor support accordingly. Equity focuses on addressing imbalanced social systems in a sustainable and long-term manner.

In the pursuit of gender equity, it is essential to understand that gender is intersectional, with women comprising a truly diverse group. One-size-fits-all policies may not be effective in addressing the needs of women from different backgrounds. Meaningful progress requires a shift from mere gender equality to an equitable process that promotes and supports women across all aspects of life, encompassing education, the workplace, and health.

Embracing equity means understanding and embracing the complexities of individual circumstances to create a more inclusive society. It is a transformative approach that seeks to level the playing field, ensuring that everyone has the tools and opportunities to thrive. By dismantling systemic barriers and adapting policies to cater to diverse needs, equity empowers individuals and communities to reach their full potential, fostering a stronger and more just society.

Q141. In the context of the passage, what does "equity" mean?

- a) Treating everyone the same regardless of their circumstances
- b) Providing individuals with the necessary resources to succeed based on their unique needs
- c) Offering equal opportunities to all individuals without any distinction
- d) Fostering uniformity in services and policies for societal progress

Q142. What can be inferred from the passage regarding the historical application of equity in English courts?

- a) English courts consistently applied fair and equal punishment to all criminals
- b) English courts adopted the principle of equity to consider different circumstances in settling disputes
- c) English courts favoured uniformity and consistency over fairness in justice delivery
- d) English courts imposed harsher punishments on criminals with higher social status

Q143. What is the central idea of the passage?

- a) Equity is the key to providing equal opportunities to all individuals.
- b) The concept of fairness needs to be redefined to suit individual circumstances.
- c) The history of equity can be traced back to Medieval England.
- d) Achieving gender equity is crucial for meaningful progress in society.

Q144. What is the recommended reading approach for the passage?

- a) Skim through the passage quickly to grasp the main points.
- b) Read the passage thoroughly and take notes to understand the historical examples.
- c) Focus on understanding the ongoing discourse around equity and its implications.
- d) Read the first and last paragraphs carefully to identify the main argument.

Passage 37

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

AI in Indian Healthcare: A Promising Journey Towards Better Healthcare

In recent years, India's healthcare ecosystem has expanded beyond traditional human interventions, embracing the potential of "robotic intervention" through artificial intelligence (AI) tools. AI, a general-purpose technology, is poised to revolutionize various industries, including healthcare. Its high-level automation, intelligent machines, and powerful analytics offer sustainable and scalable solutions, supplementing human intelligence effectively.

While AI's potential in Indian healthcare is still at a nascent stage, a few technology companies and startups are exploring solutions for early diagnosis and risk detection.

The future, however, holds great promise, as a report by NASSCOM indicates that AI in healthcare could add significant value to India's GDP by 2025.

AI utilizes technologies like computer vision, audio processing, cognitive robotics, and machine learning to unlock human potential, leading to timely, accurate, and efficient solutions. It has the capacity to transform India's healthcare landscape by converting vast medical data into valuable insights, enabling the detection of complex diseases, and improving public health surveillance.

India's healthcare sector is one of the largest in terms of employment and revenue opportunities. Post the COVID-19 pandemic, the industry witnessed rapid technological advancements and increased investment in AI by medical startups. The government's allocation of funds for research and innovation-based healthcare initiatives further boosts the healthcare infrastructure.

AI plays a vital role in various aspects of healthcare, from accelerating diagnoses and treatments to managing hospitals effectively. It aids in mining medical records, designing treatment plans, predicting life-threatening diseases, and screening for conditions like cancer and diabetes. Additionally, AI facilitates drug design, aids in monitoring pregnancies and newborns, and enhances diagnostic accuracy.

The rise of AI-based solutions has created significant collaboration opportunities between government, technology companies, and healthcare providers. Initiatives like developing automated solutions for diabetic retinopathy detection, setting up AI-focused centers for rural healthcare, and using AI in tuberculosis patient care exemplify the potential of these partnerships.

India's approach to AI in healthcare has evolved from its use in radiology to early detection and diagnosis of various conditions. The government is actively testing AI applications in preventive health check-ups and database creation for disease outbreaks. The goal is to increase access, quality, and affordability of healthcare services across the country.

As AI continues to penetrate the healthcare sector, it holds the promise of a brighter, more efficient future. By combining human expertise with the power of AI, India can advance towards better healthcare outcomes, benefiting its citizens and contributing to the nation's growth.

Q145. What is the main idea of the passage?

- a) AI-based tools are revolutionizing the healthcare industry in India.
- b) India's healthcare infrastructure is improving post the COVID-19 pandemic.

- c) NITI Aayog is leading AI-based healthcare initiatives in India.
- d) AI in Indian healthcare is still at a nascent stage.

Q146. What tone does the passage convey regarding the potential of AI in Indian healthcare?

- a) Cautious optimism
- b) Doubt and skepticism
- c) Excitement and enthusiasm
- d) Pessimism and uncertainty

Q147. What can be inferred about the adoption of AI in healthcare in India post the COVID-19 pandemic?

- a) AI adoption remained stagnant due to financial constraints.
- b) AI adoption increased significantly to improve healthcare management.
- c) AI adoption declined as traditional practices were preferred.
- d) AI adoption was only limited to certain regions in India.

Q148. What can be concluded about the impact of AI-based solutions on healthcare startups in India?

- a) AI-based solutions have led to the decline of healthcare startups in India.
- b) AI-based solutions have had a negligible impact on healthcare startups in India.
- c) AI-based solutions have resulted in increased investment and growth in healthcare startups in India.
- d) AI-based solutions have only benefited established healthcare companies, not startups.

Passage 38

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

Buddhism: The Path to Enlightenment

Buddhism, a major world religion, traces its roots back to South Asia during the 5th century B.C.E. Founded by Siddhartha Gautama, known as the Buddha, this spiritual philosophy has since spread across continents, influencing countless lives.

At the heart of Buddhism lies the belief in the cycle of suffering and rebirth, also known as samsara. Buddhists seek to break free from this cycle by attaining a state of

enlightenment called nirvana. Siddhartha Gautama himself achieved this enlightened state after a profound journey of self-discovery.

Born as a prince on the border of present-day Nepal and India, Siddhartha witnessed the pain and struggles of ordinary people. Stricken by the realization of human suffering, he abandoned his privileged life and embarked on a quest to find the truth. After experimenting with extremes, he discovered "the Middle Way," advocating a balanced life that steers away from both asceticism and excessive materialism. Finally, beneath the Bodhi tree, he attained enlightenment through deep meditation.

The Buddha's teachings revolve around the Four Noble Truths, which form the foundation of Buddhism. The first truth acknowledges the universal presence of suffering, while the second truth attributes suffering to desire. The third truth offers hope, proclaiming the possibility of ending suffering and achieving enlightenment. The fourth truth outlines the path, known as the Middle Way, to attain liberation.

Central to Buddhist beliefs is the concept of karma, which governs the cycle of rebirth. A person's actions, whether good or bad, influence their future existence and determine the quality of their life.

Buddhism has branched into three main schools, each with its own emphasis and geographical influence. Mahayana Buddhism, prevalent in China, Taiwan, Japan, and South Korea, reveres bodhisattvas as role models who return to guide others. Theravada Buddhism, practiced in Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Thailand, Laos, and Burma, advocates a monastic lifestyle and meditation to reach enlightenment. Vajrayana Buddhism, dominant in Tibet, Nepal, Bhutan, and Mongolia, offers a swifter path to enlightenment.

The Tibetan school of Buddhism, led by the Dalai Lama, holds a significant place in Buddhist history. The current Dalai Lama, the 14th reincarnation, escaped from China-controlled Tibet to India in 1959. Since then, he and many Tibetan Buddhists have resisted Chinese control, preserving their religious identity.

As the Dalai Lama contemplates the prospect of his next reincarnation, Buddhism continues to thrive, inspiring millions worldwide on their quest for inner peace and enlightenment.

Q149. According to the passage, what can be inferred about the concept of karma in Buddhism?

- a) Karma only affects a person's current life, not future lives.
- b) Good karma always leads to a life of luxury and abundance.

- c) Karma determines the quality of a person's future existence.
- d) Karma has no impact on a person's life whatsoever.

Q150. What is the central idea of the passage?

- a) The history and life of Siddhartha Gautama, the founder of Buddhism.
- b) The influence of Buddhism across different countries and regions.
- c) The teachings of the Four Noble Truths and the Middle Way in Buddhism.
- d) The significance of the Dalai Lama in Tibetan Buddhism.

Q151. Which of the following is a fundamental belief in Buddhism?

- a) Reincarnation as a Bodhisattva
- b) Embracing excessive materialism for enlightenment
- c) The pursuit of happiness through asceticism
- d) Liberation from suffering through attaining nirvana

Q152. Which tone best describes the overall attitude of the passage towards Buddhism?

- a) Enthusiastic
- b) Objective
- c) Dismissive
- d) Fearful

Passage 39

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

Global Growth and Inflation: Projections and Risks

The outlook for global growth remains modest, with a projected fall from 3.5 percent in 2022 to 3.0 percent in both 2023 and 2024. While the 2023 forecast is slightly higher than previously estimated in the April 2023 World Economic Outlook (WEO), it remains weak when compared to historical standards. The rise in central bank policy rates to combat inflation continues to exert pressure on economic activity. Global headline inflation is expected to decrease from 8.7 percent in 2022 to 6.8 percent in 2023 and 5.2 percent in 2024. However, **underlying (core) inflation** is anticipated to decline more gradually, and inflation forecasts for 2024 have been revised upward.

Despite the recent resolution of the US debt ceiling standoff and measures taken to contain turbulence in US and Swiss banking earlier this year, potential risks to the global financial sector persist. The adverse risks to the economic outlook have been moderated, but the balance still tilts towards the downside. Inflation could remain elevated or even rise further in the event of additional shocks, such as an escalation of the conflict in Ukraine or extreme weather-related incidents, leading to more restrictive monetary policies. The financial sector may experience renewed turbulence as markets adjust to further tightening of central bank policies. China's recovery may slow, partly due to unresolved real estate issues, and this could have negative cross-border spillover effects. There is also a possibility of sovereign debt distress spreading to a broader group of economies. On the positive side, inflation may decline faster than anticipated, reducing the need for stringent monetary policies, and domestic demand could prove to be more resilient.

Most economies continue to prioritize achieving sustained disinflation while ensuring financial stability. Central banks are advised to focus on restoring price stability and enhancing financial supervision and risk monitoring. In the event of market strains, countries should promptly provide liquidity while being mindful of potential moral hazards. Fiscal buffers should be built, and fiscal adjustments should be targeted to offer support to the most vulnerable. Improving the supply side of economies would facilitate fiscal consolidation and lead to a smoother decline in inflation towards target levels.

Q153. In the passage, what does "underlying (core) inflation" refer to?

- a) The primary reason behind global inflation
- b) The inflation rate predicted for 2024
- c) Inflation that arises from core economic activities
- d) Inflation projected to decline gradually over time

Q154. Based on the passage, which scenario poses a risk to global inflation?

- a) Sustained disinflation in most economies
- b) Faster-than-expected decline in inflation
- c) Strengthening of financial supervision and risk monitoring
- d) Increase in central bank policy rates to fight inflation

Q155. What is the primary purpose of the passage?

- a) To analyze the causes of global economic growth

- b) To present projections for global inflation rates
- c) To discuss potential risks to the global economic outlook
- d) To compare different central bank policies across countries

Q156. How does the passage describe the recent actions taken to address financial sector turmoil?

- a) As ineffective and misguided
- b) As partially successful but insufficient
- c) As successful in reducing immediate risks
- d) As uncertain and risky

Passage 40

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

Sustainability has emerged as a crucial aspect for businesses, driven by government investments and increasing customer demands for eco-friendly products. Companies are transitioning towards a green market revolution, with a focus on environmental sustainability, technology, supply chain emissions, climate risk, and professional services.

In 2023, sustainability trends are predicted to go beyond eco-friendliness, encompassing measures to improve the working environment, supply chain emissions, employee well-being, and ethical reporting. Consumers are becoming more conscious of the impact of climate change, prompting brands to take action and reduce their carbon footprint.

As collective awareness grows, businesses are integrating innovative approaches to address climate change. Stakeholders and customers are demanding transparency in sustainability reporting, holding companies accountable for their carbon emissions. A new carbon accounting standard is being adopted to bring clarity to scope 3 reporting and foster transparency across industries.

Leading brands such as IKEA and Prada are embracing sustainability metrics like the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standard to align sustainability with everyday business operations. Industries are also prioritizing occupational health and safety, committing to improving working environments and supply chain operations.

Online sales during the pandemic led to a rise in carbon emissions due to increased delivery vehicle usage. To combat this, industry leaders are exploring environmentally friendly delivery methods, making it a significant sustainability trend in 2023.

Cloud technology and AI are playing vital roles in fueling a sustainable future. AI is being used to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and aid in precision agriculture, weather prediction, and disaster response. Cloud computing, like Amazon Web Services (AWS), is enabling companies to meet sustainability goals by optimizing workloads and reducing energy consumption.

Packaging waste has become a major concern, with e-commerce return rates contributing to an all-time high. Brands are focusing on cutting down packaging waste as a top priority in 2023.

Overall, sustainability is not only becoming a business opportunity but also a customer obsession enabler, transforming industries towards a greener and more sustainable future.

Q157. What is the primary reason for businesses prioritizing sustainability?

- a) To attract more customers
- b) To comply with government regulations
- c) To reduce their carbon footprint and combat climate change
- d) To adopt innovative technology and AI in their operations

Q158. In the passage, what does "scope 3 reporting" refer to?

- a) Reporting on employee well-being
- b) Reporting on occupational health and safety
- c) Reporting on supply chain emissions
- d) Reporting on financial sustainability

Q159. How does AI contribute to sustainability efforts, according to the passage?

- a) AI helps optimize cloud computing workloads
- b) AI improves weather and disaster prediction
- c) AI reduces greenhouse gas emissions
- d) AI enables cloud providers to design sustainable workloads

Q160. What is the main theme conveyed in the passage?

- a) The importance of cloud computing and AI in sustainability efforts
 - b) The rise of eco-friendly products and practices in the business world
 - c) The challenges faced by industries in achieving sustainability goals
 - d) The growing demand for transparency in sustainability reporting
-

Passage 41**Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow**

In the fast-evolving world of work, the traditional notions of the workplace are being challenged by shifting work preferences. Some workplace traditionalists argue that these new work preferences might change in the face of economic downturns, but it is crucial not to underestimate the seeds of change that have been sown over the past three years. HR leaders and senior executives would be remiss if they fail to recognize the changing work trends and strategically leverage technology to adapt to the evolving landscape as we move into the new year.

In recent times, employees have had to juggle family responsibilities, community obligations, health concerns, and financial challenges, among others. The pandemic-induced stay-at-home orders shed light on the benefits of reducing or omitting the daily commute. Many individuals suddenly found themselves with more breathing room in their crowded schedules and were able to accomplish more in a day. It would be impractical to assume that employees or potential recruits would willingly give up this newfound gift of time. Even as economic conditions change, the demand for flexibility is expected to remain high.

Moreover, the workplace landscape is also witnessing a surge in concerns regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) and fair pay. Movements advocating for these values have directed the spotlight towards company culture and values. Companies are being called upon to improve their hiring tactics to create a more diverse workforce, and there is a growing demand for transparency in compensation to bridge disparities across socioeconomic groups. These movements, coupled with the desire for flexibility, are shaping the future of work and influencing how people connect with their workplaces.

Organizations that incorporate these changes proactively can position themselves well and gain a competitive edge in talent recruitment and retention. On the other hand,

failing to meet these evolving demands could prove to be a misstep, creating a rigid framework that may be difficult to change in the future.

