

CAT 2014 VARC Slot 1 Question Paper

Time Allowed :2 Hours	Maximum Marks :198	Total Questions :66
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General Instructions

Read the following instructions very carefully:

1. The total duration of the test is **2 hours**, with **40 minutes** allotted per section.
2. The question paper is divided into **three sections**:
 - **Section 1:** Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension (VARC) – 24 questions
 - **Section 2:** Data Interpretation and Logical Reasoning (DILR) – 20 questions
 - **Section 3:** Quantitative Aptitude (QA) – 22 questions
3. Each correct answer carries **+3 marks**.
4. For multiple-choice questions (MCQs), **–1 mark** will be deducted for each wrong answer.
5. There is **no negative marking** for Type-in-the-Answer (TITA) questions.
6. Once the allotted time for a section ends, you will automatically move to the next section. You cannot go back to a previous section.
7. All answers must be entered on the computer screen using the mouse and keyboard. Rough sheets will be provided.
8. The use of calculators, mobile phones, or any other electronic device is strictly prohibited. An on-screen basic calculator will be provided.

Q1. Each of Mr. Raj, his mother, his wife, and his son is a different professional among lawyer, doctor, engineer, and accountant. - Accountant is not the son of the lawyer (lawyer is blood relative of the doctor). - Engineer is son of the accountant, who is not blood relative of the doctor. Who can never be the doctor?

- (A) Mr. Raj
 - (B) Mr. Raj's wife
 - (C) Mr. Raj's son
 - (D) Both A and C
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Q2. Five boys — Vivek, Abhishek, Roy, Das, and Ranjan — are compared for height and weight.

- Vivek is taller and lighter than Abhishek.
- Ranjan is shorter and heavier than Das.
- Both Abhishek and Roy are taller and heavier than Das.
- If Abhishek is taller than Roy, then Vivek is heavier than Ranjan.
- Roy is heavier than Abhishek.

If Roy is heavier than Das, then Abhishek is taller than Roy. Who is the lightest?

- (A) Roy
 - (B) Das
 - (C) Ranjan
 - (D) Abhishek
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Q3. Five men A, B, C, D, and E sit in order at a round table and vote for Chairman. In the first ballot, none votes for self or neighbour. First ballot results in tie. In the second ballot, C votes for E, others stick to original choices, resulting in B's victory. Who voted for B in the first ballot?

- (A) D
 - (B) E
 - (C) C
 - (D) Cannot be determined
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Q4. Choose the sentence in which the usage of the word APART is *incorrect* or *inappropriate*.

- (A) As soon as Abhishek took the toy train in his hands, the whole thing came apart and he started bawling.
- (B) I mistake Latha for Sheela because I can't differentiate between them apart.
- (C) Jerry completed the paper, apart from the last question.
- (D) Thanks to technology, we don't feel that we live 3000 kms apart.

Q5. Choose the sentence in which the usage of the word **GROUND is *incorrect* or *inappropriate*.**

- (A) Good workers are thin on ground these days.
- (B) The Kargil soldiers held their ground against the enemy.
- (C) The guest lecturer covered new ground in every session.
- (D) My grandfather designed the house from the ground up.

Q6.

- (A) Many of the Impressionists eschewed black, for example, conscious that shadow was actually composed of other colours, mostly purples and blues.
- (B) In his delightfully readable book, Philip Hook, Sotheby's senior director of Impressionist and Modern Art, analyses how the movement took different forms in different countries.
- (C) Whether in their landscapes, figure paintings or still lifes, the Impressionists celebrated and transformed the commonplace, finding beauty in a misty harbour at sunrise and radiance in a bowl of fruit.
- (D) But what it had in common everywhere was the younger generation's desire to cleanse artistic vision by painting only what they saw about them, with broad brush strokes and brighter, simpler colours.

Solutions:

Step 1: Analyze context

- Sentences (A), (C), and (D) discuss characteristics and techniques of the Impressionist movement.
- Sentence (B) shifts focus to a modern author, Philip Hook, which is not part of the historical description of Impressionists themselves.

Step 2: Identify inconsistency

- Sentence (B) is inappropriate in the context as it introduces an external commentary rather than describing the movement directly.

Step 3: Conclusion

- Therefore, sentence (B) is the incorrect/inappropriate one in this passage context.

Quick Tip
When checking for sentence appropriateness in a passage, focus on whether the sentence aligns with the main subject and tone. Sentences introducing unrelated external references are often incorrect.

