

General Instructions

- (i) This booklet contains 24 questions, each provided with a complete, step-by-step solution.
- (ii) It comprises 24 single-correct multiple-choice questions.
- (iii) The questions are grouped under 4 reading comprehension / data sets; read each passage or data set before its questions.
- (iv) Attempt each question on your own before reviewing the given solution.

1. The passage below is accompanied by four questions. Based on the passage, choose the best answer for each question.

In 2006, the Met [art museum in the US] agreed to return the Euphronios krater, a masterpiece Greek urn that had been a museum draw since 1972. In 2007, the Getty [art museum in the US] agreed to return 40 objects to Italy, including a marble Aphrodite, in the midst of looting scandals. And in December, Sotheby's and a private owner agreed to return an ancient Khmer statue of a warrior, pulled from auction two years before, to Cambodia.

Cultural property, or patrimony, laws limit the transfer of cultural property outside the source country's territory, including outright export prohibitions and national ownership laws. Most art historians, archaeologists, museum officials and policymakers portray cultural property laws in general as invaluable tools for counteracting the ugly legacy of Western cultural imperialism.

During the late 19th and early 20th century - an era former Met director Thomas Hoving called "the age of piracy" - American and European art museums acquired antiquities by hook or by crook, from grave robbers or souvenir collectors, bounty from digs and ancient sites in impoverished but

art-rich source countries. Patrimony laws were intended to protect future archaeological discoveries against Western imperialist designs. ...

I surveyed 90 countries with one or more archaeological sites on UNESCO's World Heritage Site list, and my study shows that in most cases the number of discovered sites diminishes sharply after a country passes a cultural property law. There are 222 archaeological sites listed for those 90 countries. When you look into the history of the sites, you see that all but 21 were discovered before the passage of cultural property laws. ... Strict cultural patrimony laws are popular in most countries. But the downside may be that they reduce incentives for foreign governments, nongovernmental organizations and educational institutions to invest in overseas exploration because their efforts will not necessarily be rewarded by opportunities to hold, display and study what is uncovered. To the extent that source countries can fund their own archaeological projects, artifacts and sites may still be discovered. . . . The survey has far-reaching implications. It suggests that source countries, particularly in the developing world, should narrow their cultural property laws so that they can reap the benefits of new archaeological discoveries, which typically increase tourism and enhance cultural pride. This does not mean these nations should abolish restrictions on foreign excavation and foreign claims to artifacts.

China provides an interesting alternative approach for source nations eager for foreign archaeological investment. From 1935 to 2003, China had a restrictive cultural property law that prohibited foreign ownership of Chinese cultural artifacts. In those years, China's most significant archaeological discovery occurred by chance, in 1974, when peasant farmers accidentally uncovered ranks of buried terra cotta warriors, which are part of Emperor Qin's spectacular tomb system.

In 2003, the Chinese government switched course, dropping its cultural property law and embracing collaborative international archaeological research. Since then, China has nominated 11 archaeological sites for

inclusion in the World Heritage Site list, including eight in 2013, the most ever for China.

Correct Answer: —

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1.1. From the passage we can infer that the author is likely to advise poor, but archaeologically rich source countries to do all of the following, EXCEPT:

- (A) to find ways to motivate other countries to finance archaeological explorations in their country.
- (B) adopt China's strategy of dropping its cultural property laws and carrying out archaeological research through international collaboration.
- (C) allow foreign countries to analyse and exhibit the archaeological finds made in the source country.
- (D) fund institutes in other countries to undertake archaeological exploration in the source country reaping the benefits of cutting-edge techniques.

Correct Answer: (D) fund institutes in other countries to undertake archaeological exploration in the source country reaping the benefits of cutting-edge techniques.

SOLUTION:

Option A: The author recognizes that stringent cultural property laws can discourage foreign investment in archaeological expeditions. Consequently, the author would logically endorse initiatives aimed at encouraging international organizations to continue financing such research in host nations.

Option B: The text cites China's successful shift from strict regulations to international cooperation, which led to an increase in archaeological discoveries. Therefore, this is a justifiable and substantiated recommendation.

Option C: The passage advocates for international archaeological cooperation and suggests that permitting foreign examination and display of artifacts can be advantageous. This sentiment aligns with the author's reservations regarding the restrictive aspects of cultural property regulations.

Option D: While the passage champions international collaboration, it does not advocate for outsourcing research to foreign countries (i.e., conducting research entirely outside the country of origin). Instead, the author promotes collaborative efforts within the country where the research originates. Therefore, Option D contradicts the author's probable recommendations.

The correct answer is: Option D — it is not a suggestion the author would likely support.



1.2. It can be inferred from the passage that archaeological sites are considered important by some source countries because they:

- (A) are a symbol of Western imperialism.
- (B) generate funds for future discoveries.
- (C) give a boost to the tourism sector.
- (D) are subject to strict patrimony laws.

Correct Answer: (C) give a boost to the tourism sector.

SOLUTION:

The passage highlights that archaeological sites benefit source countries through cultural, historical, economic, and societal advantages. It suggests that countries should adapt strict cultural property laws to "reap the benefits of new archaeological discoveries, which typically increase tourism and enhance cultural pride."

This demonstrates that archaeological sites are perceived as drivers of tourism and national pride. Consequently, it can be deduced that some source countries value these sites for their positive impact on the tourism industry.

Inference: Some source countries consider archaeological sites important due to their contribution to the tourism sector.



1.3. Which one of the following statements, if true, would undermine the central idea of the passage?

- (A) Museums established in economically deprived archaeologically-rich source countries can display the antiques discovered there.
- (B) Affluent archaeologically-rich source countries can afford to carry out their own excavations.
- (C) Western countries will have to apologise to countries for looting their cultural property in the past century.
- (D) UNESCO finances archaeological research in poor, but archaeologically-rich source countries.

Correct Answer: (D) UNESCO finances archaeological research in poor, but archaeologically-rich source countries.