HR leaders find themselves grappling with an array of challenges in the current landscape. Their roles have become even more complex in the wake of the pandemic, with some HR leaders handling system challenges and employee concerns on a day-by-day basis. To navigate these challenges effectively, HR leaders need to streamline their operations and optimize their time.

This is where technology comes into play. Leveraging technology can assist HR leaders in handling employee requests for programs like Employee Assistance Programs (EAP) or Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

Q161. How does the passage generally describe the changing work preferences?

- a) Exciting and revolutionary
- b) Neutral and cautious
- c) Positive and optimistic
- d) Negative and sceptical

Q162. What does the phrase "seeds of change" represent in the passage?

- a) The potential for new opportunities in the workplace
- b) The early stages of a transformation in work preferences
- c) The desire for flexibility among employees
- d) The impact of economic downturns on work trends

Q163. Based on the passage, what is the likely reason for the demand for flexibility in the workplace?

- a) To attract more employees to join the company
- b) To reduce the need for office space and overhead costs
- c) To allow employees to better manage their personal responsibilities and time
- d) To comply with government regulations regarding work hours

Q164. According to the passage, what factors are influencing the spotlight towards company values and culture in the workplace?

- a) The demand for higher salaries and bonuses
- b) The desire for more remote work opportunities
- c) Concerns regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), fair pay, and other

movements

d) The need for advanced technological tools in the workplace

Passage 42

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow

"The Enigma of Elysium" is an enthralling fantasy adventure novel that transports readers to a magical realm of mystery and wonder. Written by the acclaimed author, Emily Williams, this book takes readers on an extraordinary journey filled with breathtaking landscapes, intricate puzzles, and unforgettable characters.

The story follows the protagonist, Amelia, a young and curious girl living in the quaint village of Greenford. Amelia's life takes an unexpected turn when she discovers an ancient map hidden in her family's ancestral attic. The map leads to the mythical land of Elysium, a realm rumored to hold the secrets of eternal youth and boundless knowledge.

Determined to uncover the truth about Elysium and the map's origins, Amelia embarks on a perilous quest. With the help of her loyal friends, the brave but mischievous twin brothers, Max and Oliver, and her wise and eccentric uncle, Professor Samuel Bennett, Amelia sets out on a journey that will challenge her beliefs and test her courage.

As they traverse through enchanted forests, treacherous mountains, and mystical caves, the group encounters a series of riddles and obstacles guarding the secrets of Elysium. Each puzzle they solve brings them one step closer to unlocking the gateway to the fabled realm.

In their quest, Amelia and her friends encounter mythical creatures, including talking animals, mischievous fairies, and majestic dragons. They learn about the ancient lore of Elysium, where time stands still, and dreams can become reality. The wonders of the magical land captivate their imaginations, while the danger lurking in its shadows tests their unity and resilience.

As the mysteries of Elysium slowly unravel, Amelia discovers the true purpose of the map and its connection to her family's legacy. She also unravels her own hidden potential and the courage to confront her deepest fears.

Throughout the adventure, Amelia grapples with moral dilemmas and confronts the darker side of human desires. The lure of eternal youth and boundless knowledge tempts some members of the group, leading to conflicts and soul-searching moments.

"The Enigma of Elysium" weaves together themes of friendship, bravery, self-discovery, and the power of dreams. It explores the price of curiosity and the importance of cherishing the present while embracing the uncertainty of the future.

Emily Williams's masterful storytelling transports readers into an enchanting world, capturing their hearts and imaginations. As the story unfolds, readers will be immersed in the rich tapestry of Elysium, and they will find themselves pondering the profound questions raised by the novel's themes.

Q165. What is the main idea and central theme of "The Enigma of Elysium"?

- a) The story follows the protagonist, Amelia, on a perilous quest to uncover the secrets of the mythical land of Elysium.
- b) "The Enigma of Elysium" is an enthralling fantasy adventure novel written by Emily Williams.
- c) The novel explores themes of friendship, bravery, self-discovery, and the power of dreams.
- d) Amelia and her friends encounter mythical creatures and solve puzzles in their journey through Elysium.

Q166. What can be inferred about the mythical land of Elysium from the passage?

- a) Elysium is a dangerous realm with treacherous mountains and mystical caves.
- b) The map discovered by Amelia in the attic leads to the mythical land of Elysium.
- c) Elysium holds the secrets of eternal youth and boundless knowledge.
- d) The journey to Elysium challenges Amelia's beliefs and tests her courage.

Q167. What is the overall tone of the passage?

- a) Exciting and adventurous
- b) Dark and mysterious
- c) Humorous and lighthearted
- d) Melancholic and reflective

Q168. Which aspect of the novel raises moral dilemmas for the characters?

- a) The discovery of an ancient map in the family's attic.
- b) The encounters with mythical creatures and majestic dragons.
- c) The power and allure of eternal youth and boundless knowledge.
- d) The journey through enchanted forests and mystical caves.

Passage 43

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

The debate between literal translation and free translation has been ongoing for centuries, and it continues to be a contentious issue in the world of translation. Supporters of literal translation argue that it preserves the original rhetoric and exotic style of the text, while free translation only conveys the basic concept, losing the vibrant rhetoric. On the other hand, advocates of free translation believe it to be the only feasible method, considering translation as an art form. Both sides have passionate supporters, and the discussion remains inconclusive.

In a free translation environment, the scope is broad, encompassing semantics within context or even just context alone. When the source material contains registers not found in the target language, translators seek to find the closest culturally equivalent context. However, this doesn't mean that translation in smaller areas is non-existent; it rather suggests that translations in more limited contexts can be automated. Automatization refers to language functioning in an automatic way, expressing meanings without drawing attention to their own patterns. Words are translated as realisations of meanings, and sounds as interpretations of words, resulting in relatively literal translations within narrower environments.

Yet, certain translation situations require de-automatization. De-automatization refers to the partial freeing of lower-level systems from semantic control, allowing them to become domains of choice on their own. This leads to a more conscious selection of grammatical choices. The same poem translated in three different editions exemplifies the varying degrees of de-automatization. None of the translations can be strictly labelled as "literal," as all of them build their poetic features through de-automatization. Translation (1) relies more on original lexical and clausal structures, making it the most "literal" among the three, though it still doesn't qualify as a literal translation. Translation (3), on the other hand, adopts a larger context and centers on the image itself, making it the "freest" translation. Translation (2) lies in between (1) and (3) in terms of the degree of de-automatization.

In essence, translators can focus on the original material's phrasing and attempt to interpret wording patterns at the lexical grammar level. The more "literal" the lexicogrammatical rendering, the lower its position in the stratification order. The question of translation in relation to the stratification order primarily involves deciding what to maintain consistently and what to allow to change. As the rank goes upward, the translation becomes "freer."

Q169. What is the main focus of the passage?

- a) The history of translation techniques
- b) The debate between literal and free translation
- c) The art of poetic translation
- d) The impact of technology on translation

Q170. How are the views of those advocating literal translation portrayed in the passage?

- a) As reasonable and logical
- b) As passionate and persuasive
- c) As outdated and irrelevant
- d) As innovative and artistic

Q171. Based on the passage, what might be a consequence of extensive de-automatization in translation?

- a) Greater fidelity to the original text
- b) Improved efficiency in translation
- c) Reduced creative freedom for the translator
- d) Simplified interpretation of imagery

Q172. Which approach to translation is likely to preserve the original rhetoric and exotic style of the text?

- a) Literal translation
- b) Free translation
- c) Automated translation
- d) Hybrid translation

Passage 44

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

As the Women Deliver 2023 Conference brings together around 200,000 attendees, both virtually and in-person, it marks the largest global gathering focused on addressing issues that affect girls and women worldwide. To gain deeper insights into the multifaceted subject of gender, we sought the perspectives of three inspirational leaders who approach the topic from diverse backgrounds and viewpoints. Each of these

leaders provided their personal take on women's health, economic power, and the surprising connections between the two.

A resounding message echoed from all three experts: Women's access to comprehensive healthcare is a key driver of their economic empowerment. Conversely, when women hold economic power, it unlocks not only benefits for themselves but also for their families and communities at large.

The relationship between women's health and their participation in the labour force is profoundly interconnected. Healthy women are less likely to miss work due to sickness, which increases their productivity and contribution to the economy.

The scope of health goes beyond mere medical care—it extends to preventive measures and early detection of health conditions. For instance, screenings for cervical cancer and other preventive care interventions have economic implications, as they enable early detection and treatment, freeing up resources for individuals, families, and communities. Similarly, addressing social issues such as child marriage, domestic violence, and female genital mutilation is not solely about women's rights but also about economic growth. Improving women's reproductive health leads to stronger contributions to the economy and positively impacts the gross domestic product (GDP) at both micro and macroeconomic levels.

On the other hand, economic empowerment has a profound impact on women's health outcomes. When women face financial struggles and lack economic power, they are more susceptible to chronic health conditions. The stress and strain of financial hardship can take a toll on mental and physical well-being, underscoring the inextricable link between financial stability and health.

This interdependence between women's health and economic empowerment emphasises the importance of adopting a holistic approach to women's well-being. The holistic perspective recognizes that the well-being of women extends beyond individual aspects of health and includes access to opportunities, resources, and support networks. Empowering women economically not only improves their lives but also uplifts entire communities and fosters sustainable development.

Q173. What is the central theme of the passage?

- a) Women's participation in the labour force
- b) The importance of women's health and economic empowerment
- c) Preventive care for women's health
- d) The Women Deliver 2023 Conference

Q174. What can be inferred from the passage?

- a) Women with economic power are less likely to face health issues.
- b) Economic empowerment alone is sufficient for women's well-being.
- c) Access to healthcare has no impact on women's economic status.
- d) The Women Deliver 2023 Conference focuses solely on women's health.

Q175. What conclusion can be drawn from the passage?

- a) The Women Deliver 2023 Conference is not effective in addressing women's issues.
- b) Women's health and economic power have no correlation.
- c) Access to healthcare positively impacts women's economic participation.
- d) The importance of women's health is secondary to economic empowerment.

Q176. What tone does the author adopt in the passage?

- a) Optimistic and encouraging
- b) Neutral and informative
- c) Dismissive and critical
- d) Melancholic and nostalgic

Passage 45

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

The trends shaping the landscape in 2023 can be categorised into three groups: external trends, internal trends within organisations, and a combination of both. Many of these trends intersect and have mutual influences. While movements like Black Lives Matter (BLM) made a significant impact in 2020 and 2021, the world is gradually returning to pre-pandemic norms, leading to the rise of new campaigns that could gain prominence. The emergence of the so-called 'anti-woke' movement, which opposes the current focus on racial and social justice issues, may transform into broader resistance against Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) efforts.

Amidst scepticism regarding companies merely going through the motions of D&I, two ongoing trends are gaining traction: shareholder activism and changes in procurement priorities. Shareholder activism has long compelled companies to intensify their focus on D&I, and this trend is likely to persist in 2023, as investors demand more substantial

progress. Shareholders now seek not just information about D&I programs and intentions but also tangible evidence of implemented changes. For many firms, D&I has become an integral part of the environmental, social, and governance (ESG) agenda, and it is increasingly driven from the ESG framework. Consequently, social value is anticipated to gain greater relevance in 2023. Stakeholders will be keen to learn how major organisations foster D&I through their work and projects, particularly at the local level. This could include creating job opportunities for ethnic minorities or women and addressing mental health and well-being in government projects. Although social value efforts have been predominantly focused on the public sector, they are gradually extending to the private sector as well.

Moreover, organisations are adopting broader definitions of diversity, encompassing areas such as neurodiversity, cognitive diversity, social mobility, and socio-economic diversity. Employers are likely to face challenges from stakeholders to demonstrate that their considerations extend beyond a limited set of protected characteristics.

Overall, the trends shaping 2023 reveal a complex and dynamic landscape where issues of diversity, inclusion, and social value are gaining prominence. Organisations are under increased pressure to not only talk about D&I but also to take concrete actions and demonstrate tangible progress in their pursuit of a more inclusive and equitable future. As businesses continue to evolve and respond to these trends, they must navigate the complexities of social, economic, and cultural factors to foster a truly diverse and inclusive environment.

Q177. What can be inferred from the passage regarding the "anti-woke" movement?

- a) It is supported by organisations advocating social justice.
- b) It is a direct response to the Black Lives Matter movement.
- c) It may oppose Diversity and Inclusion efforts beyond racial issues.
- d) It is expected to gain prominence in the public sector.

Q178. Which phrase in the passage best reflects a neutral tone?

- a) "The emergence of the so-called 'anti-woke' movement"
- b) "The world continues reverting to pre-pandemic norms"
- c) "Amidst scepticism regarding companies going through the motions"
- d) "Stakeholders will be keen to learn how major organisations foster D&I"

Q179. What is the primary purpose of the passage?

- a) To persuade readers to support Diversity and Inclusion efforts.
- b) To inform readers about emerging trends in 2023.
- c) To criticize companies' lack of progress in D&I initiatives.
- d) To promote social value initiatives in major organizations.

Q180. In the passage, what does the word "tangible" most likely mean?

- a) Clear and evident
- b) Physical and touchable
- c) Concrete and measurable
- d) Emotional and heartfelt

Passage 46

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

India's automotive industry is on a trajectory to become the world's third-largest market by 2030, showcasing its dominance in the global heavy vehicles arena. This industry plays a significant role in India's GDP and manufacturing sector, making the nation emerge as a leader in electric vehicle (EV) adoption.

Production & Market Share: Between April 2021 and March 2022, India manufactured a total of 22.93 million vehicles across various categories, including passenger vehicles, commercial vehicles, three-wheelers, two-wheelers, and quadricycles.

Electric Vehicle Growth & Job Creation: The EV market is projected to grow at a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 49% between 2022 and 2030, with annual sales expected to reach 10 million units by 2030. This booming EV industry is estimated to create 50 million direct and indirect jobs by 2030. Additionally, a market size of \$50 billion has been identified for EV financing in 2030, equivalent to 80% of the current size of India's retail vehicle finance industry, which is worth \$60 billion today.

Sales Performance & Growth: Passenger vehicle sales achieved a record high of 2,504,084 units in FY 2022-23 as of November 2022. The industry is predicted to witness a growth of 16% in FY23. Furthermore, India's trucking market is expected to

grow more than four-fold by 2050, with the number of trucks increasing from 4 million in 2022 to approximately 17 million by 2050.

Shifting Customer Preferences: A noticeable shift in customer preferences is evident as they gravitate towards larger and more powerful vehicles across all segments. In FY22, utility vehicles (UVs) among passenger vehicles (PVs) accounted for 49% of sales, up from 39% in FY21. Similarly, medium & heavy commercial vehicles (M&HCVs) among commercial vehicles (CVs) also increased, constituting 33% of sales in FY22 compared to 28% in FY21.

Industry Growth Projections: India's \$222 billion automotive industry is anticipated to reach \$300 billion by 2026. Two-wheelers and passenger cars dominate the market, accounting for 76% and 17.4% of the market share, respectively. Small and mid-sized cars lead passenger car sales.

Export Growth: Exports of automobiles have witnessed a positive growth of 35.9%, increasing from 4,134,047 in 2020-21 to 5,617,246 in 2021-22. India aims to double its auto industry size to INR 15 lakh crore by the end of 2024.

Q181. What is the main idea of the passage?

- a) India's automotive industry is poised to become the world's third-largest market by 2030.
- b) India's automotive industry is facing challenges due to the pandemic.
- c) India's automotive industry is the largest in the world.
- d) India's automotive industry is solely focused on electric vehicles.

Q182. What can be inferred about the electric vehicle (EV) market in India?

