

CAT 2015 VARC Slot 1 Question Paper with Solution

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.

Passage

Language is not a cultural artifact that we learn the way we learn to tell time or how the federal government works. Instead, it is a distinct piece of the biological makeup of our brains. Language is a complex, specialized skill, which develops in the child spontaneously, without conscious effort or formal instruction, is deployed without awareness of its underlying logic, is qualitatively the same in every individual, and is distinct from more general abilities to process information or behave intelligently. For these reasons some cognitive researchers have described language as a psychological faculty, a mental organ, a neural system, and a computational module. But I prefer the admittedly quaint term “instinct”. It conveys the idea that people know how to talk in more or less the sense that spiders know how to spin webs. Web-spinning was not invented by some unsung spider genius and does not depend on having had the right education or on having an aptitude for architecture or the construction trades. Rather, spiders spin spider webs because they have spider brains, which give them the urge to spin and the competence to succee(d) Although there are differences between webs and words, I will encourage you to see language in this way, for it helps to make sense of the phenomena we will explore.

Thinking of language as an instinct inverts the popular wisdom, especially as it has been passed down in the canon of the humanities and social sciences. Language is no more a cultural invention than is upright posture. It is not a manifestation of a general capacity to use symbols: a three-year old, we shall see, is a grammatical genius, but is quite incompetent at the visual arts, religious iconography, traffic signs, and the other staples of the semiotics curriculum. Though language is a magnificent ability unique to *Homo sapiens* among living species, it does not call for sequestering the study of humans from the domain of biology, for a magnificent ability unique to a particular living species is far from unique in the animal kingdom. Some kinds of bats home in on flying insects using Doppler sonar. Some kinds of migratory birds navigate thousands of miles by calibrating the positions of the constellations against the time of day and year. In nature’s talent show, we are simply a species of primate with our own act, a knack for communicating information about who did what to whom by modulating the sounds we make when we exhale.

Once you begin to look at language not as the ineffable essence of human uniqueness hut as a biological adaptation to communicate information, it is no longer as tempting to see language as an insidious shaper of thought, and, we shall see, it is not. Moreover, seeing language as one of nature’s engineering marvels — an organ with “that perfection of structure and co-adaptation which justly excites our admiration,” in Darwin’s words - gives us a new respect for your ordinary Joe and the much-maligned English language (or any language). The complexity of language, from the researcher’s point of view, is part of our biological birthright; it is not something that parents teach their children or something that must be elaborated in school — as Oscar Wilde said, “Education is an admirable thing, but it is well to remember from time to time that nothing that is worth knowing can be taught.” A preschooler’s tacit knowledge of grammar is more sophisticated than the thickest style manual or the most state-of-the-art computer language system, and the same applies to all healthy human beings, even the notorious syntax fracturing professional athlete and the, you know, like, inarticulate teenage skateboarder. Finally, since language is the product of a well engineered biological instinct, we shall see that it is not the nutty barrel of monkeys that entertainer columnists make it out to be.

1. According to the passage, all of the following stem from popular wisdom on language Except?

- (1) Language is a cultural artifact.
- (2) Language is a cultural invention.
- (3) Language is learnt as we grow.
- (4) Language is a psychological faculty.

Correct Answer: (4) Language is a psychological faculty.

Solution:

The author contrasts the popular wisdom with the scientific view of language. - Popular wisdom suggests that language is a cultural artifact, a cultural invention, or something learnt as we grow. - The author refutes this, arguing instead that language is an instinct, a biological adaptation, and sometimes described as a psychological faculty or mental organ. Thus, "Language is a psychological faculty" does not stem from popular wisdom but from the scientific/cognitive perspective.

 Quick Tip

In Reading Comprehension, carefully separate the author's view from the opposing/popular views mentioned. Look for words like "in contrast," "but," or "instead" to identify shifts in argument.

2. Which of the following can be used as parallel reasoning for the "spiders know how to spin webs" analogy as used by the author?

- (1) A kitten learning to jump over a wall
- (2) Bees collecting nectar
- (3) A donkey carrying a load
- (4) A horse running a Derby

Correct Answer: (2) Bees collecting nectar

Solution: The analogy "spiders know how to spin webs" highlights an **innate, instinctive ability** rather than a learned skill. Spiders are not taught to weave webs; it is an inborn behavior.

- (1) A kitten learning to jump over a wall → This involves **learning**, not instinct. - (2) Bees collecting nectar → This is an **instinctive and natural ability**, just like spiders spinning webs. - (3) A donkey carrying a load → This is not instinctive; it happens when humans train or force it. - (4) A horse running a Derby → While running is natural, a Derby involves **training and competition**, not instinct.

Hence, the best parallel reasoning is **Bees collecting nectar**.

 Quick Tip

When solving **analogy-based reasoning questions**, identify whether the action is **innate (instinctive)** or **acquired (learned)**, and choose the option that matches the same category.

3. According to the passage, which of the following is unique to human beings?

- (1) Ability to use symbols while communicating with one another.
- (2) Ability to communicate with each other through voice modulation.
- (3) Ability to communicate information to other members of the species.
- (4) Ability to use sound as means of communication.

Correct Answer: (2) Ability to communicate with each other through voice modulation.

Solution: The passage highlights that many species, such as bees and birds, communicate effectively with one another. However, the **distinct feature of humans** lies in their ability to convey **nuances and complex meanings through voice modulation**. While other species also use sound and symbols to some extent, this particular capacity for **modulated vocal communication**—enabling abstract, layered, and diverse expression—is unique to humans.

 Quick Tip

In CAT RC questions, carefully look for keywords like *unique*, *only*, or *distinctive*—these help identify what sets humans apart from other species in such analogy-based questions.

4. According to the passage, complexity of language cannot be taught by parents or at school to children because

- (1) children instinctively know language.
- (2) children learn the language on their own.
- (3) language is not amenable to teaching.
- (4) children know language better than their teachers or parents.