SOLUTION:

The argument posits that stringent regulations for safeguarding cultural artifacts, despite good intentions and broad endorsement, could diminish international bodies' inclination to finance overseas archaeological investigations. Such a reduction in funding may subsequently have adverse consequences on discoveries, tourism, and national self-esteem within the originating nations.

Option D contests this rationale by proposing that external financial backing persists irrespective of these regulations, thus severing the presumed connection between regulation and diminished funding. If this premise holds, it suggests that the scarcity of archaeological findings could stem from *unaccounted external influences* beyond the author's purview.

Consequently, the accurate response is: Option D — it offers an alternative rationale that **contradicts the passage's central assertion**.



1.4. Which one of the following statements best expresses the paradox of patrimony laws?

- (A) They were intended to protect cultural property, but instead resulted in the neglect of historical sites.
- (B) They were aimed at protecting cultural property, but instead reduced business for auctioneers like Sotheby's.
- (C) They were aimed at protecting cultural property, but instead reduced new archaeological discoveries.
- (D) They were intended to protect cultural property, but instead resulted in the withholding of national treasure from museums.

Correct Answer: (C) They were aimed at protecting cultural property, but instead reduced new archaeological discoveries.

SOLUTION:

The paradox of patrimony laws, as described, stems from the discrepancy between **their objective** and **their effect**. These regulations were established to preserve a nation's cultural legacy by prohibiting the removal and foreign possession of artifacts. Nevertheless, the text points out that these safeguards have resulted in an **unforeseen reduction in archaeological investigation**, particularly by international entities.

Because these laws impede external organizations from keeping or exhibiting unearthed artifacts, they **dissuade financial contributions and involvement in excavations**. Consequently, fewer new sites are uncovered, counteracting the primary aim of safeguarding and comprehending cultural history.

The core paradox: The laws intended to protect cultural assets, but in doing so, they diminished new archaeological findings.



2. The passage below is accompanied by four questions. Based on the passage, choose the best answer for each question.

Steven Pinker's new book, "Rationality: What It Is, Why It Seems Scarce, Why It Matters," offers a pragmatic dose of measured optimism, presenting rationality as a fragile but achievable ideal in personal and civic life. ... Pinker's ambition to illuminate such a crucial topic offers the welcome prospect of a return to sanity. ... It's no small achievement to make formal logic, game theory, statistics and Bayesian reasoning delightful topics full of charm and relevance.

It's also plausible to believe that a wider application of the rational tools he analyzes would improve the world in important ways. His primer on statistics and scientific uncertainty is particularly timely and should be required reading before consuming any news about the [COVID] pandemic. More broadly, he argues that less media coverage of shocking but vanishingly rare events, from shark attacks to adverse vaccine reactions, would help prevent dangerous overreactions, fatalism and the diversion of finite resources away from solvable but less-dramatic issues, like malnutrition in the developing world.

It's a reasonable critique, and Pinker is not the first to make it. But analyzing the political economy of journalism - its funding structures, ownership concentration and increasing reliance on social media shares - would have given a fuller picture of why so much coverage is so misguided and what we might do about it.

Pinker's main focus is the sort of conscious, sequential reasoning that can track the steps in a geometric proof or an argument in formal logic. Skill in this domain maps directly onto the navigation of many real-world problems, and Pinker shows how greater mastery of the tools of rationality can improve decision-making in medical, legal, financial and many other contexts in which we must act on uncertain and shifting information. ..

Despite the undeniable power of the sort of rationality he describes, many of the deepest insights in the history of science, math, music and art strike their originators in moments of epiphany. From the 19th-century chemist Friedrich August Kekulé's discovery of the structure of benzene to any of Mozart's symphonies, much extraordinary human achievement is not a product of conscious, sequential reasoning. Even Plato's Socrates - who anticipated many of Pinker's points by nearly 2,500 years, showing the virtue of knowing what you do not know and examining all premises in arguments, not simply trusting speakers' authority or charisma - attributed many of his most profound insights to dreams and visions. Conscious reasoning is helpful in sorting the wheat from the chaff, but it would be

interesting to consider the hidden aquifers that make much of the grain grow in the first place.

The role of moral and ethical education in promoting rational behavior is also underexplored. Pinker recognizes that rationality "is not just a cognitive virtue but a moral one." But this profoundly important point, one subtly explor

Correct Answer: —

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2.1. The author endorses Pinker's views on the importance of logical reasoning as it:

- (A) provides a moral compass for resolving important ethical dilemmas.
- (B) equips people with the ability to tackle challenging practical problems.
- (C) focuses public attention on real issues like development rather than sensational events.
- (D) helps people to gain expertise in statistics and other scientific disciplines.

Correct Answer: (B) equips people with the ability to tackle challenging practical problems.

SOLUTION:

The text highlights Pinker's focus on sequential reasoning and rational tools, indicating that proficiency in these areas improves decision-making in practical situations involving "uncertain and shifting information." The author supports Pinker's work by agreeing that logical reasoning "equips people with the ability to tackle challenging practical problems" [**Option B**].

Option A is incorrect; while the author concedes Pinker views rationality as a moral virtue, they observe Pinker inadequately explores moral and ethical education. **Option C** is too narrow, concentrating on a specific application of Pinker's ideas rather than the overall message. **Option D** similarly limits the scope to the general usefulness of rationality in decision-making.

Therefore, the correct option is (B): equips people with the ability to tackle challenging practical problems.



2.2. According to the author, for Pinker as well as the ancient Greek philosophers, rational thinking involves all of the following EXCEPT:

- (A) arriving at independent conclusions irrespective of who is presenting the argument.
- (B) the belief that the ability to reason logically encompasses an ethical and moral dimension.
- (C) the primacy of conscious sequential reasoning as the basis for seminal human achievements.
- (D) an awareness of underlying assumptions in an argument and gaps in one's own knowledge.

Correct Answer: (C) the primacy of conscious sequential reasoning as the basis for seminal human achievements.

SOLUTION:

Option C is the choice that contradicts Pinker's viewpoint on rational thought, aligning with ancient Greek philosophers. The text indicates that while sequential reasoning is valuable, significant human

advancements often stem from sudden insights or epiphanies, not exclusively from methodical, step-by-step processes.