- a) The EV market is expected to decline in the coming years.
- b) The EV market will create more job opportunities than any other sector.
- c) The EV market is currently stagnant and not showing any growth.
- d) The EV market is expected to grow rapidly, creating 50 million direct and indirect jobs by 2030.

Q183. What tone is reflected in the passage regarding India's automotive industry?

- a) Critical
- b) Optimistic

- c) Pessimistic
- d) Indifferent

Q184. How is the automotive industry contributing to India's GDP?

- a) By focusing on the export of automobiles
 - b) By being the largest tractor manufacturer in the world
 - c) By accounting for 49% of India's manufacturing GDP
 - d) By producing the highest number of passenger vehicles in the world
-

Passage 47

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

Once upon a time, nestled at the edge of a quaint little village, there lay an ancient forest known as the Enchanted Forest. As the morning mist gently caressed the towering trees, the villagers whispered tales of magic and wonder that emanated from within its depths. Among these villagers was a young girl named Lily, who possessed an insatiable curiosity that led her to venture into the forest one fateful day.

With each step she took, the forest seemed to come alive. Rays of sunlight filtered through the leaves, painting the forest floor with dappled patterns. The air was filled with the melody of birdsong and the soft rustle of leaves. As Lily wandered deeper into the forest, she encountered an array of mystical creatures - from mischievous fairies to wise old tree spirits.

Soon, she stumbled upon a shimmering pond, its surface reflecting the heavens above. At the center of the pond stood a majestic white swan, its plumage glinting in the sunlight. Mesmerized, Lily approached the swan with caution. To her surprise, the swan spoke with a voice as soothing as a gentle breeze. It revealed itself to be a guardian of the forest, protecting its magical secrets.

Grateful for Lily's genuine curiosity and kind heart, the swan offered her a gift - a magical amulet that granted the power to see the world through the eyes of the forest's creatures. With this amulet, Lily could now communicate with the animals and understand their unique perspectives. Excited by the newfound ability, she embraced her role as a protector of the Enchanted Forest.

As days turned into weeks, Lily formed deep bonds with the forest's inhabitants. The fairies shared their secrets of creating moonlit pathways and iridescent flowers. The tree spirits imparted wisdom passed down through centuries, reminding her of the

importance of balance and harmony in nature. In return, Lily taught them about the world beyond the forest and the wonders of the human realm.

One evening, as the sun dipped below the horizon, an ominous darkness began to spread across the forest. It was a force that threatened to consume the enchantment that had thrived for eons. Worried about her newfound friends and the magical place she had come to love, Lily decided to confront the source of the darkness.

Q185. What is the main theme of the passage?

- a) The power of human kindness and compassion in preserving nature.
- b) The journey of a young girl through a magical forest.
- c) The journey of a young girl through a magical forest.
- d) The conflict between humans and mystical creatures.

Q186. What does the ancient tree in the Enchanted Forest symbolize?

- a) The source of magical powers in the forest.
- b) The interconnectedness between humans and nature.
- c) The hidden wisdom of mystical creatures.
- d) The guardian of the Enchanted Forest.

Q187. What can be inferred about Lily's character from the passage?

- a) Lily is a mischievous girl who enjoys exploring new places.
- b) Lily is a brave and compassionate young girl.
- c) Lily is a sceptical and disbelieving individual.
- d) Lily is an introverted and shy person.

Q188. What is the logical corollary of Lily's selfless act of compassion towards the ancient tree?

- a) Lily becomes the ruler of the Enchanted Forest.
- b) The Enchanted Forest loses its magic forever.
- c) The villagers regard Lily as a guardian of the forest.
- d) The mystical creatures banish Lily from the forest.

Passage 48

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

In the early stages of his writing career, when the narrator was a struggling freelance writer in his early twenties, he rented two small rooms above a shop in Dehradun with the hopes of making a fortune as an author. Although the rooms lacked electricity due to unpaid bills by the shop owner, this did not deter him. The relatively mild climate of Dehradun made the absence of a ceiling fan bearable, and he saw an oil lamp as a quaint and romantic alternative for illumination. In his mind, the great authors of the past had composed their masterpieces under the soft glow of a solitary lamp, and he found solace in the thought of following in their footsteps.

Evenings became a ritual of creativity as he would take his meals at a nearby dhaba and then return to his rooms to light the lamp and embark on his writing endeavors. The warm, flickering light of the lamp created a soothing atmosphere, and he soon grew fond of the shadows it cast on the walls. He likened the experience to the legendary writers who had sought inspiration in similar circumstances.

One night, while fully engrossed in his writing, he noticed something peculiar—a shadow on the wall beside his own. It was the shadow of a woman as if someone was standing behind him, peering over his shoulder, reading his words as he wrote them. The sensation of being watched while writing was unsettling, as he preferred to work without distraction or intrusion. Nonetheless, he was not frightened; instead, he felt an inexplicable sense of unease. He turned around to see who was there, but to his surprise, there was no one in the room. The shadow had vanished as mysteriously as it had appeared.

In the subsequent days, he noticed the shadow returning intermittently, always accompanied by a unique fragrance in the air—sometimes the sweet scent of attar of roses, and other times the pungent smell of crushed marigolds. The presence seemed to be that of a feminine figure, adding to the intrigue and curiosity. As a writer, he cherished the idea of having a reader for his work, even if she was a spectral one.

Despite the initial strangeness of the situation, the writer grew accustomed to the enigmatic reader. However, he made a conscious effort to ignore her presence and continue his writing undisturbed. Yet, the visitor seemed determined to assert herself, using various means to make her presence known. The writer found his manuscript scattered across the floor on one occasion, and on another, he was awoken in the middle of the night by blood-curdling shrieks that seemed to echo within the room.

These shrieks ceased only when the lamp was lit, and the shadows danced on the walls.

Q189. Which of the following best describes the central idea of the passage?

- a) The narrator's struggle to become a successful freelance writer.
- b) The mysterious presence of a spectral reader influences the writer's work.
- c) The writer's fascination with the soft glow of a solitary oil lamp.
- d) The writer's preference for writing during the day rather than at night.

Q190. What tone does the narrator use to describe his experience with the spectral reader?

- a) Happy and content
- b) Fearful and apprehensive
- c) Enthusiastic and energetic
- d) Indifferent and nonchalant

Q191. Based on the passage, what can be inferred about the narrator's reaction to the spectral reader?

- a) The narrator finds the presence of the spectral reader comforting.
- b) The narrator believes the spectral reader is a figment of his imagination.
- c) The narrator is indifferent to the presence of the spectral reader.
- d) The narrator is both fascinated and unsettled by the spectral reader.

Q192. What is a logical prediction that can be made based on the passage?

- a) The spectral reader will eventually reveal her identity to the narrator.
- b) The narrator will move to a different location to avoid the spectral reader.
- c) The spectral reader's presence will continue to influence the writer's work.
- d) The narrator will completely dismiss the idea of a spectral reader.

Passage 49

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

Historically, the primary arboviral encephalitis found in Minnesota have been La Crosse encephalitis, Western equine encephalitis (WEE), and West Nile virus (WNV) encephalitis, but in recent years other viruses like Jamestown Canyon have emerged as

significant causes of disease. While WNV and WEE are maintained in mosquito-to-bird transmission cycles involving several different species of each, La Crosse and Jamestown Canyon viruses use mammals instead of birds as part of their transmission cycles. WNV is established throughout Minnesota, and will probably be present in the state to some extent every year, whereas human cases of other diseases may occur more sporadically. Interpreting the effect of weather on arboviral transmission is complex, making it difficult to predict the number of people who will become infected in any given year. While mosquito-borne disease is not as common in Minnesota as it is in tropical climates, there are several diseases that may occur within the state. Minnesota residents who travel to other countries can also return with tropical diseases such as malaria or dengue.

Mosquitoes, the diminutive vectors of lethal pathogens, have emerged as formidable adversaries in their quest for blood sustenance. Their ability to transmit devastating diseases, such as malaria, dengue fever, Zika virus, and chikungunya, poses a considerable threat to human existence. These resilient ectoparasites employ specialized sensory organs, like maxillary palps and proboscis, to detect their human hosts through chemical cues, body heat, and even breath-borne compounds. Their finely tuned olfactory system navigates through dense environments to identify vulnerable victims. The sinister synergy between mosquitoes and pathogenic microorganisms reveals the intricate complexities of disease transmission. Anopheles, Aedes, and Culex, among other genera, harbor and amplify deadly parasites and viruses, subsequently injecting them into unsuspecting humans during blood meals. The sporogonic development of parasites within mosquitoes, especially Plasmodium species, exemplifies the delicately orchestrated life cycle that culminates in fatal consequences for the human host.

Novel strategies for combating mosquito-borne illnesses involve gene editing techniques, such as CRISPR/Cas9, targeting essential genes responsible for pathogen transmission. Additionally, innovative mosquito control methods, like sterile insect technique and genetically modified mosquitoes, seek to disrupt their reproductive capabilities and diminish their population. To safeguard humanity from the onslaught of mosquito-borne diseases, a concerted global effort is imperative, combining scientific expertise, public health interventions, and community engagement.

Q193. Which of the following best represents the main idea of the passage?

- a) The emergence of new arboviral encephalitis in Minnesota and its impact on human health.
- b) The complexity of predicting arboviral transmission and its effect on human infection rates.

- c) The threat posed by mosquitoes as vectors of lethal pathogens and the need for global efforts to combat mosquito-borne diseases.
- d) The historical prevalence of arboviral encephalitis in Minnesota and its transmission cycles involving different species.

Q194. What does the expression "diminutive vectors of lethal pathogens" used in the passage imply?

- a) Mosquitoes are small in size but carry harmful disease-causing microorganisms.
- b) Mosquitoes are insignificant carriers of deadly diseases.
- c) Mosquitoes are minuscule beings that transport beneficial microorganisms.
- d) Mosquitoes are inconsequential in transmitting pathogens.

Q195. Based on the passage, what can be inferred about the impact of weather on arboviral transmission in Minnesota?

- a) Weather has a negligible effect on arboviral transmission in Minnesota.
- b) Weather is the primary determinant of the number of people infected with arboviruses in Minnesota.
- c) The effect of weather on arboviral transmission is complex and challenging to predict.
- d) Weather does not play any role in the transmission of arboviruses in Minnesota.

Q196. What tone or writing style best describes the author's approach in the passage?

- a) Alarmist and fearful of the implications of mosquito-borne diseases.
- b) Optimistic and confident about the effectiveness of gene editing techniques in combating diseases.
- c) Analytical and informative, presenting facts and complexities of the topic.
- d) Critical and dismissive of traditional mosquito control methods.

Passage 50

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

Since anthropology is one of the social sciences, of course, it is a necessity, and undoubtedly very important considering humans as social creatures cannot possibly lose interacting with each other. Studying anthropology will create tolerance and a peaceful life. Being unable to understand each other has resulted in prejudice, quarrel, brawl, and even war. Differences are often considered a threat, but when managed

properly, they could be a beauty, like a variety of colourful flowers in a garden. Things that occur in life on a small scale: in the household, between ethnic and religious groups, even among a religious group to elements of a nation, and between countries. Can anthropology solve the life problems mentioned? Certainly, anthropology has a significant contribution. It is the study of all kinds of things that have to do with human beings. At the very least, someone who has studied or learned anthropology will further acknowledge and understand that every person, ethnic group, religion, community and nation has a certain distinctive and particular character. Thus, it will promote mutual tolerance and peace.

The captivating domain of anthropology, the multifaceted study of human societies, cultures, and their evolutionary trajectories, poses an enigmatic conundrum to discerning scholars, compelling them to embark on an intellectual odyssey to unearth the intricacies that underlie human existence and unravel the underlying tapestry woven through epochs of time and space, weaving an intricate web of interconnectedness between individuals, communities, and civilizations, weaving tales of customs, traditions, rituals, and beliefs, perpetuated across generations, enmeshed within the dynamic interplay of history and geography, fostering a comprehensive understanding of the human condition, wherein the interwoven threads of biology, psychology, language, and symbolism coalesce to create the rich tapestry of cultural diversity and human complexity.

The anthropological expedition grapples with profound questions of identity, social organization, and the shared essence of humanity, attempting to decipher the essence of what it means to be human and the fascinating variations that emerge within different cultural contexts, shedding light on the patterns of migration, adaptation, and innovation that have shaped civilizations from time immemorial.

Anthropologists, in their relentless pursuit, employ an array of methodologies, ranging from ethnographic observations to archaeological excavations, from linguistic analyses to genetic studies, ceaselessly endeavouring to elucidate the mosaic of human heritage and its transformation across generations, across continents, across the spectrum of human experience. As the field of anthropology evolves, embracing interdisciplinary approaches and transcending the boundaries of academia, it sparks an introspective reflection on the human condition, prompting us to ponder our place in the grand tapestry of existence, fostering empathy and appreciation for the multitude of cultural expressions that enrich our collective human story, and forging paths towards a harmonious coexistence amidst the splendid diversity that adorns the human race.

Q197. What is the main idea that the author conveys through the passage?

- a) Anthropology is a captivating and multifaceted study of human societies and cultures, unravelling the complexities of human existence.
- b) Anthropology promotes mutual tolerance and peace by studying the distinctive characteristics of different ethnic groups and communities.
- c) The study of anthropology is necessary for humans to understand each other and foster a peaceful coexistence.
- d) Anthropologists employ various methodologies to study human heritage and its transformation across generations and continents.

Q198. In the passage, what does the expression "a variety of colourful flowers in a garden" signify?

- a) The beauty of diversity when differences are managed properly.
- b) The threat posed by differences among people and nations.
- c) The need for mutual understanding to overcome prejudice and quarrel.
- d) The complexity of human existence and cultural expressions.

Q199. Based on the passage, what can be concluded about the significance of anthropology in promoting mutual tolerance and peace?

- a) Anthropology's significance in promoting mutual tolerance and peace is limited to studying differences among people and nations.
- b) Anthropology plays a minor role in promoting mutual tolerance and peace due to its focus on cultural expressions.
- c) Anthropology has a significant role in promoting mutual tolerance and peace by studying the distinctive characteristics of different groups.
- d) Anthropology's role in promoting mutual tolerance and peace is uncertain and not clearly emphasized in the passage.

Q200. What tone or writing style best describes the author's approach in the passage?

- a) Analytical and academic, presenting research findings and data.
- b) Reflective and introspective, encouraging contemplation on human existence.
- c) Persuasive and advocating the importance of studying anthropology.
- d) Detached and indifferent, discussing anthropology as an abstract concept.

CLAT ANSWER KEY

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
a	c	b	c	b	b	d	d	c	b
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
b	c	a	c	a	b	b	b	a	d
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
d	a	c	b	c	b	c	a	a	a
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
b	b	b	d	a	a	a	c	c	c
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
a	b	c	b	c	d	c	c	c	c
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
b	b	a	b	c	d	a	b	a	c
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
a	a	b	d	b	a	b	b	b	b
71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
a	b	b	c	d	c	c	b	b	b
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
d	b	b	b	b	b	b	c	c	d
91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
b	b	c	d	b	b	b	c	c	b
101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110
a	c	c	c	c	b	c	a	a	c
111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120
c	d	b	a	b	d	c	c	a	a
121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130

c	b	c	b	b	d	c	b	c	b
131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140
d	b	b	c	c	c	d	b	c	c
141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150
b	b	b	b	a	c	b	c	c	c
151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160
d	b	d	d	c	c	c	c	c	b
161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170
b	b	c	c	c	c	a	c	b	b
171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180
c	a	b	a	c	a	c	b	b	c
181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190
a	d	b	c	a	b	b	c	b	b
191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200
d	c	c	a	c	c	a	a	c	b

SOLUTIONS

1-a

The first part of the passage is about evolution and the second part of the passage is about its relation with the genetic code. Every other description revolves around this main purpose of the author. Option (a) is the correct answer.