Q7.

- (A) A less barbaric fix is cloning patients' hair cells.
- (B) Surgical solutions for restoring lush locks have always involved a painful trade-off — transplanting hair from the rear of your head to the top could leave you thin in the back.
- (C) The procedure is a matter of vanity, it could provide insight into how to clone other tissues for therapeutic uses.

(D) Dr. Farjo makes use of this technique and injects the clones into sparse scalp regions, where each can sprout a fresh hair.

Solutions:

Step 1: Analyze context

- Sentences (A), (B), and (D) describe the hair restoration procedure, its challenges, and implementation. - Sentence (C) mixes two ideas improperly: it begins by calling the procedure a matter of vanity, then abruptly mentions a scientific insight, creating a confusing or illogical connection.

Step 2: Identify inconsistency

- Sentence (C) is inappropriate because it disrupts the logical flow and coherence of the passage, unlike the other sentences which are clearly procedural or descriptive.

Step 3: Conclusion

- Therefore, sentence (C) is the incorrect/inappropriate one in the passage.

Quick Tip

In Reading Comprehension, check for sentence appropriateness by assessing logical flow and coherence. Sentences that abruptly shift focus or mix unrelated ideas are often incorrect.

Passage:

I reported on the Iraq invasion as a “unilateral” journalist, which meant I rented an SUV from Hertz in Kuwait and sneaked across the border with the first US tanks. I wound up in Baghdad on April 9, 2003, and watched the Marines tear down the iconic statue of Saddam Hussein at Firdos Square. I returned to Iraq on several occasions to work on lengthy stories about the dismal turn of events as the occupation turned into a war of Americans against Iraqis, and Iraqis against Iraqis. The carnage, though heartbreaking, was almost the least shocking experience of my journeys between war in the Mideast and my home in New York City.

While Americans killed and got killed in Iraq, Americans back home shopped at Walmart and watched reality television. I had covered a lot of wars and thought I had grown accustomed to peaceful countries being unconcerned by other people’s quarrels. My unsentimental education had begun in the 1990s in Bosnia where I often had a Matrix-like experience. In the morning, I would wake up in Sarajevo or another cursed town that was blasted by bombs, frozen by winter and deprived of food. I would then begin my effort to get the hell out of hell. I would hope for a seat on what was known as Maybe Airlines. These were the UN relief flights that brought food into besieged Sarajevo. Maybe the shelling would be light enough for flights to land and take off, maybe not. If the flights were grounded, I could try to escape by driving along Sniper Alley and through a creepy no man’s land that constituted the only border that mattered in a nation cut and quartered by war.

Distances are small in Europe. By the afternoon, I could be in Vienna or Budapest or London, enjoying the comfortable life that Europe offered many of its citizens: hot showers,

good food, clean sheets, the certainty that I would not be killed by a mortar as I slept. I had a hard time believing these altered states existed in such close proximity. The contented Europeans eating apple strudel or shopping at Harrods on those 1990s afternoons – didn't they realize war was being fought in their backyard? The answer was that they knew and didn't care. Proximity isn't destiny. Bosnia though close, wasn't their home. Other people were killing and dying, not their people.

I had understood only half of it and learned the other half a decade later, on my return to America after sojourns in Iraq. Outside the tight-knit community of military families who cared deeply about the wars, nearly everyone in America went about his or her life as though Iraq and Afghanistan didn't matter much. Nor had Americans been asked to change their way of life. It had become possible, I realized, for a nation to be at war without suffering the inconveniences associated with war – including the inconvenience of thinking about it.

World War II was a classic war in the sense of rationing, of drives for war bonds, of a draft the elite could not avoid with college deferments and of a ceaseless drumbeat in almost every sector of society that a great conflict was being fought that required great sacrifices of everyone. Even for families spared the loss of a loved one overseas, World War II was a visible – intentionally visible – aspect of life in the homeland; the nation's leaders made it so. Life as it was before the war had to be suspended.

Q8. Which of the following best states the author's main point?