Pinker and Plato's Socrates highlight that rational thinking entails acknowledging one's knowledge limitations (Option D) and formulating independent conclusions (Option A), rather than relying on the influence of others.

Furthermore, the text notes a moral and ethical component to rationality (Option B), a concept addressed by Pinker, albeit briefly.

Therefore, Option C is the correct answer, as it deviates from Pinker's defined method of rational thinking.



2.3. The author refers to the ancient Greek philosophers to:

- (A) highlight the influence of their thinking on the development of Pinker's arguments.
- (B) show how dreams and visions have for centuries influenced subconscious behaviour and pathbreaking inventions.
- (C) reveal gaps in Pinker's discussion of the importance of ethical considerations in rational behaviour.
- (D) indicate the various similarities between their thinking and Pinker's conclusions.

Correct Answer: (C) reveal gaps in Pinker's discussion of the importance of ethical considerations in rational behaviour.

SOLUTION:

The author cites **ancient Greek philosophers** to identify **omissions** in **Steven Pinker's** thesis on rationality. Pinker defines rationality as a

cognitive and *moral virtue*, but the author contends he neglects the influence of **moral and ethical education** on rational conduct.

The author references figures such as **Plato's Socrates**, who acknowledged the significance of *dreams and visions* alongside logic, to underscore that ethical and non-rational elements were fundamental to their conception of rationality—elements that Pinker largely disregards.

Consequently, the correct assertion is: Highlight deficiencies in Pinker's exploration of the role of ethical factors in rational behavior.



2.4. The author mentions Kekules discovery of the structure of benzene and Mozart's symphonies to illustrate the point that:

(A) Pinker's conclusions on sequential reasoning are belied by European achievements which, in the past, were more rooted in unconscious bursts of genius.

(B) unlike the sciences, human achievements in other fields are a mix of logical reasoning and spontaneous epiphanies.

(C) it is not just the creative arts, but also scientific fields that have benefitted from flashes of creativity.

(D) great innovations across various fields can stem from flashes of intuition and are not always propelled by logical thinking.

Correct Answer: (D) great innovations across various fields can stem from flashes of intuition and are not always propelled by logical thinking.

SOLUTION:

Steven Pinker's perspective on rationality emphasizes its significance in individual and public spheres. Although Pinker champions deliberate,

step-by-step reasoning, the text notes that substantial accomplishments often originate from creative intuition or immediate understanding.

The discoveries of Kekulé (benzene structure) and Mozart (symphonies) serve as instances where profound ideas surface from intuitive leaps rather than rigid logical deduction.

Consequently, the accurate conclusion is: Major breakthroughs in diverse domains can originate from intuitive insights, not solely from the propulsion of logical thought.



3. The passage below is accompanied by four questions. Based on the passage, choose the best answer for each question.

The biggest challenge [The Nutmeg's Curse by Ghosh] throws down is to the prevailing understanding of when the climate crisis started. Most of us have accepted ... that it started with the widespread use of coal at the beginning of the Industrial Age in the 18th century and worsened with the mass adoption of oil and natural gas in the 20th .

Ghosh takes this history at least three centuries back, to the start of European colonialism in the 15th century. He [starts] the book with a 1621 massacre by Dutch invaders determined to impose a monopoly on nutmeg cultivation and trade in the Banda islands in today's Indonesia. Not only do the Dutch systematically depopulate the islands through genocide, they also try their best to bring nutmeg cultivation into plantation mode. These are the two points to which Ghosh returns through examples from around the world. One, how European colonialists decimated not only indigenous populations but also indigenous understanding of the relationship between humans and Earth. Two, how this was an invasion not only of humans but of the Earth itself, and how this continues to the present day by looking at nature as a 'resource' to exploit. ...

We know we are facing more frequent and more severe heatwaves, storms, floods, droughts and wildfires due to climate change. We know our expansion through deforestation, dam building, canal cutting - in short, terraforming, the word Ghosh uses - has brought us repeated disasters ... Are these the responses of an angry Gaia who has finally had enough? By using the word 'curse' in the title, the author makes it clear that he thinks so. I use the pronoun 'who' knowingly, because Ghosh has quoted many non-European sources to enquire into the relationship between humans and the world around them so that he can question the prevalent way of looking at Earth as an inert object to be exploited to the maximum. As Ghosh's text, notes and bibliography show once more, none of this is new. There have always been challenges to the way European colonialists looked at other civilisations and at Earth. It is just that the invaders and their myriad backers in the fields of economics, politics, anthropology, philosophy, literature, technology, physics, chemistry, biology have dominated global intellectual discourse....

There are other points of view that we can hear today if we listen hard enough. Those observing global climate negotiations know about the Latin American way of looking at Earth as Pachamama (Earth Mother). They also know how such a framing is just provided lip service and is ignored in the substantive portions of the negotiations. In *The Nutmeg's Curse*, Ghosh explains why. He shows the extent of the vested interest in the oil economy - not only for oil exporting countries, but also for a superpower like the US that controls oil drilling, oil prices and oil movement around the world. Many of us know power utilities are sabotaging decentralised solar power generation today because it hits their revenues and control. And how the other points of view are so often drowned out.

Correct Answer: —

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3.1. All of the following can be inferred from the reviewer's discussion of "The Nutmeg's Curse", EXCEPT:

- (A) academic discourses have always served the function of raising awareness about environmental preservation.
- (B) the contemporary dominant perception of nature and the environment was put in place by processes of colonialism.
- (C) environmental preservation policy makers can learn a lot from non-European and/or pre colonial societies.
- (D) the history of climate change is deeply intertwined with the history of colonialism.

Correct Answer: (A) academic discourses have always served the function of raising awareness about environmental preservation.

SOLUTION:

The provided text and question require inferring what can be concluded from Amitav Ghosh's review of "The Nutmeg's Curse." The task is to identify the statement that cannot be inferred from the discussion. Each option will be evaluated against the text.

Option 1: "academic discourses have always served the function of raising awareness about environmental preservation." This statement posits that academia has consistently promoted environmental awareness. However, the passage suggests that European colonialists' dominance in global intellectual discourse led to the suppression or marginalization of alternative viewpoints, including indigenous and non-European perspectives on environmental preservation.