Survival of the fittest, fossil fuels and the need for evolution are discussed as supporting concepts. Hence, other are incorrect. Only option (a) is correct.

2-c

It is directly mentioned in the passage that amphibians have evolved from fish. Amphibians are vertebrates that can live on land and water both. Frogs, toads and crocodiles are examples. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

3-b

Old rocks, fossils of ancient living beings and common ancestors are not evidence of evolution in themselves but the information derived from them through DNA mapping gives vital information about evolution. Based on this reason, (a), (c) and (d) can be discarded.

Therefore, option (b) is the correct answer. It can be found in the last part of the passage where the author has discussed the importance of DNA.

4-c

The author has discussed the history and implications of evolution in the first two paragraphs but in the last paragraph, he has given a scientific account of the evolution. So, yes, there is diversion in the text but it is necessary to understand the concept of evolution in better terms. Therefore, option (c) is the best answer.

5-b

"Ensnared" means to be caught or trapped in a complex or difficult situation. In this context, it refers to the Indo-Russian alliance being trapped or entangled in idealized and unattainable fantasies.

Reason for incorrect

- a) "Trapped or caught" is similar in meaning to "ensnared" but doesn't capture the sense of complexity or difficulty implied.
- c) "Enclosed or confined" does not convey the sense of being caught or trapped in a complex situation.
- d) "Constrained or restricted" does not capture the entangled nature of the situation described in the passage.

6-b

The passage mentions that discussions of the India-Russia partnership often fail to acknowledge the new realities that emerged after the collapse of the Soviet Union. This suggests that the relationship had to adapt to and face new challenges in the post-Soviet era.

Reason for incorrect

- a) The passage does not state that there was a significant decline in the relationship.
- c) While the passage highlights historical bonds, it does not explicitly state that the collapse of the Soviet Union strengthened them.
- d) The passage does not mention an increase in the involvement of scholars specifically.

7-d

The author's tone throughout the passage indicates a sense of concern regarding the current state of the Indo-Russian relationship. The author highlights the need for revitalization and pragmatic assessments, suggesting a level of worry or unease.

Reason for incorrect

- a) The passage does not convey a cynical tone, which is characterized by a mocking or distrustful attitude.
- b) The passage does not suggest an ambivalent tone, which implies uncertainty or mixed feelings.
- c) While the passage mentions the need for pragmatic assessments, it does not exclusively adopt a pragmatic tone.

8-d

The passage mentions that while views on Russia have worsened globally, India stands as an exception, with an increase in the percentage of Indians viewing Russia positively. This suggests that India's positive views of Russia have grown despite the negative trend observed in other countries.

Reason for incorrect

- a) The passage does not state that India's positive views of Russia have declined.
- b) The passage highlights India's divergence from global trends, indicating that India's views on Russia do not align with them.
- c) The passage explicitly mentions an increase in India's positive views, refuting the idea of views remaining constant over time.

9-c

In the passage, "efficacious" is used to describe social networks as an arena that is effective in fostering interactions and cultivating social bonds. The word suggests that digital enclaves are successful and productive in achieving their intended purpose.

Reason for incorrect

Option a) Unreliable: This option is incorrect because "efficacious" implies effectiveness, not unreliability.

Option b) Ineffective: This option is incorrect because "efficacious" means the opposite of ineffectiveness.

Option d) Impersonal: This option is incorrect because "efficacious" does not convey anything about impersonality. It relates to efficiency in achieving a particular purpose.

10-b

The passage states that urban youth face curtailed face-to-face social interactions due to various factors such as prolonged school hours, commuting times, and the specter of rising crime. It suggests that these constraints prompt urban youth to turn to social networking as an alternative means of socializing, implying that limited physical interaction opportunities are a significant factor in their adoption of social networking.

Reason for incorrect

Option a) Social networking has completely replaced face-to-face interactions: This option is incorrect because the passage does not suggest the complete replacement of face-to-face interactions. It mentions that physical interaction opportunities are limited.

Option c) The specter of escalating criminality has no influence on the social networking habits of urban youth: This option is incorrect because the passage explicitly states that concerns about rising crime act as a compelling factor that keeps many urban youths at home, leading them to turn to online social networks.

Option d) Prolonged scholastic commitments have no impact on the social networking habits of urban youth: This option is incorrect because the passage mentions prolonged school hours as one of the factors that restrict physical social interactions among urban youth.

11-b

The sentence employs a figure of speech known as a metaphor. It compares the virtual realm to a bustling marketplace, suggesting that it shares similar characteristics and qualities. The use of "bustling marketplace" to describe the virtual realm evokes imagery of a vibrant and active space for social interactions.

Reasons for incorrect

a) Simile: A simile is a figure of speech that uses "like" or "as" to make a comparison. However, the sentence does not use "like" or "as" to directly compare the virtual realm to a bustling marketplace, making option a) incorrect.

c) Hyperbole: Hyperbole is a figure of speech that involves exaggeration for emphasis. The sentence does not contain any exaggerated or extravagant statements, ruling out option c) as the correct answer.

d) Personification: Personification is a figure of speech in which human qualities are attributed to non-human entities. The sentence does not attribute human qualities to the virtual realm, making option d) incorrect.

12-c

The passage states that social networks have become effective platforms for social activism, enabling activists to raise awareness, mobilize volunteers, initiate actions, and raise funds for causes. This implies that social networking has played a significant role in the dissemination and growth of social activism globally.

Reason for incorrect

Option a) Social networking has no impact on social activism: This option is incorrect because the passage explicitly states the role of social networking in social activism, indicating its impact.

Option b) Social networking platforms are ineffective in raising awareness for causes: This option is incorrect because the passage highlights the effectiveness of social networking platforms in raising awareness for causes.

Option d) Social activists do not utilize social networks for their causes: This option is incorrect because the passage mentions that social activists use social networks to raise awareness, mobilize volunteers, and support their causes.

13-a

This is a motivating type of passage and is not gloomy even in parts.

- Sarcastic means mocking, which is not conveyed in the passage.
- Rebellion is also nowhere indicated in the passage.
- Didactic means 'intended for instruction'. This is clear in the selection of words made by the author like 'do not ...' or 'it is quite true' or 'I can say this to you with a bit more certainty.' It teaches us that we should follow our heart and accept death as the inevitable reality and not bother about it and make full use of the time that we have with us before we die. It also teaches us to prioritize the most important things in life.

14 -c

The author has included the concept of death to explain that the time available is limited and hence should not be wasted. It should be utilized in a fruitful way. Option (c) is correct for this logic. It is true that everyone would relate to death but it would not add value to the point the author is looking to make in the passage; hence, option (a) does not qualify as an answer. Option (b) is illogical for its hypothetical and farfetched reasoning. Option (d) is not evident in the passage so can be rejected.

15 -a

The author mentions that remembering that they will be dead soon is the most important tool for making big choices in life. They emphasize that considering death helps eliminate external expectations, pride, and fear, leaving only what truly matters. This implies that the author believes thinking about death can help prioritize what is important.

Reason for incorrect

- b) The passage clearly states that the author believes thinking about death is important and has been a useful tool in making life choices. Therefore, the author does not consider thinking about death to be a pointless exercise.
- c) The passage does not suggest that thinking about death leads to fear and anxiety. On the contrary, the author suggests that considering death helps eliminate fear and external pressures.
- d) The passage does mention the author's personal experience with a cancer diagnosis, but it goes beyond that to emphasize the importance of considering death for making life choices in general. It is not limited to people with terminal illnesses.

16 - b

The author mentions being diagnosed with cancer and later states that the doctors discovered it was a rare form of pancreatic cancer that is incurable. However the author says that they were diagnosed with cancer about one year before and told they had just three to six months to live. But the author is still alive and hoping to live at least a few more decades therefore, it can be inferred that a miracle happened and the author underwent successful surgery to treat and cure their cancer.

Reasons for incorrect

- a) The passage does not provide information about the stage at which the author's cancer was diagnosed. It only mentions the diagnosis and the type of cancer.
- c) The passage mentions that the doctors told the author that the cancer was incurable and gave them a limited life expectancy of three to six months. However, this information is followed by the author stating that they hope it's the closest they get to facing death for a few more decades, implying that the author has surpassed the limited life expectancy.
- d) The passage does not mention anything about the author ignoring their doctor's advice or delaying treatment for their cancer.

17- b

The passage states that the spirit for philosophy, which is born out of naïveté in young children, is soon extinguished. This implies that young children lose their philosophical inclination as they grow older.

Reason for incorrect

- a) While the passage acknowledges that young children ask deep philosophical questions, it also states that their philosophical spirit is extinguished, suggesting a change over time.
- c) The passage does not specifically mention acquiring a taste for philosophical reflection through experience.
- d) The passage does not explicitly state that young children have a natural curiosity that prompts philosophical questions.

18 - b

The passage states that youthful rebellion can be relied upon to kindle low-level philosophical musings about the rules of behaviour. The conflict of views between parents and teenagers raises philosophical questions about authority, respect, and what is right.

Reason for incorrect

- a) The passage does not explicitly mention adolescents being naturally inclined to ponder abstract concepts.
- c) While the passage mentions the possibility of an adolescent pondering the nature of numbers as a splendid eccentric, it does not suggest that this is the primary nature of philosophical reflection in adolescence.
- d) The passage suggests that the taste for philosophical reflection needs to be rediscovered, indicating that it is not an acquired taste in adolescence.

19 - a

The passage states that most people recognize that there are questions to be answered and issues to be debated in ethics. It suggests that ethics is a subject that people dip their toes into, implying active engagement in ethical debates.

Reason for incorrect

- b) The passage does not suggest that ethics is exclusively delved into by philosophers and intellectuals.
- c) While the passage mentions personal beliefs and preferences in the context of decision-making, it does not imply that ethics is primarily concerned with them.

d) The passage implies the opposite of this statement, stating that questions of ethics are ubiquitous and present in everyday life.

20 - d

The passage states that political life puts philosophical questions up front and compares the reflections prompted by authoritarian regimes to authoritarian parents. It also mentions that democratic regimes conduct debates about competing policies in terms of the values they embody.

Reason for incorrect

- a) While the passage mentions reflections prompted by authoritarian regimes and compares them to family dynamics, it does not explicitly state that they are the same.
- b) The passage does not suggest that political life neglects philosophical questions.
- c) The passage does not specifically mention economic policies as the primary focus of political debates.

21 - d

The passage discusses the power of literature to transport readers and evoke profound emotions, emphasising its ability to transcend time and space.

Explanation of incorrect .

- A) Although this statement is true and mentioned in the passage, it does not capture the main idea of the entire passage.
- B) While this statement is also mentioned in the passage, it is not the main idea. The main idea revolves around the ability of literature to transport readers and evoke emotions, rather than solely providing comfort in personal turmoil.
- C) While it is true that literature includes various genres, the main idea is not solely focused on defining literature by its genres, but rather on its power to transport readers and evoke emotions.

22 - a

The passage provides factual information about the importance and impact of literature without expressing any personal bias or emotion.

Explanation of incorrect answers:

B) The passage does not convey a critical tone. The overall tone is not one of criticism but rather appreciation and recognition of the power of literature.

C) There is no sarcasm in the passage. The tone is sincere and earnest in its discussion of the impact and significance of literature.

D) Humour is not a prominent element in the passage. The focus is on the profound and transformative nature of literature, rather than invoking humour or comedic elements.

23 - c

The passage highlights how literature can challenge prevailing norms, shed light on societal issues, and inspire conversations that lead to progress and transformation. Therefore, it can be inferred that literature provokes introspection and can inspire change.

Explanation of incorrect answer

A) The passage explicitly states that literature serves as a reflection of society and a catalyst for change. It mentions that literature can shed light on societal issues, challenge norms, and inspire conversations for progress and transformation.

B) While the passage acknowledges that literature entertains and enchants readers, it emphasises that literature goes beyond mere entertainment. It highlights how literature can transport readers to different worlds, evoke profound emotions, and explore the depths of human imagination and emotion.

D) The passage does not suggest that literature is a dying art form. On the contrary, it emphasises the enduring power of literature and how it continues to resonate with audiences worldwide. It describes literature as a profound art form that expands horizons, deepens empathy, and ignites imagination.

24 - b

A metaphor is a figure of speech that compares two unrelated things by stating that one thing is another. In this passage, literature is compared to a profound art form that "speaks to the core of our humanity." The passage does not use "like" or "as," which are typical indicators of a simile. It is also not an exaggeration (hyperbole) or attributing human qualities to an inanimate object (personification). Instead, it directly equates literature to an art form that has the power to reach the deepest aspects of human

nature. Therefore, the correct figure of speech used here is a metaphor.

25 -c

The main point of discussion in the passage is the traditional bull-taming sport of Jallikattu, which has faced legal challenges regarding cruelty to animals. It presents two main arguments – one based on constitutional terms and animal rights, and the other on preserving cultural practices that may clash with modern sensibilities. The passage also highlights the recent Supreme Court judgment upholding Tamil Nadu's legislative competence to regulate Jallikattu, ensuring animal welfare through strict conditions. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer. Other revolve around it.

26-b

"The judgment is remarkable in its simplicity" uses a metaphor to describe the judgment. It means that the judgment is outstanding because of its straightforward and clear reasoning, making it notable among recent judgments. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

27-c

Option (a) is incorrect as it is not suggested in the passage.

Option (b) contradicts the passage.

Option (c) is the correct answer. Though not explicitly stated in the passage, it can be inferred that Tamil Nadu's custom legal regime for Jallikattu has received presidential approval, as the passage mentions that the state has the legislative competence to amend the Central law with presidential assent.

Option (d) can not be interpreted in the passage. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

28-a

Fulfilled its obligations" means that the court acknowledged and confirmed that the state had performed its duties responsibly to ensure the welfare of animals during Jallikattu. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

29-a

The author has given an objective and informative perspective on social psychology research related to intergroup relations. In the passage, he discusses the aim of understanding and improving relations between cultural, ethnical, and national groups. It also highlights the need for further analysis of culture-specific and cross-cultural aspects

in Eastern Europe. The tone is neutral, focusing on the research and analysis rather than expressing emotions or biases. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

30-a

The figure of speech used in the sentence is an enumeration. It lists several related constructs: "cultural majority members ethnic identity, prejudice, acculturation strategies, and dimensions of competence in intercultural interaction." Enumeration involves the listing of multiple items or ideas in a sentence or passage. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

31-b

It is mentioned in the passage that there is a lack of research on culture-specific and cross-cultural aspects of intergroup relations in Eastern Europe. The author discusses the scarcity of studies addressing factor structure and linguistic idiosyncrasies and emphasizes the need for careful analysis in this context. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

32-b

The main theme of the passage revolves around the examination of culture-specific and cross-cultural aspects of intergroup relations in Eastern Europe. The passage discusses the need for research in this area and analyzes factor structures and item characteristics of various intergroup relation constructs in the region. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

33 -b

It seems in the passage that the prosecutor's motivation for bringing the case against the defendant is personal rather than based on any crime or act of violence committed by the defendant against the state. The passage mentions that the prosecutor is the son of someone the defendant has prosecuted before and is prosecuting again, and this attack on the defendant is being financed by a prostitute. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

34 - d

It is evident in the passage that the accusers' motivation for bringing the case against the defendant is driven by "insupportable passion and bitter hatred" rather than any solid evidence of wrongdoing by the defendant. It mentions that none of the accusers would have taken on this prosecution willingly, and their hope of winning relies on personal feelings rather than factual evidence. Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

35 - a

In this context, the expression suggests that the defendant's actions, if he expected to

gain something from the prosecution, can be attributed to his young age and lack of experience, which might have made him naive in the matter. The phrase implies that the defendant's youthful inexperience may have influenced his decision-making. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

36 - a

The author is critical of the court proceedings, suggesting that the trial is being unfairly conducted during a day of festivities when other legal business is suspended. The author also seems to show sympathy towards the defendant, describing him as "a brilliantly able, hard-working, and popular young man" and expressing forgiveness towards one of the accusers. The author questions the motives of the accusers, implying that they lack solid evidence and are driven by personal bias. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

37 - a

The main idea of the passage revolves around the author's deep and lifelong journey to seek wisdom and understanding in the intricate and mysterious nature of life. The passage discusses the author's quest for enlightenment and the insights gained through this philosophical exploration. A, B, and D are incorrect as they do not accurately capture the central theme of the passage.