Correct Answer: (1) children instinctively know language.

Solution: The passage highlights that while communication skills can be nurtured, the deeper complexity of language is an innate human capacity. This suggests that children are born with an instinctive understanding of language structures, which cannot simply be imparted by parents or teachers. Hence, option (1) is correct.

 Quick Tip

For Reading Comprehension, focus on the underlying idea the author emphasizes rather than surface-level statements. This helps in eliminating close distractors.

5. Which of the following best summarizes the passage?

- (1) Language is unique to Homo sapiens.
- (2) Language is neither learnt nor taught.
- (3) Language is not a cultural invention or artifact as it is made out.

(4) Language is instinctive ability of human beings.

Correct Answer: (4) Language is instinctive ability of human beings.

Solution: The passage highlights that language is not a cultural artifact or invention, nor is it something that can be fully taught or learned like other skills. Instead, it emphasizes that the complexity of language is already innate in humans—children instinctively acquire it without formal teaching. Therefore, the best summary captures this instinctive and inherent nature of language in human beings. Option (4) clearly expresses this core idea, while the other options represent partial or narrower aspects of the passage.

 Quick Tip

When asked for the “best summary,” focus on the central theme of the passage rather than specific supporting details. Eliminate options that are too narrow or only partially reflect the main idea.

6. Why author has referred to ‘preschooler’s tacit knowledge of grammar’?

- (1) To prove that Language is unique to Homo sapiens.
- (2) Used as an analogy for healthy human beings
- (3) To prove his point that language is not a cultural invention or artifact as it is made out.
- (4) To compare children instinctively know language.

Correct Answer: (3) To prove his point that language is not a cultural invention or artifact as it is made out.

Solution: The passage highlights that language is not a cultural artifact or invention, nor is it something that can be fully taught or learned like other skills. Instead, it emphasizes that the complexity of language is already innate in humans—children instinctively acquire it without formal teaching. Therefore, the best summary captures this instinctive and inherent nature of language in human beings. Option (4) clearly expresses this core idea, while the other options represent partial or narrower aspects of the passage.

 Quick Tip

When asked for the “best summary,” focus on the central theme of the passage rather than specific supporting details. Eliminate options that are too narrow or only partially reflect the main idea.

Passage If American policy towards Europe in the postwar years had been a conspicuous success, and towards Asia a disappointing balance between success and failure, it could be said that the most conspicuous thing about relations with Latin America was the absence of any policy. Franklin Roosevelt, to be sure, had launched a “Good Neighbour” policy, but being a good neighbour was, it seemed, a negative rather than a positive affair, a matter of

keeping hands off, of making the Monroe Doctrine, in form at least, multilateral. All through the postwar years, the states of Latin America - - Mexico and Chile were partial exceptions - - were in the throes of major economic and social crises. Population was growing faster than in any other part of the globe, without a comparable increase in wealth or productivity; the gap between the poor and the rich was widening; and as the rich and powerful turned to the military for the preservation of order and privilege, the poor turned to revolution. Deeply involved in other quarters of the globe, the United States paid little attention to the fortunes or misfortunes of her neighbours to the south, and when she did intervene, it appeared to be on the side of order and the status quo rather than on the side of reform. So frightened was the United States of "Communism" in Latin America that it preferred military dictatorship to reformers who might drift too far to the "left", and sustained a Batista in Cuba, a Trujillo in the Dominican Republic, a Peron in Argentina, and a Jimenez in Venezuel(a)

In his last two years, President Eisenhower had tried to mend his Latin American fences. Though rejecting a Brazilian proposal of a Marshall Plan for Latin America, he did take the initiative in setting up an Inter-American development Bank with a capital of one billion dollars, almost half of it supplied by the United States. Other government investments in Latin America ran to some four million dollars, while private investments exceeded nine billion. Yet though to most Americans, all this seemed a form of economic aid, many Latin Americans regarded it as economic imperialism. In September 1960, came a co-operative plan that could not be regarded as other than enlightened: the Act of Bogota, which authorized a grant of half a billion dollars to subsidize not only economic but social and educational progress in Latin Americ(a) "We are not saints", said President Eisenhower when he visited Santiago de Chile, "We know we make mistakes, but our heart is in the right place". But was it? President Kennedy was confronted by the same dilemma that had perplexed his predecessors. Clearly it was essential to provide a large-scale aid to the countries south of Rio Grande, but should this aid go to bolster up established regimes and thus help maintain status quo, or should it be used to speed up social reforms, even at the risk of revolt? As early as 1958, the then Senator Kennedy had asserted that "the objective of our aid program in Latin America should not be to purchase allies, but to consolidate a free and democratic Western Hemisphere, alleviating those conditions which might foster opportunities for communistic infiltration and uniting our peoples on the basis of constantly increasing living standards". This conviction that raising the standards of living was the best method of checking Communism now inspired President Kennedy's bold proposal for the creation of the alliance for progress - - a ten year plan designed to do for Latin America what Marshall Plan had done for Western Europe. It was to be "a peaceful revolution on a hemispheric scale, a vast cooperative effort, unparalleled in magnitude and nobility of purpose, to satisfy the basic needs of the American people for homes, work, land, health and schools. "To achieve this, the United States pleaded an initial grant of one billion dollars, with the promise of additional billions for the future.

7. Following World War II, which problem was the United States most concerned with regarding Latin America?

- (a) Economic stability.
- (b) Political ideology.
- (c) Religious persecution.
- (d) Military dictatorship.

Correct Answer: (b) Political ideology.

Solution: The passage states that the United States, in its dealings with Latin America, was "so frightened of Communism" that it preferred to support military dictators rather than allow reformers who might move towards the left. This clearly shows that the primary concern of the U.S. was not economic or religious issues, but political ideology — specifically the fear of communist influence in Latin America. Thus, Option (b) Political ideology is correct. Options (a) and (d) were present in the context but were secondary to the main concern, while (c) is not mentioned at all.