Consequently, this statement cannot be inferred from the passage.

Option 2: "the contemporary dominant perception of nature and the environment was put in place by processes of colonialism." The passage details how colonial practices, beginning in the 15th century,

have shaped current views of nature as a resource for exploitation. Therefore, this statement is a valid inference.

Option 3: "environmental preservation policymakers can learn a lot from non-European and/or pre-colonial societies." The passage notes that non-European sources offer alternative perspectives on the human-Earth relationship, challenging the prevailing exploitative viewpoint. This makes it a plausible inference.

Option 4: "the history of climate change is deeply intertwined with the history of colonialism." The passage states that Ghosh attributes the origins of the climate crisis to European colonialism, indicating a strong connection. Thus, this is also a correct inference.

Following the analysis, the statement that cannot be inferred from the passage is Option 1: "academic discourses have always served the function of raising awareness about environmental preservation." This option inaccurately reflects the passage's description of colonial and European perspectives dominating academic discourse.



3.2. Which one of the following best explains the primary purpose of the discussion of the colonisation of the Banda islands in "The Nutmeg's Curse"?

- (A) To illustrate how systemic violence against the colonised constituted the cornerstone of colonialism.
- (B) To illustrate how colonialism represented and perpetuated the mindset that has led to climate change.
- (C) To illustrate the role played by the cultivation of certain crops in the plantation mode in contributing to climate change.
- (D) To illustrate the first instance in history when the processes responsible for climate change were initiated.

Correct Answer: (B) To illustrate how colonialism represented and perpetuated the mindset that has led to climate change.

SOLUTION:

The core of the analysis is discerning the main purpose behind the discussion of the Banda Islands' colonisation within "The Nutmeg's Curse." Upon examination, the text highlights the enduring consequences of European colonialism, suggesting that colonial mentalities, rather than solely systemic violence or agricultural development, were the initial drivers of present-day climate change. The passage elaborates on Ghosh's thesis that the origins of the climate crisis lie in the colonial era, stressing the colonizers' perspective of the Earth as an exploitable resource, a view that continues to inform contemporary actions. This perspective directly connects historical colonialism with current environmental crises, demonstrating that the exploitative mindset established during the colonial period continues to shape the treatment of natural resources, thereby exacerbating climate change.

Consequently, the accurate interpretation of the Banda Islands' colonisation discussion in the book is: **To demonstrate how colonialism embodied and sustained the mindset that has resulted in climate change.**



3.3. Which one of the following, if true, would make the reviewer's choice of the pronoun "who" for Gaia inappropriate?

- (A) Non-European societies have perceived the Earth as a non-living source of all resources.
- (B) There is a direct cause-effect relationship between human activities and global climate change.
- (C) Ghosh's book has a different title: "The Nutmeg's Revenge".
- (D) Modern western science discovers new evidence for the Earth being an inanimate object.

Correct Answer: (A) Non-European societies have perceived the Earth as a non-living source of all resources.

SOLUTION:

The reviewer's use of the pronoun "who" for Gaia suggests viewing Earth as a sentient being, a concept with agency or personality prevalent in many non-European cultural narratives. Let's examine the options to identify which, if factual, would render the use of "who" unsuitable:

- **Non-European societies have viewed the Earth as an inert source of all resources.**

If this statement is true, it indicates that non-European societies consider the Earth an inanimate object, contradicting the concept of Gaia as a living entity. This would invalidate the premise for using the pronoun "who," making its usage inappropriate. The remaining options, conversely, touch upon historical insights or scientific perspectives that do not directly refute the animistic viewpoint implied by "who."

- A direct causal link exists between human actions and global climate change.

- Ghosh's book is titled "The Nutmeg's Revenge".
- Contemporary Western science uncovers new evidence supporting the Earth's status as an inanimate object.

These points do not challenge the choice of pronoun for Gaia, as they pertain to the causes of climate change, a variation in a book title, or perspectives from Western science, none of which directly contradict the narrative of Earth as a sentient entity.

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3.4. On the basis of information in the passage, which one of the following is NOT a reason for the failure of policies seeking to address climate change?

- (A) The greed of organisations benefiting from non-renewable energy resources.
- (B) The global dominance of oil economies and international politics built around it.
- (C) The decentralised characteristic of renewable energy resources like solar power.
- (D) The marginalised status of non-European ways of looking at nature and the environment.

Correct Answer: (C) The decentralised characteristic of renewable energy resources like solar power.

SOLUTION:

To identify which option does NOT constitute a reason for the failure of climate change policies, as described in the passage, an analysis of the provided underlying causes is necessary.

The passage outlines several factors contributing to policy failures:

- The enduring influence of European colonialism, affecting perceptions of climate and indigenous practices.
- The prevailing power of oil-dependent economies and associated global politics, which safeguard existing interests.
- The suppression of non-European viewpoints on nature, frequently overlooked or superficially acknowledged.

While the passage acknowledges the decentralized nature of renewable energy sources such as solar power, it attributes their suppression to sabotage by power utilities rather than their decentralization being a cause of policy failure. Instead, it emphasizes how established power structures obstruct these resources.

Consequently, the factor that is NOT a reason for the failure of climate change policies is:

The decentralized characteristic of renewable energy resources like solar power.



4. The passage below is accompanied by four questions. Based on the passage, choose the best answer for each question.

Understanding romantic aesthetics is not a simple undertaking for reasons that are internal to the nature of the subject. Distinguished scholars, such as Arthur Lovejoy, Northrop Frye and Isaiah Berlin, have remarked on the notorious challenges facing any attempt to define romanticism. Lovejoy, for example, claimed that romanticism is "the scandal of literary history and criticism"... The main difficulty in studying the romantics, according to him, is the lack of any "single real entity, or type of entity" that the concept "romanticism" designates. Lovejoy concluded, "the word 'romantic' has come to mean so many things that, by itself, it means nothing"...