38 - c

"The philosopher's stone" is a well-known idiom in alchemical and philosophical contexts. In the passage, it symbolizes the ultimate goal of the author's journey – the attainment of deep wisdom, self-discovery, and understanding of life's mysteries. Option C accurately reflects the metaphorical meaning of this expression in the passage.

39 - c

Throughout the passage, the author expresses a sense of reverence and earnestness while discussing their profound philosophical journey and exploration of life's mysteries. The author's words reflect a deep connection and seriousness about the subject matter, making option C the correct answer.

40 - c

The conclusion of the passage emphasizes the author's intention to inspire readers to undertake a journey similar to their own – a journey of self-discovery, philosophical exploration, and understanding of the universe's mysteries. The passage closes by aiming to awaken the desire for transcendence and exploration within the readers, making option C the correct answer.

41 - a

The harmful impact of consumerism on contemporary society has been extensively

discussed in the passage. It discusses how the relentless pursuit of material possessions erodes genuine human connections, diminishes individual identity, fosters disposability, and perpetuates a culture of comparison and envy. It calls for reevaluating priorities and values to create a more conscious and interconnected society. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

42 - b

Throughout the passage, the author critically examines the negative consequences of materialistic culture, using phrases like "insidious fixation," "profound emptiness," "culture of disposability," and "endless cycle of craving and discontent." The tone reflects a strong condemnation of consumerism's impact on society. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

43 - c

The passage emphasizes that the pursuit of material possessions does not lead to genuine happiness and fulfillment. Instead, it perpetuates an insatiable hunger, leaving individuals feeling empty despite their conspicuous consumption. The ephemeral satisfaction derived from material goods quickly fades, resulting in a gnawing sense of discontent that drives individuals to seek more possessions in an endless cycle. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

44 - b

The main flaw in the mindset of materialistic individuals is their belief that true happiness and fulfillment can only be attained through the acquisition of material possessions. This perspective disregards the importance of human connection, empathy, and other non-material aspects of life that contribute to genuine well-being. It leads individuals to overlook the deeper dimensions of life and places an excessive emphasis on material wealth as the sole measure of success and self-worth, perpetuating a cycle of discontent and dissatisfaction.

45 - c

The author describes Martin Luther King Jr.'s political vision and its profound impact on American society. It discusses his commitment to racial integration, nonviolent civil disobedience, economic justice, and global significance. The central focus is on King's political vision as a visionary statesman and the transformative effect it had on reshaping American society. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

46 - d

The author describes Martin Luther King Jr.'s political vision and its profound impact on American society. It discusses his commitment to racial integration, nonviolent civil disobedience, economic justice, and global significance. The central focus is on King's

political vision as a visionary statesman and the transformative effect it had on reshaping American society. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

47 - c

"Forge an inclusive society" implies the collective effort to create a society where individuals of all racial backgrounds are welcomed and included. It emphasizes the creation of a society that promotes equality and does not discriminate based on race. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

48 - c

The passage highlights King's strategic brilliance in employing nonviolent civil disobedience as a means to bring about social and political change. By showcasing the stark contrast between peaceful resistance and the violence of segregationists, King aimed to sway public opinion and place immense pressure on policymakers to enact meaningful reforms. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

49 - c

The passage highlights that child labour is a disease afflicting the country, similar to other third-world economies. However, it also mentions that the issue of child labour is often ignored until specific cases like Rizwana's or Asad Masih's come to light. This implies that there are challenges in addressing and eliminating child labour effectively in the country. Option (a) is contradicted by the passage, which acknowledges child labour as an issue in the country. Option (b) is contradicted by the passage, which states that the issue of child labour is often not sustained in the news. Option (d) is not supported by the passage, which mentions that child labour affects countless children, not just those from underprivileged families.

50 - c

The primary purpose of the passage is to raise awareness about the issue of child labour in the country, its prevalence, and the challenges in addressing it effectively. The passage discusses specific cases of child labour, such as Rizwana's and Asad Masih's, to highlight the severity of the problem. It also mentions the inhumane treatment and lack of accountability faced by child labourers. Option (a) is not supported by the passage, which mentions specific cases but does not provide a detailed account of child labour in general. Option (b) touches on a related aspect but does not capture the main focus of raising awareness about child labour. Option (d) is not explicitly mentioned in the passage, which primarily focuses on raising awareness about child labour and the challenges associated with it.

51 - b

The case of a 15-year-old boy, Asad Masih, who was forced by his contractor to enter a manhole without protective gear, leading to his death has been mentioned in the

passage. The passage explicitly states that the contractor does this with impunity, indicating that the contractor is involved in the horrific practice of forcing child workers into dangerous situations. Option (a), option (c), and option (d) are contradicted by the passage, which highlights the contractor's irresponsible and harmful actions towards child workers.

52 - b

The author discusses the issue of child labour and how it is ignored until specific cases come to light. It highlights the inhumane treatment faced by child workers and the lack of accountability for their employers. Option (b) best captures the central theme of the passage, which revolves around the unfortunate reality of child labour in the country. Option (a), option (c), and Option (d) touch on specific aspects mentioned in the passage but do not encapsulate the overall theme as effectively as Option (b).

53 - a

The simile "like a majestic gryphon taking flight" compares the rise of the middle class to the swift and powerful flight of a mythical creature, suggesting that the rise is rapid and impactful. The use of the term "majestic" implies grandeur and strength, further emphasizing the speed and potency of the middle class's ascent.

54 - b

The passage's language and tone reflect the author's fascination with the rise of the middle class, describing it as a nuanced narrative of metamorphosis and an opulent odyssey. The author's admiration for the middle class's transformation is evident through the use of intricate metaphors and emotive language.

55 - c

The word 'convolutions' means complex and intricate twists or turns. The word 'complexity' carries a similar meaning and can replace 'convolutions' without changing the context. Both words convey the idea of intricate and involved developments.

56 - d

The primary purpose of the passage is to explore the intricacies and contradictions of the rise of the Indian middle class, as the author delves into various aspects and enigmas surrounding it. The passage delves into the transformative journey of the middle class, highlighting both the positive impact and challenges faced by this social group.

57- a

The word 'ensconced' means to settle or hide securely, which aligns with the notion of being imprisoned within the penitentiary. 'Imprisoned' carries the same meaning, making

it the correct word replacement. Option (b) 'limited' and option (d) 'Entrapped' are not synonymous with 'ensconced' and would change the context. Option (c) 'Displaced' is not a suitable replacement as it conveys a different idea altogether.

58 - b

The passage mentions that in solitude, the author pens their thoughts into an ethereal palimpsest and finds solace in introspections. This suggests that the author perceives solitude as an opportunity for self-reflection and writing. Option (a) is not supported by the text, which portrays the author using solitude for constructive purposes. Option (c) and option (d) lack evidence from the passage, making them incorrect inferences.

59 - a

The passage primarily revolves around the author's experiences as a prisoner serving a life sentence. It delves into the emotions, reflections, and thoughts of the author within the prison, narrating their life and existence. Option (b) may be implied, but it is not the main idea of the passage. Option (c) and option (d) are not mentioned in the passage and are therefore not the primary purpose.

60 - c

The passage primarily revolves around the author's experiences as a prisoner serving a life sentence. It delves into the emotions, reflections, and thoughts of the author within the prison, narrating their life and existence. Option (b) may be implied, but it is not the main idea of the passage. Option (c) and option (d) are not mentioned in the passage and are therefore not the primary purpose.

61- a

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62 - a

The passage suggests that the enigmatic disparities of social stratification seem to magnify within overcrowded jails, with the indigent often being disproportionately affected. Therefore, it can be inferred that marginalized sections bear the brunt of overcrowded prisons. Option (b) and option (c) are not supported by the text, which emphasizes the negative impact. Option (d) lacks evidence from the passage.

63 - b

The passage primarily focuses on the consequences and implications of overburdened jails in various aspects, such as rehabilitation, prison personnel, and marginalized sections of society. Option (a), option (c), and option (d) may be implied, but they are not the main idea presented in the passage.

64 - d

The passage mentions that the surfeit of inmates engenders a dearth of resources, creating suboptimal conditions within the corrective institutions. The correctional personnel grapple with the alchemy of maintaining order amidst the mélange of detainees, suggesting that the impact is similar to a crucible of challenges. Option (a), option (b), and option (c) do not align with the description of the impact on correctional personnel.

65 - b

The passage highlights how state-sponsored terrorism leads to violence and undermines international peace and security. Therefore, it can be inferred that state-sponsored terrorism poses a serious threat to global peace. Option (a) is not supported by the text, which emphasizes the repercussions on global peace. Option (c) lacks evidence from the passage, and option (d) is not suggested by the text.

66 - a

The passage primarily focuses on condemning the state support of terrorism in Pakistan and highlighting the malevolence and complexities associated with it. Option (b), option (c), and option (d) may be inferred from the passage, but they are not the primary purpose presented in the passage.

67 - b

The phrase "cast aside the veils of illusion" means to remove the deception and reveal the hidden truths. In the context of the passage, it suggests that the international community must confront the reality of state support for terrorism in Pakistan and not be deceived by plausible deniability. Option (a), option (c), and option (d) do not align with the meaning of the phrase as used in the passage.

68 - b

The passage uses words and expressions such as "enigmatic and abhorrent narrative," "sinister machinations," "harrowing symphony of violence," "insidious dance of alliances," "labyrinthine crevices of the underworld," "enigmatic masquerade," and "nefarious saga of covert malevolence." These phrases create a somber and ominous tone throughout the passage, highlighting the dark and sinister aspects of state-sponsored terrorism in Pakistan. The passage portrays a sense of seriousness and gravity regarding the issue of terrorism and the need for global condemnation and action. Option (b) best captures the overall tone conveyed by the passage.

69 - b

The main idea of the passage is that the recent Supreme Court ruling emphasized the importance of informed choice in voting and considered voting as a right for all citizens. The ruling highlighted the implications of informed choice, which is integral to the right to vote. Option (a) talks about voting as a fundamental right but does not capture the emphasis on informed choice. Option (c) states a fact about the Constitution but does not encompass the key message of the passage. Option (d) mentions the impact of voting but does not focus on informed choice.

70 - b

The passage mentions that the Supreme Court ruling suggested that voting could be a fundamental right. Additionally, earlier rulings had declared the right to vote as a 'constitutional' right. Therefore, it can be inferred that the right to vote is considered a fundamental right by the Supreme Court. Option (a) is contradicted by the passage,

which mentions that the right to vote is mentioned in the Constitution. Option (c) is partially correct but does not encompass the broader concept of a fundamental right. Option (d) is not supported by the passage.

71 - b

The main idea of the passage is that the author observed a greater colonial awareness of South Africa in England, similar to the British consciousness of India, but found a lack of such awareness in the Netherlands. The passage mentions the author's flight from Cape Town to Amsterdam and the contrasting perceptions of South Africa's colonial ties in different European cities. Option (a) and option (d) touch on related concepts but do not encapsulate the main focus of the passage. Option (c) mentions a broader theme but does not cover the specific comparison between England and the Netherlands.

72 - c

The passage mentions Cecil John Rhodes as a colonialist who had struck diamond in Kimberley and dreamt of building the great pan-African railroad. The author describes the infamous Rhodes statue in Cape Town and the "Rhodes Must Fall" movement, which expresses criticism of Rhodes. Therefore, it can be inferred that the author is critical of Cecil John Rhodes' colonialist beliefs and actions. Option (a) is not supported by the passage, which mentions the "Rhodes Must Fall" movement but does not indicate the author's stance on the statue. Option (b) is not supported by the passage, which does not express admiration for Rhodes. Option (d) is contradicted by the passage, which implies a mixed response to Rhodes' legacy.

73 - b

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75 - d

As mentioned, strong historical ties between South Africa and the Netherlands. Option (c) is not supported by the passage, which mentions the Rhodes statue but does not indicate its widespread celebration and respect. Option (d) is contradicted by the passage, which mentions that the "Rhodes Must Fall" movement lost steam and failed to remove the statue.

76- c

The phrase "drop anchor" is used figuratively in the passage to indicate the author's arrival in Amsterdam after a flight from Cape Town. In nautical terms, "drop anchor" refers to the action of lowering an anchor to secure a ship at a specific location. However, in this context, it means to arrive at a destination after a long journey. Option (a), option (b), and option (d) do not match the idiomatic meaning as used in the passage.

77- c

The main idea of the passage is that the Forest (Conservation) Amendment Bill, 2023, undermines environmental protection in India. The passage discusses the amendments made to the Forest (Conservation) Act of 1980 and highlights how the bill dilutes

environmental safeguards, community rights, and ecological protection. Option (b) and option (d) touch on related concepts but do not encapsulate the main focus of the passage. Option (c) mentions the government's commitment to mitigating climate change, but it is not the primary Chapter discussed in the passage.

78 - b

The passage mentions that the Forest (Conservation) Amendment Bill prioritizes private forestry (plantations), which could lead to deforestation. This indicates that the government's motivation is to enhance forest cover through private forestry. Option (a) is not supported by the passage, which states that the amended bill leaves ecologically critical spaces unprotected. Option (c) does not align with the government's efforts to dilute the role of gram sabhas. Option (d) is not directly inferred from the passage, as the bill is criticized for undermining environmental protection.

79 - b

In the passage, the term 'fig leaf' is used metaphorically to refer to compensatory afforestation, which is described as a deceptive covering for the ecological imbalance caused by disruptive undertakings. Option (a), option (c), and option (d) do not match the meaning of 'fig leaf' as used in the passage.

80 - b

The passage highlights that the bill prioritizes private forestry, which could lead to deforestation at a time when the country has been experiencing extreme weather events due to the stripping of forests. Therefore, it can be concluded that the government's focus on private forestry may lead to increased deforestation. Option (a) is contradicted by the passage, which criticizes the bill for undermining environmental protection. Option (c) is not supported by the passage, which mentions the gap between intent and application in India's environmental policies. Option (d) is not supported by the passage, which mentions that the bill diminishes the role of gram sabhas and forest rights.

81 - d

The passage explicitly states that emotional support is crucial during the initial stages of rehabilitation, implying that athletes need emotional support to help them adapt to their injuries and the changes they have to make in their lives. The passage does not suggest that emotional support is not necessary or that athletes rely solely on emotional support. Instead, it emphasizes the importance of emotional support in the recovery process.

82 - b

The primary purpose of the passage is to underscore the significance of social support in the context of injury recovery. It mentions the different forms of support athletes seek and how each type of support plays a vital role in different stages of rehabilitation. The passage does touch upon the role of coaches and sports medicine practitioners, but the main focus is on the importance of social support in the recovery process.

83 - b

The passage indicates that some athletes do not feel adequately supported by their coaches during the recovery process. This conclusion is drawn from the statement in the passage that these athletes perceived their coaches as distant and unsympathetic, and they expressed dissatisfaction with the level of advice and guidance provided. This suggests a strained relationship between athletes and their coaches during the rehabilitation phase. Option (a) comes close but the option says that athletes view their coaches as crucial emotional support "during rehabilitation" whereas the passage says it is true for the initial stage of the rehabilitation. "Emotionally, support was found to be particularly crucial during the initial stages of rehabilitation."