 Quick Tip

In RC passages, look for repeated emphasis. Here, "Communism" and "fear of left-leaning reformers" were stressed multiple times, indicating the U.S. focus was on political ideology.

8. A key reason why Latin American rejected the Inter-American development Bank was that
- (a) it primarily provided money for social reform subsidies.
 - (b) the moneys provided were only for specific performance projects.
 - (c) it constituted an extension of the Marshall Plan into Latin Americ(a)
 - (d) it was being used as a means to control the economic destiny of Latin Americ(a)

Correct Answer: (d) it was being used as a means to control the economic destiny of Latin Americ(a)

Solution: The passage highlights Latin America's skepticism toward external financial institutions like the Inter-American Development Bank. While such banks provided financial aid, the concern was not the type of projects or subsidies, but the larger issue of external control. Latin American countries perceived these initiatives as mechanisms through which the U.S. and other powers could influence and dominate their economic policies and development trajectory. Hence, the rejection was rooted in the fear of losing autonomy over their own economic destiny.

 Quick Tip

In Reading Comprehension, always identify the underlying theme or concern. If multiple options seem plausible, choose the one that addresses the broader issue rather than the narrower detail.

9. Which of the following is most closely associated with the concept of a Marshall Plan for Latin America?

- (a) The Good Neighbour Policy.
- (b) The Alliance for Progress.
- (c) The Act of Bogot(a)

(d) The Monroe Doctrine.

Correct Answer: (b) The Alliance for Progress.

Solution:

- **Step 1:** The passage states that Kennedy’s “Alliance for Progress” was designed to do for Latin America what the Marshall Plan had done for Europe.
- **Step 2:** This makes it a direct comparison — the plan’s magnitude, funding, and goals were all modeled similarly.
- **Step 3:** The Good Neighbour Policy was about keeping hands off, not (d) The Act of Bogota was a grant, not a full plan. The Monroe Doctrine was about military and territorial policy.
- **Step 4:** Therefore, only (b) directly aligns with the Marshall Plan analogy.

 Quick Tip

Watch for direct parallels stated in the passage like “designed to do for Latin America what Marshall Plan had done for Europe.”

10. According to the passage, the fundamental change in U.S. foreign policy directed towards Latin America

- (a) resulted in a deterioration of U.S. Latin American relations.
- (b) was responsible for Peron remaining as a dictator in Peru.
- (c) recognized that economic aid alone would prevent social revolutions.
- (d) provided for increased military and economic aid to prevent the spread of communism in Latin America

Correct Answer: (d) provided for increased military and economic aid to prevent the spread of communism in Latin America

Solution:

- **Step 1:** The passage discusses how the U.S. often supported military dictators to avoid communist threats.
- **Step 2:** Even aid packages (like Eisenhower’s and Kennedy’s) were partly driven by a desire to prevent “leftward drift” in politics.
- **Step 3:** Kennedy’s Alliance for Progress was a major economic move, but also ideologically motivated to contain communism.
- **Step 4:** Hence, option (d) reflects the combined use of military and economic tools to maintain U.S. interests in the region.

 Quick Tip

Foreign aid is often political — always ask what the aid is trying to prevent or promote.

11. All of the following statements are true, except?

- (a) Mexico and Chile did not experience the general social crises that are common to the majority of Latin American countries.
- (b) President Eisenhower continued in practice the theory that economic aid was the best defense against communist incursion into Latin America(a)
- (c) The Good Neighbour Policy favoured a multilateral interpretation of the Monroe Doctrine.
- (d) The traditional U.S. approach in Latin America was to protect the status quo.

Correct Answer: (b) President Eisenhower continued in practice the theory that economic aid was the best defense against communist incursion into Latin America(a)

Solution:

- **Step 1:** The passage notes that Eisenhower rejected Brazil's proposal of a Marshall Plan and only later initiated limited aid efforts.
- **Step 2:** Though he set up an Inter-American bank, the aid wasn't presented as an organized anti-communist doctrine.
- **Step 3:** Unlike Kennedy's bold ideological aid proposal, Eisenhower's actions lacked conviction and scale.
- **Step 4:** Thus, while other statements are supported by the passage, (b) exaggerates Eisenhower's alignment with anti-communist aid policy.

 Quick Tip

"Except" questions require validating all options — isolate the one not fully supported by the passage.

12. Which of the inferences can be drawn if everything said in the passage were assumed to be true?

- (a) Rebellions are fuelled by social reforms and avoided by supporting established authorities or continuing the present state of affairs.
- (b) The American policy towards Asia can be called an overall success, though small in magnitude.
- (c) Kennedy, in 1958, wanted America to aid South American countries to acquire more support in their fight against communism.
- (d) Eisenhower rejected the Marshall Plan, whereas Kennedy implemented a similar one.

Correct Answer: (d) Eisenhower rejected the Marshall Plan, whereas Kennedy implemented a similar one.

Solution:

- **Step 1:** The passage clearly states Eisenhower rejected a Marshall Plan for Latin America proposed by Brazil.
- **Step 2:** It also states that Kennedy proposed the "Alliance for Progress," which was "designed to do for Latin America what Marshall Plan had done for Europe."
- **Step 3:** This makes (d) a correct inference based on fact.
- **Step 4:** Option (a) misrepresents the logic — rebellions were caused by neglect, not reform.

- **Step 5:** Option (b) is incorrect — the passage calls Asia a “disappointing balance.”
- **Step 6:** Option (c) distorts Kennedy’s 1958 stance — he emphasized improving living standards, not gaining support in war.

💡 Quick Tip

When asked to infer, connect cause-effect facts directly stated in the passage — avoid speculation.