- (A) War is an existential issue.
 - (B) War is not an exception to normal peacetime, but an enduring condition.
 - (C) Wars do not bother people any more, even when waged on their behalf.
 - (D) Wartime is the unpleasant and unwelcome partner of peacetime.
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Q9. The phrase 'unsentimental education' is used to:

- (A) imply that there is no escape from the clutches of war.
 - (B) disclose the shockingly indifferent attitude of people towards war.
 - (C) point out that wars are no longer situated in historical context.
 - (D) argue that the end of war is imminent.
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Q10. The author states "Proximity isn't destiny" to suggest that:

- (A) pushing the boundaries during military conflict is not a new experience for Europeans.
 - (B) political discourse can be more important to public opinion than war itself.
 - (C) Europeans would not give up their comforts because the neighbours are at war.
 - (D) geographical boundaries are not predestined but wars are.
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Q11. Our Constitution is so simple and _____ that it is always possible to meet extraordinary needs by changes in emphasis and arrangement without loss of essential _____.

- (A) rational notion
 - (B) comprehensible norm
 - (C) practical form
 - (D) realistic ideology
-

Q12. In any society that values liberty and regards it as a right, punishment will be viewed very seriously, to be ----- only if a very good justification for it is -----.

- (A) awarded based
 - (B) imposed posited
 - (C) meted tendered
 - (D) provided forwarded
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Q13. Rearrange the following statements to form a coherent paragraph and pick the correct order.

- (a) In the New York City public schools, the overemphasis on standardized testing has led to test score inflation and numerous cheating scandals.
- (b) Campbell’s Law predicts that any time huge stakes are attached to quantitative data, the data itself will become inherently unreliable and distorted through cheating and gaming the system.
- (c) Precious resources are diverted to “for-profit” testing companies, and learning time is lost as students spend weeks preparing for the tests, and teachers are pulled out of the classroom for days at a time to score them.
- (d) In New York City, class sizes in the early grades are the largest in 13 years.
- (e) Meanwhile school budgets are scraped to the bone and class sizes are rising.

- (A) badec
 - (B) abdec
 - (C) baced
 - (D) cbade
-

Q14. Rearrange the following statements to form a coherent paragraph and pick the correct order.

- (a) As the grammar of standard English extends to the grammar of code, our errors find themselves embedded in programmes and replicating further and more widely than previously imaginable.

- (b) Even a poorly constructed tweet reflects a poorly constructed thought, while grammatically lacking e-mail messages have become the hallmark of password phishing scams.
 - (c) Language is no less exacting than mathematics.
 - (d) As the title of a book “Eats, Shoots and Leaves” demonstrates, a single comma can change a sentence about the diet of a panda to one describing the behaviour of a dine-and-dash killer.
 - (e) The emergence of digital technology makes precision in language even more important.
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- (A) acdeb
 - (B) cdeab
 - (C) deabc
 - (D) edabc
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Q15. The passage mentions which of the following as a feature of the 1980s postmodernist wave?

- (A) It resisted Frye’s fixing of meaning with the contention that the text is fluid.
 - (B) It led the deconstruction of Anatomy of Deconstruction.
 - (C) It condemned Frye’s censure of the canonized literature of dead white males.
 - (D) All of the above.
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Q16. According to the passage; romance, comedy, tragedy and irony are:

- (A) common symbols that populate all of literature.
 - (B) the four essential moulds into which every story could be fit.
 - (C) Atwood’s interpretation of ancient myths that abound in contemporary novels.
 - (D) Jungian archetypes that perpetuate themselves in canonical texts.
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Q17. In the context of the passage, the word “soluble” means:

- (A) decipherable
 - (B) slippery
 - (C) polysemic
 - (D) interpretable
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Q18. During the formative period, organised labour relied almost solely upon its economic strength, while today it places immeasurable value upon the convincing power of logic, facts and the righteousness of its cause. More and more organised labour is coming to believe that its best interests are promoted through concord rather than by conflict.

- (A) It prefers the conference table to the strike field.
- (B) So, trade unionism has kept pace with progress which has been made in industry.
- (C) In doing so, organised labour is not committed to any dogma or to inflexible rules.
- (D) It recognises and appreciates the value and importance of armistice.

Q19. Identify the sentence(s) that are correct in terms of grammar, punctuation, spelling, and usage.

- (a) Tucked in the lower ranges of the eastern Himalayas is a bowl-shaped Ziro valley, the home of the Apatanis, who practise a unique agriculture system for which no farm animals, machines and modern methods are used.
 - (b) Their staple food includes fish, rice and pork. One of their delicacy is cooked rice stuffed in a hollow bamboo stem,
 - (c) which is then baked on burning coal. At night, villagers sit
 - (d) together and enjoy home-brewed rice beer.
 - (e) —
- (A) a and d
 - (B) a, b and e
 - (C) Only d
 - (D) b and d

Q20. Identify the sentence(s) that are correct in terms of grammar, punctuation, spelling, and usage.