84 - b

The idiom "turning around like Orpheus" is an allusion to the Greek myth of Orpheus and Eurydice. In the myth, Orpheus, while leading his wife Eurydice out of the underworld, is explicitly instructed not to look back until they are both in the world of the living. However, overcome by doubt and uncertainty, Orpheus turns around too soon,

causing Eurydice to be taken back into the underworld forever. In the passage, the idiom is used metaphorically to suggest that science often withdraws or distances itself from its object of study too soon, leading to a loss of understanding or knowledge. Option (a), (c), and (d) do not accurately capture the meaning of the idiom in the context of the passage.

85 - b

The passage highlights the significant role of prophets in the apostolic groups. Prophets were not only revered as intermediaries but were also believed to have the faculty of communication with malevolent entities. They conducted exorcism rituals and provided guidance during sacred gatherings to dispel evil spirits and ensure the well-being of the afflicted individuals.

86 - b

The "kutanda midzimu nemashave" ceremony played a crucial role in the apostolic groups' religious practices. It focused on the purification and protection of the afflicted individuals by expelling evil entities. The ceremony was not aimed at honoring celestial beings or demonstrating the prophets' power but rather at facilitating the well-being of the followers through the exorcism process.

87 - b

The passage emphasizes that acknowledging and recognizing the presence of animal spirits within certain lineages were crucial for their descendants' well-being. Failure to do so resulted in misfortunes. This highlights the belief in the significance of these spirits and the importance of adhering to religious practices to seek protection and guidance.

88 - c

The passage underscores the significance of malevolent spirits within the apostolic groups and their belief in these forces as potent entities that influenced human life and determined destinies. The rituals and ceremonies, such as exorcisms, were deeply ingrained in their traditions, providing a framework to comprehend and cope with life's

challenges and uncertainties. This suggests that the belief in malevolent spirits played a central and essential role in shaping their religious practices and worldview.

89 - c

The passage describes the South as an old and dead region, struggling to remain relevant in the face of modern changes. It contrasts the South with cities like New York and Chicago, which are portrayed as young, alive, and continuously evolving. The passage implies that the South is losing its distinctiveness and cultural aspirations due to the impact of the Civil War and the influence of immigrants rebuilding it into replicas of other cities.

90 - d

The passage indicates that art in the South faces challenges in gaining visibility and recognition. To overcome this, art must take on the form of a ceremony or spectacle, characterized by dramatic and attention-grabbing elements. This contrasts with cities like New York and Chicago, where art is more accessible and dynamically evolving, allowing artists to thrive and gain recognition more easily.

91 - b

The passage contrasts the South and Chicago with New York, depicting New York as a city with a continuous heritage dating back to Dutch origins. On the other hand, the South and Chicago are shaped by indigenous dreams and aspirations, but the South is considered old and dead, while Chicago is considered young and alive.

92 - b

The passage indicates that the Civil War has had a profound impact on the South, leading to its decline and loss of cultural distinctiveness. The creation of the New South is mentioned, but the passage suggests that it is not a genuine representation of the region's indigenous dreams and traditions, as it is rebuilt by immigrants into replicas of other cities.

93 - c

The passage mentions that the speaker allowed the darkness to consume them due to

a moment of weakness and the allure of violence, which led them down the treacherous path.

94 - d

The passage indicates that the speaker wants their death to serve as a reminder of the consequences of embracing darkness within oneself, making choice (d) the appropriate answer.

95 - b

The phrase "etched in my memory" implies that the faces of the innocent lives are deeply and permanently imprinted in the speaker's mind, making option (b) the correct answer.

96 - b

The phrase "lost soul" suggests that the speaker feels without hope or salvation, implying a sense of despair and hopelessness, making option (b) the appropriate choice.

97 - b

The correct term that describes the intricate psychological phenomenon where individuals deceive themselves is a "cognitive defense mechanism." The passage mentions that self-deception functions as a cognitive defense mechanism to shield ourselves from harsh truths and psychological distress.

Incorrect

a) Confirmation bias - This term refers to the tendency to favor information that confirms one's preexisting beliefs, and while cognitive biases are mentioned in the passage, confirmation bias specifically is not the term used to describe self-deception.

c) Lateral thinking - Lateral thinking refers to a creative approach to problem-solving, and it is not related to self-deception as discussed in the passage.

d) Logical reasoning - Logical reasoning is mentioned in the passage, but it does not describe the intricate psychological phenomenon of self-deception.

98 - c

The primary purpose of the passage is to discuss the enigmatic nature of self-deception. The passage explores various aspects of self-deception, its implications, and its presence in different realms like social, political, and scientific, alluding to its mysterious and complex nature.

Incorrect

- a) While the passage does mention political implications, it is not the primary focus of the passage.
- b) The passage does mention recent studies on self-deception, but it is not the central focus or the primary purpose of the passage.
- d) The passage does not primarily focus on proposing solutions for combating cognitive biases, rather it explores the nature and implications of self-deception.

99 - c

According to the passage, self-deception is deeply ingrained in human nature and often functions as a cognitive defense mechanism that acts as a comforting balm to shield ourselves from harsh truths and psychological distress. Therefore, option c is the true statement.

Incorrect

- a) The passage mentions that self-deception has far-reaching implications and extends beyond the individual level, infiltrating various domains like politics, organizations, and society at large.
- b) The passage does not suggest that self-deception can be completely eliminated through self-awareness. It is a complex psychological phenomenon that is hard to eradicate entirely.
- d) The passage clearly states that self-deception is deeply ingrained in human nature, implying that it is indeed a prevalent aspect of human psychology.

100 - b

The passage does not discuss the connection between self-deception and emotional intelligence. While it explores the intricate nature of self-deception, its implications, cognitive biases, and its presence in different realms, it does not delve into the relationship between self-deception and emotional intelligence.

Incorrect

- a) The passage does mention recent studies conducted at leading research institutions, such as Stanford University and MIT, to highlight the presence of self-deception in human nature.
- c) The passage does discuss the potential consequences of self-deception on public discourse, such as perpetuating fallacies and polarizing narratives in the realm of politics.
- d) The passage specifically mentions the implications of self-deception in the realm of politics, including the rise of populist movements and misinformation.

101 - a

The phrase suggests that the Amazon forests play a critical and essential role in the intricate balance of the global ecosystem. The term "formidable linchpin" highlights their importance as a significant and indispensable element in the ecological equilibrium. This option is correct as it accurately conveys the idea that the Amazon forests are essential for regulating the climate, preserving biodiversity, and mitigating carbon emissions.

- b) The passage does not mention the resistance of the Amazon forests to changes in the environment.
- c) While the passage indicates that deforestation threatens the Amazon forests, it does not directly imply that they are at risk of being destroyed by external forces.
- d) The passage emphasizes the pivotal role of the Amazon forests, so they are not portrayed as playing a secondary role in preserving biodiversity and climate regulation.

102 - c

The main idea of the passage revolves around the significance of the Amazon rainforest and the threats it faces due to deforestation. The passage emphasizes the crucial role of the Amazon rainforest in ecological equilibrium, climate regulation, and biodiversity preservation. It highlights the alarming deforestation rates and the potential consequences if deforestation continues, leading to the transformation of the lush ecosystem into a savannah-like landscape. The main idea aligns with option c.

- a) The passage does not downplay the importance of the Amazon rainforest; instead, it emphasizes its significance.
- b) There is no information in the passage suggesting that deforestation rates are decreasing due to global efforts.
- d) The passage explicitly states that the Amazon rainforest plays a pivotal role in climate regulation, contradicting the idea that it has no significant impact on climate regulation.

103 - c

The passage mentions that the Amazon rainforest is home to approximately 10% of the world's known species. However, it also states that the region teems with an extraordinary array of flora and fauna, many of which remain undiscovered by science. This implies that there is a vast amount of biodiversity in the Amazon rainforest that has not yet been fully documented or studied. Option c correctly reflects this idea.

- a) There is no information in the passage suggesting that the biodiversity in the Amazon rainforest is decreasing at an alarming rate.
- b) The passage clearly states that the Amazon rainforest is home to a significant number of species (approximately 10% of the world's known species), so it is not limited to only a few species.
- d) The passage emphasizes the crucial role of the Amazon rainforest's biodiversity in ecological equilibrium and climate regulation, making it significant in the overall functioning of ecosystems.

104 - c

The figure of speech used in the phrase "verdant lungs of our planet" is a metaphor. The phrase compares the Amazon forests to "lungs" of the Earth, suggesting that they are vital in producing oxygen, just like lungs are essential for breathing in humans. This comparison helps convey the idea that the Amazon forests play a crucial role in oxygen production, thereby emphasizing their significance in maintaining the Earth's ecological balance.

- a) A simile would involve using "like" or "as" to compare two things explicitly. For example, "The Amazon forests are like verdant lungs." However, the passage does not contain such explicit comparison.
- b) Hyperbole involves exaggeration for emphasis. The phrase is not an exaggerated statement; it is a metaphorical comparison based on the forests' oxygen-producing role.
- d) Personification involves attributing human characteristics to non-human entities. The phrase does not give human characteristics to the Amazon forests but rather compares them metaphorically to lungs.

105 - c

The passage states that recent milestones in India's space missions, including Chandrayaan and Mangalyaan, have served as potent catalysts for inspiring future generations. As a result of this inspiration, there has been a significant uptick in the number of young students aspiring to pursue careers in space sciences and aerospace engineering. The passage mentions that enrollments in related courses have risen by over 40% in the past five years, indicating a positive impact on the interest of India's youth in space exploration.

- a) The passage does not indicate any decreased interest in space sciences and aerospace engineering among India's youth.
- b) The passage highlights the advancements and achievements in India's space missions, so there is no indication of limited advancements in the field of space exploration.

d) The passage does not mention any decreased focus on technological innovation among India's youth.

106 - b

The main idea of the passage centers around India's space missions and their broader impact. It emphasizes that India's trajectory in space missions has been awe-inspiring and symbolizes India's burgeoning prowess on the global stage. The passage highlights the resolute endeavor to explore celestial frontiers, which not only emboldens scientific discovery but also serves as a catalyst for inspiring future generations. It mentions the increasing interest of young students in pursuing careers in space sciences and aerospace engineering due to India's space missions. Option b accurately captures the central theme of the passage.

a) While the passage mentions India's contributions to global scientific advancements and technological progress, it does not state that it is the main idea of the passage.

c) While the passage discusses the need for strategic planning and international cooperation in India's pursuit of space exploration, it is not the primary focus or main idea.

d) The passage mentions India's recent milestones in space missions and its position among global space-faring nations, but it is not the central theme of the passage.

107 - c

The passage mentions that India's space ambitions are not immune to geopolitical complexities and that India pursues international space cooperation, exemplified by its involvement in the Artemis Accords. This involvement reinforces India's commitment to advancing humanity's understanding of the cosmos. While the passage does not explicitly mention whether India leads in the number of lunar resources exploration missions or has achieved more milestones than other countries, it does imply that India collaborates with other nations in space research endeavors.

a) The passage does not mention India leading in the number of lunar resources exploration missions.

b) The passage mentions India's recent milestones, but it does not compare them to other countries' achievements.

d) The passage discusses India's efforts in bolstering satellite communication capabilities, but it does not claim that India has the most advanced capabilities compared to other countries.

108 - a

The phrase "unraveling the mysteries of the cosmos" suggests that India's space missions aim to discover and understand the secrets and unknown aspects of the universe through scientific exploration. This includes exploring celestial frontiers, advancing humanity's understanding of the cosmos, and harnessing the vast potential of space exploration. Option a best captures the symbolic meaning of the phrase as used in the passage.

b) The phrase does not imply solving the complex challenges of space missions.

c) While the passage mentions India's involvement in international space cooperation, it does not directly relate the phrase to uniting the global scientific community for celestial research.

d) The phrase does not suggest untangling the intricacies of India's space endeavors; instead, it highlights the pursuit of understanding the mysteries of the universe.

109 - a

The passage states that research conducted by esteemed psychologists at Harvard University reveals that EQ constitutes a staggering 80% of success in leadership roles, while only 20% is attributed to IQ. This indicates that EQ plays a crucial and dominant role in determining the effectiveness of leaders. The passage emphasizes the primacy of EQ beyond traditional Intellectual Quotient (IQ) and underscores the importance of emotional intelligence in achieving success in leadership positions.

b) The passage does not suggest that EQ is irrelevant compared to IQ; in fact, it highlights the significance of EQ in leadership roles.

c) The passage does not mention the impact of EQ on decision-making in technical fields.

d) While the passage highlights the significance of EQ in various domains, it does not specifically state that it only impacts leadership in customer relations.

110 - c

The primary purpose of the passage is to discuss the importance of Emotional Intelligence (EQ) in the domain of professional service. It highlights how EQ serves as an indomitable lodestar, illuminating the path to profound interpersonal connections, empathetic leadership, and effective collaboration. The passage provides examples from healthcare, customer relations, and corporate realms to demonstrate the significance of EQ in achieving positive outcomes in various service professions.

- a) The passage briefly mentions the correlation between EQ and IQ in leadership roles, but it is not the primary focus.
- b) While the passage mentions EQ in customer relations as one aspect of professional service, it is not the main purpose of the passage.
- d) The passage discusses EQ and IQ but does not aim to explain the difference between them.

111 - c

The passage mentions that corporations led by emotionally intelligent executives witness higher employee engagement, reduced turnover rates, and heightened organizational resilience in times of adversity. This indicates that EQ-driven leadership has a positive impact on employee engagement in corporations. The passage highlights the benefits of emotional intelligence in leadership and its influence on employee satisfaction and commitment.

- a) The passage does not suggest that EQ has no effect on employee engagement; it, in fact, indicates the opposite.
- b) The passage does not suggest that corporations led by emotionally intelligent executives have lower employee engagement.
- d) The passage does not compare the impact of EQ and IQ on employee engagement; it focuses on the positive influence of EQ in corporations.

112 - d

The passage discusses the significance of Emotional Intelligence (EQ) in professional

service, its role in leadership roles, and its impact on areas like healthcare, customer relations, and corporate settings. However, the passage does not discuss the impact of technological advances on EQ in leadership roles. It primarily focuses on the importance of EQ, its dominance in leadership success, and the need to cultivate emotional intelligence in various domains.

- a) The passage discusses the importance of cognitive abilities in service professions, stating that while they remain crucial, nurturing EQ is essential.
- b) The passage mentions the integration of EQ training in educational curricula as a linchpin in fostering emotional intelligence.
- c) The passage highlights the role of EQ in healthcare professions, customer relations, and corporate leadership.

113 - b

The passage mentions that nearly 50% of Indian schools lack basic facilities like electricity, clean water, and proper sanitation. This indicates that the current state of India's education infrastructure is not satisfactory and hinders equitable access to quality education for all students, especially those studying in schools with inadequate facilities. Option b best represents this inference.

- a) The passage does not indicate that most Indian schools have basic facilities like electricity and clean water; in fact, it highlights the lack of these facilities.
- c) The passage does not provide a comparison of India's education infrastructure with other countries.
- d) The passage does not state that infrastructural gaps have been completely addressed by the government; it highlights the need to address these gaps.

114 - a

The passage mentions that the current teacher-pupil ratio in India is 1:35, which poses significant challenges to personalized learning and individual attention. Effective training and professional development of teachers are important to ensure that they can deliver innovative and engaging pedagogy, catering to the unique needs of each student.