Passage Last fortnight, news of a significant development was tucked away in the inside pages of newspapers. The government finally tabled a bill in Parliament seeking to make primary education a fundamental right. A fortnight earlier, a Delhi-based newspaper had carried a report about a three month interruption in the Delhi Government’s ‘Education for All’ programme. The report made for distressing reading. It said that literacy centres across the city were closed down, volunteers beaten up and enrolment registers burnt. All because the state government had, earlier this year, made participation in the programme mandatory for teachers in government schools. The routine denials were issued and there probably was a wee bit of exaggeration in the report. But it still is a pointer to the enormity of the task at hand. That economic development will be inherently unstable unless it is built on a solid base of education, specially primary education, has been said so often that it is in danger of becoming a platitude. Nor does India’s abysmal record in the field need much reiteration. Nearly 30 million children in the six to ten age group do not go to school — reason enough to make primary education not only compulsory but a fundamental right. But is that the solution? More importantly, will it work? Or will it remain a mere token, like the laws providing for compulsory primary education? It is now widely known that 14 states and four Union Territories have this law on their statute books. Believe it or not, the list actually includes Bihar, Madhya Pradesh (MP) and Rajasthan, where literacy and education levels are miles below the national average. A number of states have not even notified the compulsory education law.

This is not to belittle the decision to make education a fundamental right. As a statement of political will, a commitment by the decision-makers, its importance cannot be undervalued. Once this commitment is clear, a lot of other things like resource allocation will naturally fall into place. But the task of universalizing elementary education (UEE) is complicated by various socio-economic and cultural factors which vary from region to region and within regions.

If India’s record continues to appall, it is because these intricacies have not been adequately understood by the planners and administrators. The trouble has been that education policy has been designed by grizzled mandarins ensconced in Delhi and is totally out of touch with the ground reality. The key then is to decentralise education planning and implementation. What’s also needed is greater community involvement in the whole process. Only then can school timings be adjusted for convenience, school children given a curriculum they can relate to and teachers made accountable.

For proof, one has only to look at the success of the district primary education programme, which was launched in 1994. It has met with a fair degree of success in the 122 districts it covers. Here the village community is involved in all aspects of education — allocating finances to supervising teachers to fixing school timings and developing curriculum and

textbooks — through district planning teams. Teachers are also involved in the planning and implementation process and are given small grants to develop teaching and learning material, vastly improving motivational levels. The consequent improvement in the quality of education generates increased demand for education.

But for this demand to be generated, quality will first have to be improve(d) In MP, the village panchayats are responsible for not only constructing and maintaining primary schools but also managing scholarships, besides organising non-formal education. How well this works in practice remains to be seen (though the department claims the schemes are working very well) but the decision to empower panchayats with such powers is itself a significant development. Unfortunately, the Panchayat Raj Act has not been notified in many states. After all, delegating powers to the panchayats is not looked upon too kindly by vested interests

More specifically, by politicians, since decentralisation of education administration takes away from them the power of transfer, which they use to grant favours and build up a support base. But if the political leadership can push through the bill to make education a fundamental right, it should also be able to persuade the states to implement the laws on Panchayat Raj. For, UEE cannot be achieved without decentralisation. Of course, this will have to be accompanied by proper supervision and adequate training of those involved in the administration of education. But the devolution of powers to the local bodies has to come first.

13. None of these problems are plaguing the education system in India Except

- (a) poverty.
- (b) diverse cultural and socio-economic factors.
- (c) male chauvinism.
- (d) Celebrating festivals

Correct Answer: (b) diverse cultural and socio-economic factors.

Solution:

- **Step 1:** The question uses “Except,” meaning we are looking for the option that is actually mentioned as a problem in the passage.
- **Step 2:** The passage clearly highlights that the task of universalising education is complicated by “various socio-economic and cultural factors.”
- **Step 3:** Poverty and male chauvinism are not directly blamed in this passage. “Celebrating festivals” is not mentioned at all.
- **Step 4:** Therefore, the only issue explicitly noted is option (b).

 Quick Tip

“Except” questions require careful reading to find the one valid statement among false ones.

14. In the context of the passage, the term ‘grizzled mandarins’ means

- (a) old hags.
- (b) decrepit men.

- (c) ineffective old men.
- (d) None of these

Correct Answer: (c) ineffective old men.

Solution:

- **Step 1:** The term "grizzled mandarins" refers to aged bureaucrats in Delhi designing education policies.
- **Step 2:** The tone of the passage implies criticism — these men are out of touch and ineffective in practice.
- **Step 3:** Option (c) captures both the age and ineffectiveness implied by the term.
- **Step 4:** Options (a) and (b) are either gendered or vague and do not match the specific criticism.

 Quick Tip

Context clues in a passage help decode figurative language — read the sentence carefully.

- 15.** One of the reasons contributing to India's poor performance on the education front is that
- (a) its leaders do not have the conviction required to improve the education system.
 - (b) male members of society do not want their female counterparts to be educated
 - (c) administrators in charge of education are out of touch with ground realities.
 - (d) the country does not have the law for implementation of education policies in its statute books.

Correct Answer: (c) administrators in charge of education are out of touch with ground realities.

Solution:

- **Step 1:** The passage directly criticizes "grizzled mandarins ensconced in Delhi" who design policies without understanding the ground situation.
- **Step 2:** This disconnection between policy makers and practical conditions is highlighted as a major issue.
- **Step 3:** The other options are either not mentioned or inaccurate — especially (a), which is contradicted by the mention of political will.
- **Step 4:** Therefore, (c) accurately reflects a key reason stated in the passage.

 Quick Tip

Eliminate options not supported in the passage. Match keywords like "out of touch" or "mandarins" with answer choices.

- 16.** The only way in which the education system can be improved is by

- (a) decentralising education planning and implementation.
- (b) introducing fresh blood in the planning body.
- (c) injecting funds into the exchequer solely for the purpose.
- (d) educating the people on the need for primary education.

Correct Answer: (a) decentralising education planning and implementation.