The more specific task of characterizing romantic aesthetics adds to these difficulties an air of paradox. Conventionally, "aesthetics" refers to a theory

concerning beauty and art or the branch of philosophy that studies these topics. However, many of the romantics rejected the identification of aesthetics with a circumscribed domain of human life that is separated from the practical and theoretical domains of life. The most characteristic romantic commitment is to the idea that the character of art and beauty and of our engagement with them should shape all aspects of human life. Being fundamental to human existence, beauty and art should be a central ingredient not only in a philosophical or artistic life, but also in the lives of ordinary men and women. Another challenge for any attempt to characterize romantic aesthetics lies in the fact that most of the romantics were poets and artists whose views of art and beauty are, for the most part, to be found not in developed theoretical accounts, but in fragments, aphorisms and poems, which are often more elusive and suggestive than conclusive.

Nevertheless, in spite of these challenges the task of characterizing romantic aesthetics is neither impossible nor undesirable, as numerous thinkers responding to Lovejoy's radical skepticism have noted. While warning against a reductive definition of romanticism, Berlin, for example, still heralded the need for a general characterization: "[Although] one does have a certain sympathy with Lovejoy's despair...[he is] in this instance mistaken. There was a romantic movement...and it is important to discover what it is" ...

Recent attempts to characterize romanticism and to stress its contemporary relevance follow this path. Instead of overlooking the undeniable differences between the variety of romanticisms of different nations that Lovejoy had stressed, such studies attempt to characterize romanticism, not in terms of a single definition, a specific time, or a specific place, but in terms of "particular philosophical questions and concerns" ...

While the German, British and French romantics are all considered, the central protagonists in the following are the German romantics. Two reasons explain this focus: first, because it has paved the way for the other

romanticisms, German romanticism has a pride of place among the different national romanticisms ... Second, the aesthetic outlook that was developed in Germany roughly between 1796 and 1801 02 – - the period that corresponds to the heyday of what is known as "Early Romanticism" ...- offers the most philosophical expression of romanticism since it is grounded primarily in the epistemological, metaphysical, ethical, and political concerns that the German romantics discerned in the aftermath of Kant's philosophy.

Correct Answer: —

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4.1. According to the romantics, aesthetics:

- (A) is primarily the concern of philosophers and artists, rather than of ordinary people.
- (B) is widely considered to be irrelevant to human existence.
- (C) should be confined to a specific domain separate from the practical and theoretical aspects of life.
- (D) permeates all aspects of human life, philosophical and mundane.

Correct Answer: (D) permeates all aspects of human life, philosophical and mundane.

SOLUTION:

The text examines the difficulty in defining romantic aesthetics and the varied interpretations of romanticism. Scholars like Arthur Lovejoy and Isaiah Berlin highlight these definitional challenges. Lovejoy contends romanticism is not a singular concept, making it elusive, while Berlin suggests a broader description is necessary. Romantic aesthetics, according to the passage, stems from the philosophy that

beauty and art should impact all facets of human life, not just art and philosophy. This opposes the view of aesthetics being limited to a separate sphere from practical and theoretical life. The core romantic belief is that engaging with art and beauty should shape one's entire existence.

Regarding the provided options:

- Romantics reject the idea that aesthetics is "primarily the concern of philosophers and artists, rather than of ordinary people," as they see it as broadly relevant.
- The concept that aesthetics "is widely considered to be irrelevant to human existence" conflicts with the romantics' view of its essential role.
- The statement that aesthetics "should be confined to a specific domain separate from the practical and theoretical aspects of life" is contrary to the romantic perspective.
- The accurate choice is that aesthetics "permeates all aspects of human life, philosophical and mundane," reflecting the romantic ideology that art and beauty are central to all life, influencing both common and intellectual pursuits.



4.2. According to the passage, recent studies on romanticism avoid "a single definition, a specific time, or a specific place" because they:

- (A) prefer to highlight the paradox of romantic aesthetics as a concept.
- (B) prefer to focus on the fundamental concerns of the romantics.
- (C) understand that the variety of romanticisms renders a general analysis impossible.
- (D) seek to discredit Lovejoy's scepticism regarding romanticism.

Correct Answer: (B) prefer to focus on the fundamental concerns of the romantics.

SOLUTION:

Defining **romanticism** is complex due to its diverse interpretations. Lovejoy noted its variability makes a single definition difficult, hindering analysis. Recent studies, while acknowledging this diversity, avoid rigid definitions of time or place for romanticism. Instead, they examine it by addressing "*particular philosophical questions and concerns*", mirroring the passage's observation of German romantics' focus on epistemological, metaphysical, ethical, and political matters.

Thus, the accurate conclusion is: Recent research prioritizes addressing the core concerns of romanticism.

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4.3. Which one of the following statements is NOT supported by the passage?

- (A) Many romantics rejected the idea of aesthetics as a domain separate from other aspects of life.
- (B) Characterising romantic aesthetics is both possible and desirable, despite the challenges involved.
- (C) Recent studies on romanticism seek to refute the differences between national romanticisms.
- (D) Romantic aesthetics are primarily expressed through fragments, aphorisms, and poems.

Correct Answer: (C) Recent studies on romanticism seek to refute the differences between national romanticisms.

SOLUTION:

To identify the statement unsupported by the passage, each option must be evaluated against the provided information:

- **Option 1: Many romantics rejected the idea of aesthetics as a domain separate from other aspects of life.**

This statement is corroborated by the passage, which notes that many romantics viewed aesthetics as integral to all aspects of human life, rather than a distinct field.

- **Option 2: Characterising romantic aesthetics is both possible and desirable, despite the challenges involved.**

The passage supports this by stating that characterising romantic aesthetics is neither impossible nor undesirable, despite difficulties, as reflected in responses to Lovejoy's skepticism.

- **Option 3: Recent studies on romanticism seek to refute the differences between national romanticisms.**

This statement is NOT supported by the passage. The passage suggests recent efforts aim to characterize romanticism while acknowledging, not refuting, differences among national romanticisms.