Option a best represents this importance, as personalized learning is emphasized in the context of the teacher-pupil ratio.

b) The passage does not mention reducing the number of enrollments in related courses as a reason for effective training and professional development of teachers.

c) While the new education policy is mentioned in the passage, it does not explicitly state that teacher training is essential to meet the requirements of the policy.

d) The passage mentions the current teacher-pupil ratio but does not specify that improving this ratio is the primary reason for teacher training.

115 - b

The passage mentions that the policy envisions an education system that nurtures critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving skills from an early age. The approach of nurturing such skills aligns with the concept of "lateral thinking." Lateral thinking involves approaching problems and situations from unconventional angles, encouraging creativity, and generating innovative solutions. Option b best represents this approach to education as mentioned in the passage.

a) Rote learning is the opposite of the approach mentioned in the passage, as it involves memorization without deeper understanding or critical thinking.

c) While logical reasoning is essential for critical thinking, the passage does not explicitly mention it in the context of the education policy.

d) Confirmation bias refers to the tendency to favor information that confirms pre-existing beliefs, and it is not related to the approach mentioned in the passage.

116 - d

The phrase "bridging the learning divide" refers to the act of addressing infrastructural gaps in Indian schools to ensure equitable access to education for all students, regardless of their geographical location or socio-economic status. The passage mentions that expanding digital infrastructure and promoting online resources can help achieve this goal, reaching remote areas and marginalized communities. Option d best represents this meaning of the phrase as mentioned in the passage.

- a) The passage does mention the integration of various subjects and disciplines, but this is not the primary meaning of "bridging the learning divide."
- b) While the passage mentions the adoption of technology and online resources, it is not the primary meaning of "bridging the learning divide."
- c) While reducing the teacher-pupil ratio is mentioned in the passage, it is not the primary meaning of "bridging the learning divide."

117- c

The passage mentions that the interplay between logical thinking, complex thinking, and irrational thinking patterns is a multifaceted and nuanced domain. It highlights the differences between these thinking patterns, such as linear thought process in logical thinking, network of interconnected ideas in complex thinking, and cognitive biases in irrational thinking. The passage does not imply that the interplay leads to balanced decision-making, can be fully eliminated through critical thinking education or is more pronounced in children than in adults.

118 - c

The passage mentions that cognitive biases, such as confirmation bias, availability heuristic, and anchoring effect, tend to distort objective reasoning, leading to suboptimal decisions. These cognitive biases can have implications on personal, organizational, and societal levels. The passage specifically mentions how the advent of the digital age and social media platforms can amplify cognitive biases and entrench individuals in polarized worldviews, leading to disinformation campaigns and polarizing narratives during elections. Option c best represents the inferred impact of cognitive biases on societal levels as mentioned in the passage.

119 - a

The tone of the passage is optimistic and encouraging. It emphasizes the significance of critical thinking education, starting from early childhood, in fostering logical reasoning, creative problem-solving, and resilience against cognitive biases. The passage highlights strategies to combat irrational thinking, such as critical thinking education, fact-checking initiatives, and media literacy programs. While the passage discusses the challenges and complexities of human thought and the impact of cognitive biases, it

presents a hopeful outlook by proposing solutions and approaches to mitigate the impacts of irrational thinking. Option a best represents the overall tone of the passage.

120 - a

The figure of speech used in the sentence is a simile. A simile is a literary device that compares two different things using the words "like" or "as." In the given sentence, the comparison is made between "Her smile" and "the sun" using the word "as." The use of "as bright as" in the sentence makes it a simile, highlighting the brightness and radiance of the person's smile by likening it to the brightness of the sun.

121 - c

The passage states that the author's decision to write about Caroline as herself instead of as she was fueled by the realization of an imbalance. After spending years serving Caroline's artistic vision and moulding herself to fit Caroline's needs, the author finally decided to write about her to address this imbalance.

122 - b

The passage suggests that the media frenzy and consequences that followed the author's essay were overwhelmingly positive. The author mentions that the essay received an overwhelming response, and the essay was adapted into a limited series, indicating that the author feels elated about the attention and success of their work.

123 - c

The central idea of the passage revolves around the author's motivation for writing about Caroline as herself instead of as her. The author reflects on the reasons that led to this decision and the emotions and consequences that followed.

124 - b

The passage implies that the author's collaboration with Caroline was marked by competing narratives, and the manuscript remained unfinished. The author also mentions spending years serving Caroline's artistic vision while barely pursuing their own writing. These details suggest a challenging and unfulfilling creative partnership between the two writers.

125 - b

The passage mentions that the author's mother would take them out of school for adventures, encourage art projects with natural materials, and foster a sense of wonder and excitement in their lives. This suggests that she actively encouraged her children to explore and be creative.

126 - d

The passage describes the author's mother and her experiences without expressing strong emotions or judgments. It simply narrates the events and memories, making the tone neutral.

127 - c

The passage talks about the author's realization that motherhood is not about seeking validation through social media portrayals but about embracing the messy and unpredictable moments in life, which make it uniquely beautiful.

128 - b

Before encountering Amanda Watters' post, the author mentions spending hours scrolling Instagram to find idealized maternal performances. This suggests that her views of motherhood were influenced by social media and had a positive and idealized perception.

129 - c

In the passage, "underfunded" refers to the healthcare system suffering from a lack of funding, which means it does not have enough financial support to function optimally.

130 - b

The passage mentions the National Health Mission as one of the government's initiatives to enhance health outcomes and provide equal access to healthcare for all Indians.

131 - d

The passage mentions the healthcare system's issues, such as a shortage of medical professionals and being underfunded, which are difficulties faced by the system.

132 - b

The passage suggests that with an expanding middle-class segment, there might be higher investments in the private healthcare sector. As a result, it is likely that public healthcare investments may increase to cater to the growing healthcare demands of the population.

133 - b

The analysts in the passage mentioned that the IT sector is facing challenges primarily because of global economic conditions, high inflation, and the banking crisis in the US and Europe. Option b) closely resembles this reasoning as it mentions the struggles of the IT sector being attributed to global economic conditions and the banking crisis.

134 - c

The passage discusses the challenges faced by India's IT sector and paints a picture of ongoing struggles, lack of improvement, and uncertainties in the industry. This overall negative outlook makes the tone of the passage critical and pessimistic.

135 - c

The passage mentions that the COVID-19 outbreak put tremendous strain on India's healthcare system and had repercussions on various sectors, including the IT sector. It highlights how the global growth slowdown and other macroeconomic challenges contributed to the stress in the IT sector.

136 - c

The central idea of the passage revolves around the challenges faced by India's IT sector and the analysts' predictions that these challenges will continue due to global economic conditions, high inflation, and the banking crisis in the US and Europe.

137 - d

Atticus was determined to uphold the principles of justice and fairness. Atticus's decision to defend Tom Robinson, a Black man accused of raping a white woman, shows his commitment to justice and fairness. Throughout the novel, Atticus is depicted as a principled lawyer who believes in upholding the fundamental rights of all individuals, regardless of their race.

138 - b

Throughout the novel, Atticus imparts valuable life lessons to his children about the importance of empathy and understanding. Scout and Jem learn to challenge societal prejudices and show compassion for others, reflecting the impact of Atticus's teachings.

139 - c

The passage provides information and facts about the character of Atticus Finch and his impact on the narrative and themes of "To Kill a Mockingbird." The tone is neutral and unbiased, presenting the details in a straightforward manner.

140 - c

Atticus Finch takes on the difficult case of defending Tom Robinson, knowing that the odds are stacked against them in a deeply racist society. He remains committed to upholding the principles of justice and fairness throughout the trial, despite facing hostility and threats from the community.

141- b

In the passage, equity is defined as giving everyone what they need to be successful, which means providing resources according to individual requirements rather than treating everyone the same.

142 - b

The passage mentions that English courts settled disputes according to Common Law, which provided uniform and consistent justice. However, it also questions whether it was

fair to impose the same punishment for different theft cases with varying values. This suggests that English courts adopted the principle of equity to consider differing circumstances in their judgments.

143 - b

The central idea of the passage revolves around the concept of equity, emphasizing that fairness is not about treating everyone the same but about considering individual circumstances and providing resources accordingly.

144 - b

The passage discusses the concept of equity, its historical applications, and the ongoing conversation about its significance. To fully comprehend the content, it is best to read the passage thoroughly and take notes to grasp the details about equity and its relevance in different contexts.

145 - a

The passage discusses the potential of AI in Indian healthcare and how it can revolutionize the industry by providing sustainable and scalable solutions.

146 - c

The passage discusses the immense potential of AI in transforming the healthcare landscape of India, highlighting its bright and optimistic future.

147 - b

The passage mentions that post the COVID-19 pandemic, the landscape of healthcare in India transformed to become more robust and challenging. It led to rapid advancements in technology and propelled AI-related investments in medical and healthcare startups for better care management.

148 - c

The passage mentions that post the COVID-19 pandemic, there have been rapid advancements in technology and increased investment in AI-related initiatives by medical and healthcare startups for better care management. From this data, we can

draw the conclusion that AI-based solutions have resulted in increased investment and growth in healthcare startups in India, making option c) the correct choice.

149 - c

The passage mentions that karma is connected to how a person's past actions can impact their future. It influences the cycle of rebirth, determining the quality of their future lives.

150 - c

The passage primarily focuses on the beliefs and teachings of Buddhism, particularly the Four Noble Truths and the Middle Way.

151- d

In the passage, it is mentioned that at the heart of Buddhism lies the belief in the cycle of suffering and rebirth, known as samsara. Buddhists seek to break free from this cycle by attaining a state of enlightenment called nirvana. Siddhartha Gautama, known as the Buddha, achieved this enlightened state after a profound journey of self-discovery. The fourth truth in Buddhism outlines the path, known as the Middle Way, to attain liberation and end suffering. Therefore, the fundamental belief in Buddhism is the pursuit of liberation from suffering through attaining nirvana.

152 - b

The passage presents information about Buddhism in a factual and impartial manner, without expressing any particular emotional bias.

153 - d

The term "underlying (core) inflation" in the passage refers to inflation that is projected to decline more gradually over the specified period.

154 - d

The passage mentions that the rise in central bank policy rates to fight inflation continues to weigh on economic activity, indicating that this scenario poses a risk to global inflation.

155 - c

The passage primarily focuses on presenting projections and discussing potential risks to the global economic outlook, such as inflation, financial sector turbulence, and geopolitical events.

156 - c

The passage states that the recent actions to resolve the US debt ceiling standoff and contain turbulence in US and Swiss banking have reduced the immediate risks of financial sector turmoil, indicating a successful outcome.

157 - c

The passage mentions that businesses are striving to combat the effects of climate change and reduce their impact on the environment, which aligns with the goal of sustainability to lower carbon footprints.

158 - c

The passage mentions that the new carbon accounting standard assists in drawing in on the existing standards, including scope 3 reporting, which involves reporting on supply chain emissions.

159 - c

The passage states that AI is essential in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, contributing to sustainability efforts. a), b), and d) are not supported by the passage.

160 - b

The passage discusses how sustainability has become a top priority for businesses due to the increasing demand for eco-friendly products and practices, as well as efforts to combat climate change and reduce environmental impact.

161 - b

The passage describes the changing work preferences as being challenged and subject

to potential change in the face of economic downturns. This suggests a neutral and cautious tone.

162 - b

The phrase "seeds of change" is used metaphorically to represent the early stages of a transformation in work preferences, indicating that significant changes are beginning to take root.

163 - c

The passage mentions that employees manage family responsibilities, community obligations, health concerns, financial challenges, and more. The desire for flexibility is likely driven by the need to manage personal responsibilities effectively.

164 - c

The passage states that concerns regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), fair pay, and other movements are influencing the spotlight towards company values and culture, indicating that these factors are driving the focus on workplace culture.

165 - c

The passage mentions that the novel weaves together themes of friendship, bravery, self-discovery, and the power of dreams, making option C the correct answer.

166 - c

The passage states that the mythical land of Elysium is rumored to hold the secrets of eternal youth and boundless knowledge, making option C the correct answer.

167- a

The passage describes the novel as an "enthraling fantasy adventure" and uses words like "perilous quest," "breathtaking landscapes," and "enchanted world," which convey an exciting and adventurous tone, making option A the correct answer.

168 - c

The passage mentions that in their quest, Amelia and her friends encounter moral dilemmas, and the lure of eternal youth and boundless knowledge tempts some

members of the group, leading to conflicts and soul-searching moments, making option C the correct answer.

169 - b

The main focus of the passage is to explore the longstanding and contentious debate between literal and free translation techniques. The author presents the viewpoints of supporters of literal translation, who advocate for preserving the original rhetoric and exotic style of the text, and those in favour of free translation, who view translation as an art form. Both sides are passionately supported, making the discussion inconclusive. The passage delves into the concept of automatization and de-automatization in translation, where certain situations require a conscious selection of grammatical choices to maintain the poetic features of the original material. Through this discussion, the passage highlights the complexities and considerations involved in deciding between literal and free translation methods.

170 - b

In the passage, the views of those advocating literal translation are portrayed as passionate and persuasive. The passage mentions that these supporters strongly argue for the importance of preserving the original rhetoric and exotic style of the text through literal translation. They believe that this approach maintains the essence and nuances of the source material. The use of phrases such as "preserves the original rhetoric and exotic style of the text" and "only conveys the basic concept, losing the vibrant rhetoric" reflects the fervent stance taken by proponents of a literal translation. The author presents their arguments with emphasis, indicating the strong conviction behind their beliefs. Overall, the portrayal of these views as passionate and persuasive highlights the intensity of the ongoing debate between literal and free translation in the world of translation.

171 - c

Based on the passage, extensive de-automatization in translation could lead to reduced creative freedom for the translator. De-automatization refers to freeing lower-level systems from semantic control, which allows for a more conscious selection of

grammatical choices. In this context, the translator may have to adhere closely to the lexical and grammatical structures of the original text, resulting in a more literal rendering. As a consequence, the translator's ability to creatively interpret and re-imagine the text may be limited, as choices become more structured and less open to artistic expression. This could potentially constrain the translator's artistic interpretation and impact the overall poetic features of the translation. Thus, de-automatization may result in a trade-off between preserving the original features of the text and the translator's creative licence, affecting the translation's artistic depth and richness.

172 - a

The approach to translation that is likely to preserve the original rhetoric and exotic style of the text is a literal translation, which is option (a). The passage highlights that proponents of literal translation firmly believe in maintaining the essence and nuances of the source material. They argue that literal translation helps retain the original rhetoric and unique style of the text, ensuring that the cultural and linguistic aspects are faithfully conveyed to the target language. By adhering closely to the lexical and grammatical structures of the original, literal translation aims to present the text in a manner that closely mirrors the source. This approach prioritizes fidelity to the original work, capturing its distinctive features and intricacies, even if it may lead to some variation in the target language. Therefore, option (a) is the most suitable choice, as it aligns with the view of preserving the original rhetoric and exotic style of the text through literal translation.

173 - b

The central theme of the passage revolves around the importance of women's health and economic empowerment, which is option (B). The Women Deliver 2023 Conference serves as a backdrop for the discussion, bringing together a large global gathering to address issues affecting girls and women worldwide. The passage seeks to provide deeper insights into the multifaceted subject of gender by exploring the perspectives of three inspirational leaders from diverse backgrounds. These leaders offer their personal

takes on women's health and economic power, emphasising the surprising connections between the two aspects.

174 - a

From the passage, it can be inferred that women with economic power are less likely to face health issues, making option (A) the correct inference. While the passage does not explicitly state this relationship, it does highlight the surprising connections between women's health and economic empowerment. The fact that the passage explores the perspectives of three leaders on women's health and economic power implies that these aspects are interconnected. Economic empowerment can lead to improved access to healthcare, better nutrition, and overall improved living conditions, which in turn can positively impact women's health outcomes. By addressing economic disparities and empowering women economically, there is a likelihood of reducing health disparities and improving overall well-being for women.