Solution:

- **Step 1:** A key theme in the passage is decentralisation — it's presented as the “key” to solving education problems.
- **Step 2:** The success of the District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) and Panchayat-led planning in MP further proves this.
- **Step 3:** None of the other options are presented as viable or primary Solution in the passage.
- **Step 4:** Therefore, (a) is the correct answer.

 Quick Tip

Focus on the main argument of the passage when answering “only way” or “best method” questions.

17. Primary education

- (a) is a fundamental right.
- (b) will be made a fundamental right.
- (c) is only for the privileged sections of society.
- (d) None of these

Correct Answer: (b) will be made a fundamental right.

Solution:

- **Step 1:** The passage opens with the news that the government “finally tabled a bill” to make primary education a fundamental right.
- **Step 2:** That means the law is not yet in effect but is in the process of being passed.
- **Step 3:** So, (a) is premature and (c) is unrelated to the context.
- **Step 4:** Therefore, (b) accurately captures the current status.

 Quick Tip

“Will be made” means legislation has been introduced but not yet enacted — verify timing with phrases like “tabled a bill.”

18. Education policy cannot be successfully implemented by any of the following Except?

- (a) greater community involvement.

- (b) greater community development.
- (c) greater community awareness.
- (d) Greater community experience

Correct Answer: (a) greater community involvement.

Solution:

- **Step 1:** This is an “Except” question, so we’re looking for the one option that IS actually effective.
- **Step 2:** The passage gives strong support to the idea that community involvement helped the success of DPEP.
- **Step 3:** The other options — development, awareness, and experience — are not directly cited as contributing to implementation.
- **Step 4:** Hence, option (a) is the only one that does help, making it the correct answer for an “Except” question.

 Quick Tip

When “Except” appears, verify which option is positively supported in the text while others are not.

Passage A game of strategy, as currently conceived in game theory, is a situation in which two or more “players” make choices among available alternatives (moves). The totality of choices determines the outcomes of the game, and it is assumed that the rank order of preferences for the outcomes is different for different players. Thus the “interests” of the players are generally in conflict. Whether these interests are diametrically opposed or only partially opposed depends on the type of game. Psychologically, most interesting situations arise when the interests of the players are partly coincident and partly opposed, because then one can postulate not only a conflict among the players but also inner conflicts within the players. Each is torn between a tendency to cooperate, so as to promote the common interests, and a tendency to compete, so as to enhance his own individual interests.

Internal conflicts are always psychologically interesting. What we vaguely call “interesting” psychology is in very great measure the psychology of inner conflict. Inner conflict is also held to be an important component of serious literature as distinguished from less serious genres. The classical tragedy, as well as the serious novel reveals the inner conflict of central figures. The superficial adventure story on the other hand, depicts only external conflict; that is, the threats to the person with whom the reader (or viewer) identifies stem in these stories exclusively from external obstacles and from the adversaries who create them. On the most primitive level this sort of external conflict is psychologically empty. In the fisticuffs between the protagonists of good and evil, no psychological problems are involved or, at any rate, none are depicted in juvenile representations of conflict.

The detective story, the “adult” analogue of a juvenile adventure tale, has at times been described as a glorification of intellectualized conflict. However, a great deal of the interest in the plots of these stories is sustained by withholding the unraveling of a solution to a problem. The effort of solving the problem is in itself not a conflict if the adversary (the unknown criminal) remains passive, like Nature, whose secrets the scientist supposedly

unravels by deduction. If the adversary actively puts obstacles in the detective's path toward the solution, there is genuine conflict. But the conflict is psychologically interesting only to the extent that it contains irrational components such as a tactical error on the criminal's part or the detective's insight into some psychological quirk of the criminal or something of this sort. Conflict conducted in a perfectly rational manner is psychologically no more interesting than a standard Western.

For example, Tic-tac-toe, played perfectly by both players, is completely devoid of psychological interest. Chess may be psychologically interesting but only to the extent that it is played not quite rationally. Played completely rationally, chess would not be different from Tic-tac-toe.

In short, a pure conflict of interest (what is called a zero-sum game) although it offers a wealth of interesting conceptual problems, is not interesting psychologically, except to the extent that its conduct departs from rational norms.

19. Find the main idea of the passage?

- (1) To explain game of strategy
- (2) To explain detective's path
- (3) To explain juvenile representations of conflict
- (4) None of these

Correct Answer: (1) To explain game of strategy

Solution:

- **Step 1:** The passage opens with the definition of a "game of strategy" in game theory.
- **Step 2:** It then elaborates on how internal conflicts (within players) and external conflicts (between players) shape the psychological interest in such games.
- **Step 3:** While detective stories and chess are used as examples, the main thread throughout the passage is explaining how strategy, conflict of interest, and psychological elements relate in game theory.
- **Step 4:** Hence, the best summary or main idea is option (1).

 Quick Tip

The main idea usually aligns with the topic discussed throughout the entire passage, not just in parts.

20. According to the passage, internal conflicts are psychologically more interesting than external conflicts because

- (1) internal conflicts, rather than external conflicts, form an important component of serious literature as distinguished from less serious genres.
- (2) only juveniles or very few "adults" actually experience external conflict, while internal conflict is more widely prevalent in society.
- (3) in situations of internal conflict, individuals experience a dilemma in resolving their own preferences for different outcomes.
- (4) there are no threats to the reader (or viewer) in case of external conflicts.

Correct Answer: (3) in situations of internal conflict, individuals experience a dilemma in resolving their own preferences for different outcomes.

Solution:

- **Step 1:** The passage states that internal conflict involves players being “torn between” cooperation and competition.
- **Step 2:** This indicates a dilemma between different motives — enhancing one’s own outcome vs. promoting mutual benefit.
- **Step 3:** Option (3) directly addresses this psychological tension.
- **Step 4:** Options (1) and (2) are indirectly related, but less precise. Option (4) is irrelevant to the nature of psychological interest.

 Quick Tip

Look for reasoning behind concepts — psychological interest often arises from inner tension or contradiction.