- **Option 4: Romantic aesthetics are primarily expressed through fragments, aphorisms, and poems.**

This statement is supported by the passage, which indicates that fragments, aphorisms, and poems were the predominant means by which most romantics conveyed their aesthetic views.

The unsupported statement is **Option 3**, which inaccurately claims recent studies aim to refute differences between national romanticisms, contradicting the passage's content.



4.4. The main difficulty in studying romanticism is the:

- (A) absence of written accounts by romantic poets and artists.
- (B) elusive and suggestive nature of romantic aesthetics.
- (C) lack of clear conceptual contours of the domain.
- (D) controversial and scandalous history of romantic literature.

Correct Answer: (C) lack of clear conceptual contours of the domain.

SOLUTION:

The primary challenge in studying romanticism stems from the inherent complexity of the subject, as detailed in the provided passage. This complexity manifests in several key difficulties associated with romantic aesthetics:

- Defining romanticism presents significant challenges, with scholars such as Arthur Lovejoy, Northrop Frye, and Isaiah Berlin pointing out the absence of a singular, identifiable concept or entity that the term designates. Lovejoy famously stated, "the word 'romantic' has come to mean so many things that, by itself, it means nothing," underscoring the struggle to establish clear conceptual boundaries.
- Romantic aesthetic expressions frequently appear in fragmented forms like aphorisms and poems, rendering their ideas suggestive and elusive rather than definitively stated.
- The romantic aesthetic movement resists being confined to a specific, delimited field, which complicates its definition within existing theoretical structures.

The central question concerns the "main difficulty" in the study of romanticism. The most fitting answer, derived from the provided information, is the absence of well-defined conceptual boundaries for

the subject domain. This perspective echoes Lovejoy's observation regarding the lack of a singular, definitive entity. Consequently, the uncertainty of its scope and the absence of a unified, coherent definition represent the foremost obstacles in studying romanticism.



5. There is a sentence that is missing in the paragraph below. Look at the paragraph and decide where (option 1, 2, 3 or 4) the following sentence would best fit.

Sentence: For theoretical purposes, arguments may be considered as freestanding entities, abstracted from their contexts of use in actual human activities.

Paragraph : (1). An argument can be defined as a complex symbolic structure where some parts, known as the premises, offer support to another part, the conclusion. Alternatively, an argument can be viewed as a complex speech act consisting of one or more acts of premising (which assert propositions in favor of the conclusion), an act of concluding, and a stated or implicit marker ("hence", "therefore") that indicates that the conclusion follows from the premises.. (2)_. The relation of support between premises and conclusion can be cashed out in different ways: the premises may guarantee the truth of the conclusion, or make its truth more probable; the premises may imply the conclusion; the premises may make the conclusion more acceptable (or assertible).(3)__. But depending on one's explanatory goals, there is also much to be gained from considering arguments as they in fact occur in human communicative practices.

- (A) Option 2
- (B) Option 1
- (C) Option 1
- (D) Option 3

SOLUTION:

Summary and Analysis of Paragraph:

This paragraph conceptually explains what an argument is in logic and philosophy, defining it structurally and as a communicative act, and describing its function in theoretical and practical contexts.

1. **Sentence (1):** *“An argument can be defined as a complex symbolic structure...”*

This sentence establishes the primary definition of an argument as a symbolic structure where premises support a conclusion. It also offers an alternative speech-act perspective, viewing arguing as performing acts like premising and concluding, often indicated by linguistic cues (e.g., "therefore," "hence").

2. **Sentence (2):** *“The relation of support between premises and conclusion can be cashed out in different ways...”*

This sentence details the various logical relationships between premises and conclusions. It highlights that arguments vary in strength and type, ranging from deductive (ensuring truth) to inductive (increasing probability) to pragmatic (assertibility or acceptability).

3. **Sentence (3):** *“For theoretical purposes, arguments may be considered as freestanding entities...”*

This sentence transitions from abstract analysis to context. It notes that while arguments can be studied in isolation, significant understanding is achieved by placing them within actual human communication. This links formal logic to practical discourse.

Purpose and Coherence: The paragraph flows logically:

- It begins by defining the concept of an argument from structural and communicative viewpoints.
- It then examines the logical relationships between premises and conclusions.
- Finally, it contrasts the theoretical and practical treatment of arguments.

This coherent structure provides a nuanced understanding appropriate for philosophical or analytical discussions on argumentation.

• • •

6. There is a sentence that is missing in the paragraph below. Look at the paragraph and decide where (option 1, 2, 3, or 4) the following sentence would best fit.

Sentence: Beyond undermining the monopoly of the State on the use of force, armed conflict also creates an environment that can enable organized crime to prosper.

Paragraph:

(1) Linkages between illicit arms, organized crime, and armed conflict can reinforce one another while also escalating and prolonging violence and eroding governance.

(2) __

Financial gains from crime can lengthen or intensify armed conflicts by creating revenue streams for non-State armed groups (NSAGs).

(3) __

In this context, when hostilities cease and parties to a conflict move towards a peaceful resolution, the widespread availability of surplus arms and ammunition can contribute to a situation of 'criminalized peace' that obstructs sustainable peacebuilding efforts.

- (A) Option 2
- (B) Option 1
- (C) Option 4
- (D) Option 3

Correct Answer: (D) Option 3

SOLUTION:

This paragraph examines the interconnectedness of illicit arms, organized crime, and armed conflict, detailing their reciprocal influence on governance and peacebuilding. A crucial point is that armed conflict not only challenges state authority over the use of force but also creates an environment conducive to organized crime's growth.

Paragraph Structure Analysis:

1. **Sentence (1):** Establishes the central theme of mutual reinforcement among illicit arms, organized crime, and armed conflict, highlighting their destabilizing impact on governance and peace.
2. **Sentence (2):** Explains how organized crime financially supports and perpetuates armed conflicts, particularly by providing revenue for non-state armed groups (NSAGs), thereby illustrating the practical role of crime within conflict zones.
3. **Optimal Placement for Missing Sentence:** The sentence, "Beyond undermining the monopoly of the State on the use of force, armed conflict also creates an environment that can enable organized crime to prosper," logically fits between sentences (2) and (3). It serves as a transitional element, clarifying why

organized crime flourishes during conflicts and leading into the subsequent discussion on long-term post-conflict effects.