175 - c

The conclusion that can be drawn from the passage is that access to healthcare positively impacts women's economic participation, which corresponds to option (cC). The passage explores the multifaceted subject of gender, with a specific focus on the perspectives of three inspirational leaders who address women's health and economic empowerment. It suggests that there is a strong connection between these two aspects, indicating that women's access to healthcare plays a crucial role in their ability to participate in the labour force and attain economic independence. Improved access to healthcare can lead to better health outcomes, enabling women to actively engage in economic activities and contribute to their families and communities.

176 - a

The tone of the passage is optimistic and encouraging, which aligns with option (aA). The author presents the Women Deliver 2023 Conference as the largest global gathering focused on addressing issues affecting girls and women worldwide, signalling hope for progress and positive change. The exploration of the multifaceted subject of gender through the perspectives of three inspirational leaders adds to the uplifting tone,

emphasising the potential for transformative impact. The passage highlights the strong connections between women's health and economic empowerment, painting a picture of how advancements in these areas can mutually influence and benefit each other. The language used throughout the passage conveys a positive outlook, motivating readers to consider the significance of these issues and their potential to uplift individuals, families, and communities.

177 - c

From the passage, it can be inferred that the "anti-woke" movement may oppose Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) efforts beyond racial issues, supporting option (Cc). The passage introduces the emergence of the "anti-woke" movement as a response to the current focus on racial and social justice issues, hinting at its potential opposition to D&I initiatives. As the passage mentions that this movement could transform into broader resistance against D&I efforts, it suggests that its opposition may extend to areas beyond racial issues. While the passage does not explicitly state the specific stance of organisations advocating social justice or the direct connection to the Black Lives Matter movement, it does indicate that the "anti-woke" movement may challenge the broader concepts of diversity and inclusion in organisations. Thus, option (c) aligns with the inferred information from the passage regarding the "anti-woke" movement.

178 - b

The phrase "The world continues reverting to pre-pandemic norms" best reflects a neutral tone, which corresponds to option (bB). The statement presents a factual observation without expressing any strong emotion or opinion. It merely describes the ongoing trend of the world returning to the way it was before the pandemic, maintaining a neutral stance. The author does not interject personal views or sentiments into this statement, keeping it objective and unbiased. Throughout the passage, the tone remains informative and objective, discussing various trends and developments without favouring any particular viewpoint. The use of neutral language and factual descriptions contributes to the overall balanced and neutral tone of the passage, ensuring that readers receive information without any apparent bias or persuasion. Therefore, option (b) is the best representation of a phrase with a neutral tone in the passage.

179 - b

The primary purpose of the passage is to inform readers about the emerging trends in 2023, as stated in option (B). Throughout the passage, the author presents a comprehensive overview of various trends shaping the landscape in the mentioned year. The passage covers three main categories of trends: external trends, internal trends within organizations, and a combination of both. It discusses significant movements like the "anti-woke" movement and the impact of movements like Black Lives Matter in previous years. Moreover, the passage delves into how shareholder activism and changes in procurement priorities are influencing Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) efforts within organisations. The author offers insights into the evolving definitions of diversity and the growing relevance of social value initiatives. The overall tone of the passage remains informative and objective, presenting a wide range of trends and developments for readers to gain a comprehensive understanding of the landscape in 2023. The primary intent is to provide readers with knowledge and awareness of the significant trends that are expected to have an impact in the given year, rather than persuading them to support a particular cause or criticising companies for their actions. Therefore, option (b) accurately captures the main purpose of the passage.

180 - c

In the passage, the word "tangible" is most likely used to mean "concrete and measurable," as stated in option (cC). The term is used to describe evidence or changes that are clearly observable and can be quantified or assessed. The passage discusses how shareholders are seeking not just information about Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) programs and intentions but also tangible evidence of implemented changes. In this context, "tangible" refers to outcomes and results that are tangible, concrete, and can be objectively measured or assessed. It implies that shareholders are demanding concrete evidence of progress in D&I initiatives rather than just vague statements or intentions. Option (cC) aligns with the meaning of "tangible" as used in the passage, emphasising its role in describing measurable and observable aspects related to D&I efforts.

181 - a

The main idea of the passage is that India's automotive industry is on a trajectory to become the world's third-largest market by 2030, as stated in option (A). The passage provides various pieces of evidence and data to support this central theme. It highlights the significant role of the automotive industry in India's GDP and manufacturing sector, showcasing the nation's leadership in electric vehicle (EV) adoption. The passage further delves into production and market share data, emphasizing the growth of electric vehicles and the associated job creation potential. It also discusses the shifting customer preferences, industry growth projections, and the positive growth in automobile exports. Overall, the passage presents a comprehensive overview of the automotive industry's current performance and its promising future trajectory, ultimately focusing on India's potential to become the world's third-largest market by 2030. Option (A) accurately captures the primary focus of the passage, which revolves around India's automotive industry and its projected growth and dominance in the global market.

182 - d

The passage provides clear evidence that the electric vehicle (EV) market in India is expected to grow rapidly, as mentioned in option (D). It states that the EV market is projected to experience a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 49% between 2022 and 2030, indicating a significant increase in its size and impact. Furthermore, the passage highlights the potential job creation that the booming EV industry is anticipated to bring. It states that the industry is estimated to create 50 million direct and indirect jobs by 2030, which showcases the immense economic potential and employment opportunities associated with the EV sector. The passage's emphasis on the growth and job creation aspects makes it evident that the EV market in India is poised for substantial expansion in the coming years. Therefore, option (d) accurately reflects the inferred information about the positive growth prospects of the electric vehicle market in India.

183 - b

In the passage, an optimistic tone is evident as it portrays India's automotive industry in a positive light. The passage emphasizes the industry's trajectory to become the world's third-largest market by 2030, showcasing its dominance in the global heavy vehicles arena. It further highlights the industry's significant role in India's GDP and manufacturing sector, underlining its economic importance. The passage also discusses the booming growth of the electric vehicle (EV) market and the potential for creating 50 million direct and indirect jobs by 2030, which further adds to the optimistic outlook. Overall, the passage paints a hopeful picture of India's automotive industry, reflecting confidence in its potential for expansion and success in the coming years. As a result, option (b) accurately captures the optimistic tone that permeates the passage.

184 - c

The automotive industry's contribution to India's GDP is substantial, as highlighted in the passage. It accounts for 7.1% of the country's total GDP, making it a significant economic sector. Additionally, the industry's role in India's manufacturing GDP is noteworthy, constituting 49% of the entire manufacturing sector. This indicates the industry's importance in driving economic growth and generating employment opportunities in the country. As one of the key pillars of India's industrial landscape, the automotive sector's continued expansion and success bode well for the nation's economic development. Option (c) accurately captures the industry's significant contribution to India's manufacturing GDP, as described in the passage.

185 - a

The main theme of the passage is the power of human kindness and compassion in preserving nature. Through the character of Lily, the passage highlights the profound impact that a genuine curiosity and a kind heart can have on the enchanted forest and its mystical inhabitants. The passage emphasizes the importance of empathy and understanding in fostering a harmonious relationship between humans and nature. It showcases how human actions can positively influence the well-being of the

environment and its inhabitants, underscoring the significance of preserving and protecting the wonders of nature through acts of kindness and compassion. When an ominous darkness begins to spread across the forest, worried about her newfound friends and the magical place, Lily decides to confront the source of the darkness just for the sake of her new friends - for the well-being of the environment and its inhabitants. Option (a) captures this central message, emphasizing the powerful role of human emotions and actions in safeguarding the enchanting beauty and magic of the natural world.

186 - b

The ancient tree in the Enchanted Forest holds a symbolic significance of the interconnectedness between humans and nature. As a central element of the forest's enchantment, the tree represents the profound relationship that exists between the natural world and human beings. The tree acts as a metaphor for the delicate balance and harmony that should exist between humans and the mystical realm of nature. It serves as a reminder that our actions, guided by empathy and kindness, can contribute to the well-being and preservation of the magical wonders that the natural world holds. Option (b) aptly captures the deeper meaning and symbolism associated with the ancient tree, highlighting the mutual dependence and significance of humans and nature in the Enchanted Forest.

187 - b

Lily's character is portrayed as brave and compassionate in the passage. Her insatiable curiosity and adventurous spirit lead her to venture into the Enchanted Forest, a place known for its magical wonders and mystical creatures. Despite the enchanting yet unfamiliar surroundings, Lily fearlessly explores deeper into the forest, encountering a diverse array of mystical beings. Her compassionate nature is evident when she forms deep bonds with the forest's inhabitants, learning from them and sharing her knowledge about the human realm in return. Overall, Lily's brave and compassionate character becomes the driving force that drives the narrative forward, highlighting the positive impact that empathy and kindness can have in preserving the natural world and

fostering harmony between humans and nature. Option (b) captures the essence of Lily's character and her admirable qualities displayed throughout the passage.

188 - c

The logical corollary of Lily's selfless act of compassion towards the ancient tree is that the villagers, who are already aware of the magical wonders of the Enchanted Forest, witness the positive impact of her actions. As news spreads about Lily's brave and compassionate deeds in confronting the darkness and saving the forest, the villagers will likely regard her with admiration and respect. They will see her as a guardian of the forest, someone who is deeply connected to the mystical realm and possesses a special bond with its inhabitants. Lily's act of preserving the magic and well-being of the Enchanted Forest would earn her a revered place in the hearts of the villagers, and they might seek her guidance and protection for the enchanting land they hold dear. In becoming the guardian of the forest, Lily would be entrusted with the responsibility of maintaining its harmony and safeguarding it from any future threats, further solidifying her connection to the magical world she has come to cherish. Option (c) aptly captures the result of Lily's selflessness, as it highlights the recognition and honor she receives from the villagers for her heroic actions.

189 - b

The central idea of the passage is the mysterious presence of a spectral reader and its influence on the writer's work. The narrator, a struggling freelance writer, finds solace in the soft glow of a solitary oil lamp while writing in his small rooms in Dehradun. However, his peaceful writing routine is disrupted when he notices a shadow of a woman on the wall beside him, as if someone is reading his words as he writes them. Despite feeling uneasy at first, he grows accustomed to the presence and even cherishes the idea of having a reader for his work, even if she is a spectral one. The spectral reader's influence becomes more evident as she makes her presence known through various means, ultimately impacting the writer's creative process. The passage delves into the mysterious and intriguing encounter between the writer and the spectral presence, exploring the dynamics of their unique relationship and how it affects the

writer's writing endeavours. Option (b) captures the essence of this central theme, highlighting the spectral reader's influence on the writer's work.

190 - b

The narrator's tone in describing his experience with the spectral reader is indeed fearful and apprehensive. Throughout the passage, he conveys a sense of unease and discomfort, starting from the moment he notices the shadow on the wall beside him while writing. He mentions being unsettled by the sensation of being watched and feeling determined to ignore the presence to continue his work undisturbed. However, the spectral reader's persistent attempts to make her presence known, such as the mysterious fragrances and unsettling disturbances, only add to the narrator's apprehension. Despite cherishing the idea of having a reader for his work, the underlying tone remains one of fear and uncertainty, as the spectral presence continues to exert an enigmatic influence on the writer's creative process. The narrator also describes the chilling experience when "the writer found his manuscript scattered across the floor on one occasion, and on another, he was awoken in the middle of the night by blood-curdling shrieks that seemed to echo within the room". The choice of words and descriptions in the passage contributes to an overall tone of suspense and trepidation as the narrator navigates the intriguing encounter with the spectral reader. Thus, option (b) accurately captures the emotional tone conveyed by the narrator.

191 - d

The narrator's reaction to the spectral reader can be inferred as a combination of fascination and unsettled feelings. On one hand, the narrator seems intrigued by the idea of having a reader for his work, even if she is a spectral one. He cherishes the notion of someone reading and engaging with his writing. However, at the same time, he is unsettled and disturbed by the presence of the spectral reader, as evident from his efforts to ignore her and work undisturbed. The strange occurrences, such as the manuscript being scattered and blood-curdling shrieks, add to his unease and contribute to a sense of fear and apprehension. Thus, the narrator's reaction is a complex mix of curiosity and fascination, coupled with a sense of being unnerved by the

enigmatic and mysterious nature of the spectral reader's presence. Option (d) aptly captures this duality in the narrator's emotional response to the spectral reader.

192 - c

Based on the passage, a logical prediction that can be made is that the spectral reader's presence will continue to influence the writer's work. The passage describes how the spectral reader is determined to assert herself, using various means to make her presence known, such as scattering the writer's manuscript and creating eerie disturbances. This persistence indicates that the spectral reader is not likely to fade away or be dismissed easily. Moreover, the narrator's fascination with the idea of having a reader for his work, even if she is spectral, suggests that he may eventually come to embrace her presence and even seek inspiration from it. As long as the spectral reader continues to engage with the writer's work, her influence is likely to remain and play a significant role in shaping the writer's creative endeavours in the future. Therefore, option (cC) is the most reasonable prediction based on the information provided in the passage.

193 - c

The main idea of the passage revolves around the threat posed by mosquitoes as vectors of lethal pathogens, their ability to transmit devastating diseases, and the necessity of global efforts to combat mosquito-borne diseases. While A, B, and D touch upon specific aspects discussed in the passage, they do not capture the overarching theme, which is the significance of mosquitoes in transmitting diseases and the need for concerted efforts to address the issue.

194 - a

The metaphorical expression "diminutive vectors of lethal pathogens" emphasizes the small size of mosquitoes while highlighting their role as carriers (vectors) of harmful microorganisms that cause diseases. Option B incorrectly implies that mosquitoes are insignificant carriers, while C and D do not accurately capture the intended meaning of the metaphor.

195 - c

The passage mentions that interpreting the effect of weather on arboviral transmission is complex, making it difficult to predict the number of people who will become infected in any given year. Option A and D are too extreme and are not supported by the passage. Option B overstates the influence of weather, whereas the passage indicates that the relationship is intricate and not solely determined by the weather.

196 - c

The author's tone is analytical and informative, as they provide factual information about mosquito-borne diseases, their transmission, and various strategies to combat them. The passage is not alarmist (option A), overly optimistic (option B), or critical and dismissive (option D).

197 - a

The main idea of the passage revolves around the captivating domain of anthropology, which is described as a multifaceted study of human societies, cultures, and their evolutionary trajectories. The author emphasizes the intricate web of interconnectedness between individuals, communities, and civilizations, shedding light on the rich tapestry of cultural diversity and human complexity. Option B and C touch upon aspects mentioned in the passage, but they are not the primary focus. Option D, though partly accurate, does not encompass the holistic scope of the main idea presented in the passage.

198 - a

The metaphorical expression "a variety of colourful flowers in a garden" symbolizes the beauty and richness that diversity can bring when managed harmoniously. Option B and C do not capture the positive connotation of the expression, and option D does not directly relate to the metaphor mentioned in the passage.

199 - c

The author highlights that studying anthropology can lead to a better understanding of

the distinctive characters of different people, ethnic groups, religions, communities, and nations, which, in turn, promotes mutual tolerance and peace. Option A and B do not accurately reflect the passage's emphasis on the significance of anthropology in promoting tolerance and peace. Option D is incorrect as the passage does highlight the contribution of anthropology to promoting mutual tolerance and peace.

200 - b

The tone of the passage is reflective and introspective as the author delves into the intricacies of human existence, cultural diversity, and the significance of anthropology in understanding human societies. The passage encourages contemplation and reflection on the subject matter. Option A, C, and D do not accurately capture the reflective and introspective nature of the author's approach in the passage.

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