21. Which, according to the author, would qualify as interesting psychology?

- (1) A statistician’s dilemma over choosing the best method to solve an optimization problem.
- (2) A chess player’s predicament over adopting a defensive strategy against an aggressive opponent.
- (3) A mountaineer’s choice of the best path to Mt. Everest from the base camp.
- (4) A finance manager’s quandary over the best way of raising money from the market.

Correct Answer: (2) A chess player’s predicament over adopting a defensive strategy against an aggressive opponent.

Solution:

- **Step 1:** The passage says that games like chess are interesting “only to the extent that it is played not quite rationally,” implying inner strategic conflict.
- **Step 2:** A chess player facing an aggressive opponent must balance defense vs counter-attack — a situation involving internal strategy-based conflict.
- **Step 3:** Other scenarios involve optimization or logistics, not inner psychological dilemmas.
- **Step 4:** Thus, (2) best reflects a psychologically interesting conflict.

 Quick Tip

Psychologically interesting situations often include strategic doubt, emotional tension, or internal conflict.

22. According to the passage, which of the following options about the application of game theory to a conflict-of-interest situation is true?

- (1) Assuming that the rank order of preferences for options is different for different players.

- (2) Accepting that the interests of different players are often in conflict.
- (3) Not assuming that the interests are in complete disagreement.
- (4) All of the above.

Correct Answer: (4) All of the above.

Solution:

- **Step 1:** The first paragraph explicitly states that the rank order of preferences varies among players — confirming (1).
- **Step 2:** It also says that the interests are generally in conflict — confirming (2).
- **Step 3:** It further mentions that these interests are not necessarily diametrically opposed — confirming (3).
- **Step 4:** Therefore, all statements are true, making (4) the correct answer.

 Quick Tip

Combine statements logically — if each one is supported by the passage, “All of the above” is likely correct.

- 23.** The problem solving process of a scientist is different from that of a detective because
- (1) scientists study inanimate objects, while detectives deal with living criminals or law offenders.
 - (2) scientists study known objects, while detectives have to deal with unknown criminals or law offenders.
 - (3) scientists study phenomena that are not actively altered, while detectives deal with phenomena that have been deliberately influenced to mislead
 - (4) scientists study psychologically interesting phenomena, while detectives deal with “adult” analogues of juvenile adventure tales.

Correct Answer: (3) scientists study phenomena that are not actively altered, while detectives deal with phenomena that have been deliberately influenced to mislead

Solution:

- **Step 1:** The passage compares a scientist solving nature’s puzzles (which are passive) with a detective solving crimes where criminals actively mislead
- **Step 2:** This distinction is about the presence or absence of active interference in the problem space.
- **Step 3:** Option (3) precisely captures that contrast.
- **Step 4:** Other options are inaccurate or oversimplified) Option (4), for example, misrepresents the point about psychological interest.

 Quick Tip

Look for phrases like “passive like Nature” vs “active adversary” — these contrasts clarify reasoning questions.

24. How Tic-tac-toe as a game is different from Chess?

- (1) Games like Tic-tac-toe is played in a perfectly rational manner is psychologically no more interesting than chess which is played not quite rationally.
- (2) Both games are same when it comes to pure conflict of interest.
- (3) Both games are played psychology of inner conflict
- (4) Tic-tac-toe is a juvenile adventure tale, while chess at times been described as a glorification of intellectualized conflict.

Correct Answer: (1) Games like Tic-tac-toe is played in a perfectly rational manner is psychologically no more interesting than chess which is played not quite rationally.

Solution:

- **Step 1:** The passage explains that Tic-tac-toe, when played rationally, lacks psychological interest.
- **Step 2:** Chess, though strategic, is only psychologically interesting when not played in a fully rational way.
- **Step 3:** This comparison between the two games is explicitly mentioned to illustrate rational vs irrational engagement.
- **Step 4:** Therefore, option (1) is the most accurate and directly supported by the passage.

 Quick Tip

Focus on how rationality impacts psychological engagement in games, as emphasized in the passage.

25. Answer the following question on the basis of this paragraph and mark the correct option in the given box.

Parents usually do not insist that their children learn to walk by a certain age. Parents feel confident that the children will learn to walk within a reasonable period of time, when their bodies are ready for such an undertaking. Teachers should adopt the same attitude when teaching children in school how to read. If teachers did this, children might learn to read much more quickly and experience less anxiety while doing so.

Which of the following best describes the Essence or structure of the passage?

- (a) How children learn one kind of activity is described and then this method is recommended for teaching children another kind of activity.
- (b) Two different views of how children should be taught to read are compared and contrasted
- (c) A view of how children should be taught is described and then criticized
- (d) Contrasting views of parents and teachers on how quickly children actually learn are described and then analyzed
- (e) The amount of time it takes for children to learn one kind of activity is described and then used to predict how long it will take them to learn another kind of activity.

Type in the answer here: **A**

Solution:

- The passage begins by describing how parents trust the natural pace of their children's development when it comes to walking.
- It then draws a parallel to how reading should be taught in schools — with the same patience and lack of pressure.
- This is not a comparison of two opposing views or a critique.
- It uses one example (learning to walk) to recommend a teaching strategy for another skill (learning to read).
- Therefore, the structure is: describe one learning process and recommend it for another — matching option (a)

💡 Quick Tip

Focus on how rationality impacts psychological engagement in games, as emphasized in the passage.

26. The sentences given, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labeled with a letter. Choose the most logical order of sentences from among the given choices to construct a coherent paragraph. Sentence 1 and 6 are fixed starting and ending of the paragraph.

1. Amount of published information available varies widely by industry.

(a) Unfortunately for the researcher, many industries do not meet these criteria, and there may be little published information available.

(b) Generally, the problem the researcher will face in using published data for analysing an economically meaningful industry is that they are too broad or too arranged to fit the industry.