4. **Sentence (3):** Addresses the post-conflict consequences, specifically how residual arms and established criminal networks impede sustainable peace, resulting in a 'criminalized peace.'

Conclusion: Considering the logical progression of ideas and thematic coherence, the most appropriate placement for the sentence is:

Option 3: Following sentence (2) and preceding sentence (3).

• • •

7. Five jumbled up sentences (labelled 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5), related to a topic, are given below. Four of them can be put together to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the odd sentence and key in the number of that sentence as your answer.

(A) Although hard skills have traditionally ruled the roost, some companies are moving away from choosing prospective hires based on technical abilities alone.

(B) Companies are shaking off the old definition of an ideal candidate and ditching the idea of looking for the singularly perfect candidate altogether.

(C) Now, some job descriptions are frequently asking for candidates to demonstrate soft skills, such as leadership or teamwork.

(D) That's not to say that practical know-how is no longer required - some jobs still call for highly specific expertise

Correct Answer: (B) Companies are shaking off the old definition of an ideal candidate and ditching the idea of looking for the singularly perfect candidate altogether.

SOLUTION:

To identify the sentence that deviates from the paragraph's main subject and progression, examine the thematic connections and logical sequence of each statement:

- **Sentence 1:** Establishes the premise of companies re-prioritizing hiring criteria away from **technical proficiencies** towards alternative factors.
- **Sentence 3:** Corroborates this trend by detailing the increased inclusion of **interpersonal competencies**, such as leadership and collaboration, in job specifications.
- **Sentence 4:** Presents a nuanced perspective, acknowledging that **specialized knowledge remains a prerequisite** for certain roles, thereby reaffirming the evolving hiring landscape without negating the value of technical skills.
- **Sentence 5:** Attributes the catalyst for this shift to the influence of the pandemic, grounding the observed changes within a tangible environmental context.
- **Sentence 2:** Addresses the discontinuation of the "perfect candidate" archetype, a concept that lacks a direct correlation to the dichotomy of hard versus soft skills presented by the other sentences.

Deduction: Statements 1, 3, 4, and 5 collectively construct a coherent discourse focused on the **increasing significance of soft skills** in professional recruitment. Statement 2, despite its relevance to the broader field of hiring, diverges from this central theme and interrupts the established coherence.

Determination: **Sentence 2** is the extraneous element.

8. Five jumbled up sentences (labelled 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5), related to a topic, are given below. Four of them can be put together to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the odd sentence and key in the number of that sentence as your answer.

- (A) Boa Senior, who lived through the 2004 tsunami, the Japanese occupation and diseases brought by British settlers, was the last native of the island chain who was fluent in Bo.
- (B) The indigenous population has been steadily collapsing since the island chain was colonised by British settlers in 1858 and used for most of the following 100 years as a colonial penal colony.
- (C) Taking its name from a now-extinct tribe, Bo is one of the 10 Great Andamanese languages, which are thought to date back to pre-Neolithic human settlement of southeast Asia.
- (D) The last speaker of an ancient tribal language has died in the Andaman Islands, breaking a 65,000 -year link to one of the world's oldest cultures.

Correct Answer: (B) The indigenous population has been steadily collapsing since the island chain was colonised by British settlers in 1858 and used for most of the following 100 years as a colonial penal colony.

SOLUTION:

Identifying the Outlier Sentence

The objective is to pinpoint the sentence that disrupts the contextual flow, preventing the formation of a cohesive paragraph.

Provided Sentences:

1. Boa Senior, a survivor of the 2004 tsunami, the Japanese occupation, and diseases introduced by British settlers, was the sole remaining native of the island chain fluent in Bo.
2. The indigenous population has experienced a significant decline since the island chain's colonization by British settlers in 1858, and its subsequent use as a penal colony for a century.
3. Bo, named after an extinct tribe, is one of the ten Great Andamanese languages, believed to originate from pre-Neolithic human settlements in Southeast Asia.
4. The last speaker of an ancient tribal language has passed away in the Andaman Islands, marking the end of a 65,000-year connection to one of the world's most ancient cultures.
5. Despite extensive study by linguistic historians, Boa Senior spent her final years unable to communicate in her native tongue.

Thematic Breakdown:

- Sentences 1, 3, 4, and 5 focus on the death of Boa Senior, the extinction of the Bo language, and its historical significance.
- Sentence 2 addresses the historical impact of colonization on the island's population, diverging from the primary theme concerning language and Boa Senior.

Determination:

Sentence 2 is the outlier because it shifts the focus from linguistic and cultural extinction to the history of colonization.



9. The four sentences (labelled 1, 2,3 and 4) given below, when properly sequenced, would yield a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper

sequencing of the order of the sentences and key in the sequence of the four numbers as your answer.

1. Centuries later formal learning is still mostly based on reading, even with the widespread use of other possible education-affecting technologies such as film, radio, and television.
2. One of the immediate and recognisable impacts of the printing press was on how people learned; in the scribal culture it primarily involved listening, so memorization was paramount.
3. The transformation of learners from listeners to readers was a complex social and cultural phenomenon, and it was not until the industrial era that the concept of universal literacy took root.
4. The printing press shifted the learning process, as listening and memorisation gradually gave way to reading and learning no longer required the presence of a mentor; it could be done privately

- (A) 1243
- (B) 2413.
- (C) 2431
- (D) 1432

Correct Answer: (C) 2431

SOLUTION:

Correct Sentence Order: 2-4-3-1

Sentence 2 establishes the **primary effect** of the printing press on scribal traditions, noting the **transition from oral instruction to written study**.

Sentence 4 elaborates on this transition by detailing how it **facilitated individual comprehension** and allowed for **personal study**,

amplifying the printing press's influence.

Sentence 3 adds further **sociocultural background** to this development, depicting the move from auditory reception to literary engagement, particularly in the industrial age.

Sentence 1 concludes the discussion by **linking the historical change** to **contemporary times**, asserting that despite advancements in media like film and television, **literacy persists as crucial** for structured learning.