- (a) The financial industry has done such a good job of bringing itself to its knees over the past
- (b) four years that it is easy to overlook the threats they face from outside.
- (c) High among them is electronical attack. In 2010, Symantec, a cyber-security firm, estimated that
- (d) three-quarter of all “phishing” attacks, in which people are deceived into surrendering private
- (e) details such as account numbers, are aimed at the finance sector.

- (A) a and e
 - (B) a, d and e
 - (C) d and e
 - (D) Only e
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Passage:

In the first scene of “Hitchcock Loves Bikinis”, a young mum is playing happily with her baby. Next comes a close-up shot of Alfred Hitchcock, the late movie director, smiling. Clearly, he is a man whose heart is warmed by this sweet glimpse of maternal love. In the next scene, we see a bikini-clad woman sunbathing followed by exactly the same shot of Hitchcock smiling. Instead of a benign grandfatherly figure, this time we see a lecherous old man. The moral of the story is simple: context is everything.

Mr. Kagan’s effort, “Psychology’s Ghosts,” consists of his assessment of four problems in psychological theory and clinical practice. The first problem is laid out in the chapter “Missing Contexts”: the fact that many researchers fail to consider that their measurements of brains, behaviour and self-reported experience are profoundly influenced by their subjects’ culture, time and experience, as well as by the situation in which the research is conducted.

In his second essay, “Happiness Ascendant”, Mr. Kagan virtually demolishes the popular academic effort to measure “subjective well-being”, let alone to measure and compare the level of happiness of entire nations. No psychologist, he observes, would accept as reliable your own answer to the question: “How good is your memory?” Whether your answer is “great” or “terrible”, you have no way of knowing whether your memory of good or bad memories is accurate. But psychologists, Mr. Kagan argues, are willing to accept people’s answers to how happy they are as if “it is an accurate measure of a psychological state whose definition remains fuzzy.”

In the third and fourth essays, “Who Is Mentally Ill?” and “Helping the Mentally Ill”, Mr. Kagan turns to the intransigent problems of psychiatric diagnosis and treatment. The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM) “regards every intense bout of sadness or worry, no matter what their origin, as a possible sign of mental disorder.” Mr. Kagan laments. But “most of these illness categories are analogous to complaints of headaches or cramps. Physicians can decide on the best treatment for a headache only after they have determined its cause. The symptom alone is an insufficient guide.”

Nonetheless, the DSM is primarily a collection of symptoms, overlooking the context in which a symptom such as anxiety or low sexual desire occurs and what it means to an individual. It might mean nothing at all. What it means to an American might mean nothing to a Japanese. The same one-size-fits-all approach plagues treatment: “Most drugs can be likened to a blow on the head,” Mr. Kagan observes, they are blunt instruments, not precisely-tailored remedies. Psychotherapy depends largely on the clients’ belief that it will be helpful, which is why all therapies help some people and some people are not helped by any. No experience affects everyone equally — including natural disasters, abuse, having a cruel parent, losing a job or having an illicit affair — though many therapists wish us to believe the opposite.

Q21. The passage is primarily concerned with:

- (A) presenting a series of complaints from psychiatric establishments.
 - (B) highlighting the negative side of positive psychology.
 - (C) alerting modern psychologists to the importance of context.
 - (D) identifying problems in contemporary psychology.
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Q22. The passage suggests which of the following as most likely to be true of the DSM?

- (A) It reduces mental disorders to standard symptoms.
 - (B) It assumes that each category of mental disorders is a completely discrete entity with well defined boundaries dividing it from other mental disorders.
 - (C) It considers all emotional disturbances as mental disorders.
 - (D) It ignores individual differences and thus restricts the validity of its research.
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Q23. It can be inferred from the passage that the author believes which of the following about psychiatric treatment?

- (A) Clinicians have less confidence in the value of therapy.
 - (B) Patients are invariably treated with drugs.
 - (C) Drugs treat symptoms and they may or may not work.
 - (D) Psychotherapy takes an individual's life circumstances into account.
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Q24. The first paragraph performs which of the following functions in the passage?

- (A) It advances an argument to be disputed.
 - (B) It presents situations that support a view discussed in the passage.
 - (C) It introduces conflicting views to be reconciled.
 - (D) It cites a case that illustrates a problem presented more generally in the passage.
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