(c) However, it is always possible to gain some important information about an industry from published sources and these sources should be aggressively pursue(d)

(d) Larger the industry, the older it is, and the slower the rate of technological change, better is the available published information.

6. If a researcher starts searching for data with this reality in mind, the uselessness of broad data will be better recognized and the tendency to give up will be avoided

Type in the answer here: **A D B C**

Solution:

- Sentence A introduces the key limitation: many industries don't fit the ideal for data richness.
- Sentence D elaborates on the condition under which good data is available.
- Sentence B discusses the actual practical problem in using existing data(a)
- Sentence C concludes on a slightly optimistic note: even imperfect data sources should be pursue(d)
- This logical sequence (A D B C) fits perfectly between Sentence 1 and 6.

 Quick Tip

Focus on how rationality impacts psychological engagement in games, as emphasized in the passage.

27. In the following question a paragraph from which the last sentence has been delete(d) From the given options, choose the sentence that completes the paragraph in the most appropriate way.

Trade protectionism, disguised as concern for the climate, is raising its hea(d) Citing competitiveness concerns, powerful industrialized countries are holding out threats of a levy on imports of energy intensive products from developing countries that refuse to accept their demands. The actual source of protectionist sentiment in the OECD countries is, of course, their current lacklustre economic performance, combined with the challenges posed by the rapid economic rise of China and India — in that order.

- (1) Climate change is evoked to bring trade protectionism through the back door.
- (2) OECD countries are taking refuge in climate change issues to erect trade barriers against these two countries.
- (3) Climate change concerns have come as a convenient stick to beat the rising trade power of China and Indi(a)
- (4) Defenders of the global economic status quo are posing as climate change champions.
- (5) Today's climate change champions are the perpetrators of global economic inequity.

Type in the answer here: **3**

Solution:

- The paragraph discusses how climate change is being used as a false excuse for protectionism.
- It concludes that the real issue is the economic threat posed by China and Indi(a)
- Option 3 clearly captures the idea: climate concerns are being misused to limit trade with rising economies.
- It maintains tone, logic, and continues the argument effectively.

 Quick Tip

Focus on how rationality impacts psychological engagement in games, as emphasized in the passage.

28. Answer the following question on the basis of this paragraph and mark the correct option in the given box.

Whatever their disadvantage with respect to distributing education tax dollars equally among school districts, in one respect at least, local property taxes are superior to state taxes as a means of funding public schools. Because local property taxes provide public schools with a direct source of revenue, these public schools are relatively free from competition for tax dollars with other government services. School administrators do not have to compete for a

share of the state tax dollars, which are already being spent on health, criminal justice, public safety, and transportation. They are not placed in the position of having to argue that school programs must have priority over other public services financed by state taxes.

Which of the following statements best expresses essence of the passage?

- (a) Education is more important than other government services, such as criminal justice or public safety.
- (b) The disadvantage of local property taxes is that they do not equally distribute tax dollars spent on education.
- (c) School administrators are not accustomed to arguing that their programs must have priority over other government services.
- (d) Financing education with local property taxes has the advantage of eliminating competition for funding between schools and other public services.

E. School administrators must be prepared to justify the funds they spend on education programs.

Type in the answer here: **D**

Solution:

- The paragraph highlights the key benefit of using local property taxes: schools get a dedicated source of revenue.
- This protects schools from having to compete with other public sectors for limited state funds.
- Option D captures this exact idea: that local funding eliminates competition between education and other public services.

💡 Quick Tip

Focus on how rationality impacts psychological engagement in games, as emphasized in the passage.

29. In the following question a paragraph from which the last sentence has been delete(d) From the given options, choose the sentence that completes the paragraph in the most appropriate way.

Most people at their first consultation take a furtive look at the surgeon's hands in the hope of reassurance. Prospective patients look for delicacy, sensitivity, steadiness, perhaps unblemished pallor. On this basis, Henry Perowne loses a number of cases each year. Generally, he knows it's about to happen before the patient does: the downward glance repeated, the prepared questions beginning to falter, the overemphatic thanks during the retreat to the door.

- (1) Other people do not communicate due to their poor observation.
- (2) Other patients don't like what they see but are ignorant of their right to go elsewhere.
- (3) But Perowne himself is not concerne(d)'
- (4) But others will take their place, he thought.
- (5) These hands are steady enough, but they are large.

Type in the answer here: **5**

Solution:

- The entire paragraph is focused on patients judging the surgeon by the appearance of his hands.
- The natural conclusion would explain what they are seeing that disappoints them.
- Option 5 completes the thought: the hands are steady (reassuring), but large (possibly intimidating).
- This justifies the reactions and fits the tone and narrative perfectly.

 Quick Tip

Focus on how rationality impacts psychological engagement in games, as emphasized in the passage.

30. The sentences given, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labeled with a letter. Choose the most logical order of sentences from among the given choices to construct a coherent paragraph. Sentence 1 and 6 are fixed starting and ending of the paragraph.

1. Intensity of competition in an industry is neither a matter of coincidence nor bad luck.

(a) The collective strength of these forces determines the ultimate profit potential in the industry where profit potential is measured in terms of long run returns on invested capital.

(b) Rather, competition in an industry is rooted in its underlying economic structure and goes well beyond the behavior of current competitors.

(c) Not all industries have the same potential.

(d) The state of competition in an industry depends on five basic competitive forces.

6. They differ fundamentally in their ultimate profit potential as the collective strength of the forces differs.

Type in the answer here: **B D A C**

Solution:

- Sentence B refutes the idea of coincidence by stating that competition is due to economic structure.
- Sentence D introduces the five competitive forces that form this structure.
- Sentence A explains how these forces affect profitability.
- Sentence C sums up that not all industries benefit equally, which ties into the final sentence.
- Therefore, B-D-A-C is the most coherent sequence.

 Quick Tip

Focus on how rationality impacts psychological engagement in games, as emphasized in the passage.