Final Order: 2 → 4 → 3 → 1

Correct Option: (C)



10. The four sentences (labelled 1, 2, 3 and 4) given below, when properly sequenced, would yield a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper sequencing of the order of the sentences and key in the sequence of the four numbers as your answer.

1. *Veena Sahajwalla, a materials scientist at the University of New South Wales, believes there is a new way of solving this problem.*
2. *Her vision is for automated drones and robots to pick out components, put them into a small furnace and smelt them at specific temperatures to extract the metals one by one before they are sent off to manufacturers for reuse.*
3. *E-waste contains huge quantities of valuable metals, ceramics and plastics that could be salvaged and recycled, although currently not enough of it is.*
4. *She plans to build micro factories that can tease apart the tangle of materials in mobile phones, computers and other e-waste.*

- (A) 4132
- (B) 1432
- (C) 2431
- (D) 3142

Correct Answer: (D) 3142

SOLUTION:

Sentence Sequence: 3-1-4-2

Sentence 3 establishes the **issue**: valuable components in e-waste are not efficiently recycled. This provides the discussion's **foundation**.

Sentence 1 introduces **Veena Sahajwalla** and her **innovative response** to the problem in Sentence 3. It logically follows Sentence 3 to link the concepts.

Sentence 4 expands on **Sahajwalla's approach**, detailing the concept of **microfactories** for extracting valuable materials from e-waste. This directly supports the assertion in Sentence 1.

Sentence 2 provides further specifics, explaining the integration of **drones and robots** in the recovery procedure, thus extending the idea presented in Sentence 4.

Furthermore, Sentences 1, 2, and 4 employ pronouns such as "**she**" and "**her**", explicitly referring to Sahajwalla introduced in Sentence 1. This reinforces the required order of $3 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 2$.

Final Sequence: $3 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 2$

Correct Choice: (D)



11. The passage given below is followed by four alternate summaries.

Choose the option that best captures the essence of the passage.

Gradually, life for the island's birds is improving. Antarctic prions and white-headed petrels, which also nest in burrows, had managed to cling on in some sites while pests were on the island. Their numbers are now increasing. "It's fantastic and so exciting," Shaw says. As birds return to breed, they also poo. This adds nutrients to the soil, which in turn helps the plants to grow back stronger. Tall plants then help burrowing birds hide from predatory skuas. "It's this wonderful feedback loop," Shaw says. Today, the "pretty paddock" that Houghton first experienced has been transformed. "The tussock is over your head, and you're dodging all these penguin tunnels," she says. The orchids and tiny herb that had been protected by fencing have started turning up all over the place.

(A) There is an increasing number of predatory birds and plants on the island despite the presence of pests which is a positive development.

(B) Flowering plants, herbs and birds are now being protected on this wonderful Antarctic island.

(C) There is a huge positive transformation of the ecosystem of the island when brought under environmental protection.

(D) In the absence of pests, life on the island is now protected, and there has been a revival of a variety of birds and plants.

Correct Answer: (D) In the absence of pests, life on the island is now protected, and there has been a revival of a variety of birds and plants.

SOLUTION:

The island's ecosystem is improving, notably for birds such as *Antarctic prions* and *white-headed petrels*. Their populations are growing as pest control measures are enacted. With pests eliminated, these birds can

return to breed and benefit the environment. Bird guano also fertilizes the soil, encouraging plant growth.

Option D accurately summarizes the passage's main point: island life is recovering and thriving due to pest removal, benefiting birds and plants.

Option A is incorrect, stating an increase in predatory birds, which is not supported by the text.

Option B is inaccurate; the passage does not solely attribute these positive changes to this specific protection measure.

Option C is too general and fails to emphasize the crucial role of pest absence in the island's transformation.

Therefore, the correct option is **(D)**: With pests gone, island life is now protected, leading to the recovery of diverse bird and plant species.



12. The passage given below is followed by four alternate summaries.

Choose the option that best captures the essence of the passage.

The weight of society's expectations is hardly a new phenomenon but it has become particularly draining over recent decades, perhaps because expectations themselves are so multifarious and contradictory. The perfectionism of the 1950 s was rooted in the norms of mass culture and captured in famous advertising images of the ideal white American family that now seem self-satirising. In that era, perfectionism meant seamlessly conforming to values, behaviour and appearance: chiselled confidence for men, demure graciousness for women. The perfectionist was under pressure to look like everyone else, only more so. The perfectionists of today, by contrast, feel an obligation to stand out through their idiosyncratic style and wit if they are to gain a foothold in the attention economy.

(A) Though long-standing, the pressure to appear perfect and thereby attract attention, has evolved over time from one of conformism to one of non-conformism.

(B) The image of perfectionism is reflected in and perpetuated by the media; and people do their best to adhere to these ideals.

(C) The pressure to appear perfect has been the cause of tension and conflict because the idea itself has been in a state of flux and hard to define.

(D) The desire to attract attention is so deep-rooted in individual consciousness that people are willing to go to any lengths to achieve it.

Correct Answer: (A) Though long-standing, the pressure to appear perfect and thereby attract attention, has evolved over time from one of conformism to one of non-conformism.

SOLUTION:

The text contrasts the 1950s, where perfection meant adhering to social norms, with the present, where individuals feel compelled to be unique and draw attention through individual style and intellect. The core concept—the shift from conformity to non-conformity—supports **Option A** as the most suitable choice. It effectively illustrates the evolution of perfectionism in response to diverse and often contradictory cultural expectations.

Option B focuses on people pursuing ideals and media influence, which deviates from the paragraph's primary focus on changing societal standards over time.

The paragraph emphasizes a historical shift in expectations, not conflict, contradicting **Option C**'s assertion of tension and conflict regarding the changing definition of perfection.

Option D presents an oversimplified view that individuals will resort to any means for attention, a claim not directly supported by the text's emphasis on the evolving nature of perfectionism.

The **correct option is (A)**: The enduring pressure to achieve perfection and gain recognition has transformed over time, moving from an emphasis on conformity to one of non-conformity.