31. Answer the following question on the basis of this paragraph and mark the correct option in the given box.

Shakespeare wrote four types of plays: histories, comedies, tragedies, and tragicomedies.

Some scholars contend that Shakespeare's choice of three of these types of dramatic forms

reflects his various psychological states. As a young man making a name for himself in London, he wrote comedies. Then, saddened by the death of his son, he turned to tragedies. Finally, seasoned by life's joys and sorrows, he produced tragicomedies. But a look at the theater scene of his day reveals that Shakespeare was not so much writing out of his heart as into his pocketbook. When comedies were the vogue, he wrote comedies; when tragedies were the rage, he wrote tragedies; and when tragicomedies dominated the stage, he produced tragicomedies.

Which of the following statements best expresses essence of the passage?

- (a) Examine Shakespeare's life in light of his dramatic works
- (b) Contest a theory that attempts to explain why Shakespeare wrote the kinds of plays he did
- (c) Explain the terms "comedy," "tragedy," and "tragicomedy" as they are used in discussions of Shakespeare's plays
- (d) Compare Shakespeare's plays with the works of other dramatists of his day
- E. Discuss what is known about Shakespeare's psychological states

Type in the answer here: **B**

Solution:

- **Step 1:** The paragraph presents two contrasting explanations for Shakespeare's body of work: personal emotion vs market trends.
- **Step 2:** The first half supports the psychological theory — Shakespeare wrote based on life phases.
- **Step 3:** The second half disputes this and says he followed popular stage trends for financial reasons.
- **Step 4:** Therefore, the paragraph aims to **contest** a psychological theory about Shakespeare's plays.

 Quick Tip

Look for contrast words like "but" — they often signal the author's actual position when evaluating competing theories.

32. The sentences given, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labeled with a letter. Choose the most logical order of sentences from among the given choices to construct a coherent paragraph.

- (a) A few months ago I went to Princeton University to see what the young people who are going to be running our country in a few decades are like.
- (b) I would go to sleep in my hotel room around midnight each night, and when I awoke, my mailbox would be full of replies—sent at 1:15 (a)m., 2:59 (a)m., 3:23 (a)m.
- (c) One senior told me that she went to bed around two and woke up each morning at seven; she could afford that much rest because she had learned to supplement her full day of work by studying in her sleep.
- (d) Faculty members gave me the names of a few dozen articulate students, and I sent them e-mails, inviting them out to lunch or dinner in small groups.
- E. As she was falling asleep she would recite a math problem or a paper topic to herself; she would then sometimes dream about it, and when she woke up, the problem might be solve(d)

Type in the answer here: **A D B C E**

Solution:

- **Step 1:** A sets the scene — a visit to Princeton to observe future leaders.
- **Step 2:** D follows — the narrator contacts articulate students.
- **Step 3:** B shows the unusual late-night email replies, highlighting student routines.
- **Step 4:** C introduces a specific student's routine.
- **Step 5:** E elaborates on that student's "study while sleeping" technique.
- **Conclusion:** A D B C E forms a coherent narrative flow from general to specific

💡 Quick Tip

Always identify opening context first — look for sentence(s) that introduce who, where, or why.

33. In the following question a paragraph from which the last sentence has been deleted. From the given options, choose the sentence that completes the paragraph in the most appropriate way.

Mattancherry is Indian Jewry's most famous settlement. Its pretty streets of pastel coloured houses, connected by first-floor passages and home to the last twelve saree-and-sarong-wearing, white-skinned Indian Jews are visited by thousands of tourists each year. Its synagogue, built in 1568, with a floor of blue-and-white Chinese tiles, a carpet given by Haile Selassie and the frosty Yahel selling tickets at the door, stands as an image of religious tolerance.

- (1) Mattancherry represents, therefore, the perfect picture of peaceful co-existence.
- (2) India's Jews have almost never suffered discrimination, except for European colonizers and each other.
- (3) Jews in India were always tolerant.
- (4) Religious tolerance has always been only a façade and nothing more.
- (5) The pretty pastel streets are, thus, very popular with the tourists.

Type in the answer here: **1**

Solution:

- **Step 1:** The paragraph focuses on cultural beauty and the peaceful coexistence in Mattancherry.
- **Step 2:** The mention of tourists and iconic artifacts builds an image of harmony and historical richness.
- **Step 3:** The final sentence should capture this theme — Option 1 does this by summarizing it as a "perfect picture of peaceful co-existence."
- **Step 4:** Other options distract or shift the focus from the paragraph's consistent tone and idea

 Quick Tip

The final sentence of a descriptive paragraph often echoes or reinforces the dominant theme or mood

34. The sentences given, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labeled with a letter. Choose the most logical order of sentences from among the given choices to construct a coherent paragraph.

- (a) Four days later, Infosist announced its own bid for PepSoftware, and invited the firm's board to a discussion.
- (b) Furious that his own plans had been endangered, PepSoftware's boss, Chandan Shah, called Infosist's offer "diabolical", and its boss, Laxman, a "sociopath".
- (c) In early June, PepSoftware said that it would buy J.(d)Soft, a smaller rival.
- (d) Moreover, said Mr. Shah, he "could imagine no price nor combination of price and other conditions to recommend accepting the offer."
- E. On June 12th, PepSoftware turned Infosist down.

Type in the answer here: **C A B E D**

Solution:

- **Step 1:** C initiates the timeline — PepSoftware wants to buy J.(d)Soft.
- **Step 2:** A follows — Infosist counters by bidding for PepSoftware.
- **Step 3:** B shows Chandan Shah's emotional response to Infosist's interference.
- **Step 4:** E states the formal rejection of Infosist's offer.
- **Step 5:** D adds a strong quote justifying PepSoftware's refusal.
- **Conclusion:** The sequence **C A B E D** maintains chronological flow and builds from corporate action to emotional and strategic fallout.

 Quick Tip

Follow chronological clues like dates and reactions to arrange business/economic event narratives.