CAT 2024 Slot 2 VARC Question Paper with Solutions

Question 1:
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.

1. The UK is a world leader in developing cultivated meat and the approval of a cultivated pet food is an important milestone.
2. If we're to realise the full potential benefits of cultivated meat the government must invest in research and infrastructure.
3. The first UK applications for cultivated meat produced for humans remain under assessment with the Food Standards Agency.
4. The previous UK government had been looking at fast-tracking the approval of cultivated meat for human consumption.
5. It underscores the potential for new innovation to help reduce the negative impacts of intensive animal agriculture.

Answer: 5

Solution:
To identify the odd sentence, we need to look for a sentence that doesn't fit thematically with the others. Sentences 1, 2, 3, and 4 are all directly related to the development and regulation of cultivated meat in the UK. Sentence 5, however, is more general and discusses the potential benefits of cultivated meat for reducing the negative impacts of animal agriculture. It doesn't specifically relate to the UK or the regulatory process.
Therefore, sentence 5 is the odd one out.

Quick Tip
When solving sentence rearrangement questions, it's helpful to identify the main topic or theme of the paragraph. Once you've identified the theme, you can look for sentences that directly support or elaborate on it. Any sentence that doesn't fit the theme is likely the odd one out.

Comprehension:
The passage below is accompanied by four questions. Based on the passage, choose the best answer for each question.
The history of any major technological or industrial advance is inevitably shadowed by

a less predictable history of unintended consequences and secondary effects — what economists sometimes call "externalities." Sometimes those consequences are innocuous ones, or even beneficial. Gutenberg invents the printing press, and literacy rates rise, which causes a significant part of the reading public to require spectacles for the first time, which creates a surge of investment in lens-making across Europe, which leads to the invention of the telescope and the microscope. Oftentimes the secondary effects seem to belong to an entirely different sphere of society. When Willis Carrier hit upon the idea of air-conditioning, the technology was primarily intended for industrial use: ensuring cool, dry air for factories that required low-humidity environments. But... it touched off one of the largest migrations in the history of the United States, enabling the rise of metropolitan areas like Phoenix and Las Vegas that barely existed when Carrier first started tinkering with the idea in the early 1900s. Sometimes the unintended consequence comes about when consumers use an invention in a surprising way. Edison famously thought his phonograph, which he sometimes called "the talking machine," would primarily be used to take dictation....But then later innovators... discovered a much larger audience willing to pay for musical recordings made on descendants of Edison's original invention. In other cases, the original innovation comes into the world disguised as a plaything... the way the animatronic dolls of the mid-1700s inspired Jacquard to invent the first "programmable" loom and Charles Babbage to invent the first machine that fit the modern definition of a computer, setting the stage for the revolution in programmable technology that would transform the 21st century in countless ways. We live under the gathering storm of modern history's most momentous unintended consequence....carbon-based climate change. Imagine the vast sweep of inventors whose ideas started the Industrial Revolution, all the entrepreneurs and scientists and hobbyists who had a hand in bringing it about. Line up a thousand of them and ask them all what they had been hoping to do with their work. Not one would say that their intent had been to deposit enough carbon in the atmosphere to create a greenhouse effect that trapped heat at the surface of the planet. And yet here we are. Ethyl (leaded fuel) and Freon belonged to the same general class of secondary effect: innovations whose unintended consequences stem from some kind of waste by-product that they emit. But the potential health threats of Ethyl (unleaded fuel) were visible in the 1920s, unlike, say, the long-term effects of atmospheric carbon build up in the early days of the Industrial Revolution.... Indeed, it is reasonable to see CFCs (chlorofluorocarbons) as a forerunner of the kind of threat we will most likely face in the coming decades, as it becomes increasingly possible for individuals or small groups to create new scientific advances — through chemistry or biotechnology or materials science — setting off unintended consequences that reverberate on a global state.

Question.2:
The author lists all of the following examples as "externalities" of major technical advances EXCEPT:

1. extension of the phonograph to large-scale recording of music
2. application of the Jacquard loom to modern IT programming

3. build-up of chlorofluorocarbons in the atmosphere

4. cooling and de-humidifying of factories through air-conditioning

Answer: 4. cooling and de-humidifying of factories through air-conditioning
Solution:
An externality is an economic side effect that affects a third party who had no control over the action that caused the effect. It can be positive or negative.
Let's analyze each option:
1. Extension of the phonograph to large-scale recording of music: This led to the development of the music industry, which had significant social and economic impacts. It could be considered a positive externality. 2. Application of the Jacquard loom to modern IT programming: This connection between historical technology and modern computing is a fascinating example of how technological advancements can influence future innovations. It's a positive externality. 3. Build-up of chlorofluorocarbons in the atmosphere: This is a clear negative externality, as it has led to ozone depletion and climate change. 4. Cooling and de-humidifying of factories through air-conditioning: While this might improve working conditions for factory workers, it doesn't necessarily have a significant impact on third parties or the environment. It's more of a direct benefit to the factory owners and workers.
Therefore, the correct answer is option 4.

Quick Tip
To identify externalities, think about the unintended consequences of a technological advancement. Does it have a significant impact on people who were not directly involved in the development or use of the technology? If so, it's likely an externality.

Comprehension:
The passage below is accompanied by four questions. Based on the passage, choose the best answer for each question. The history of any major technological or industrial advance is inevitably shadowed by a less predictable history of unintended consequences and secondary effects — what economists sometimes call "externalities." Sometimes those consequences are innocuous ones, or even beneficial. Gutenberg invents the printing press, and literacy rates rise, which causes a significant part of the reading public to require spectacles for the first time, which creates a surge of investment in lens-making across Europe, which leads to the invention of the telescope and the microscope. Oftentimes the secondary effects seem to belong to an entirely different sphere of society. When Willis Carrier hit upon the idea of air-conditioning, the technology was primarily intended for industrial use: ensuring cool, dry air for factories that required low-humidity environments. But... it touched off one of the largest migrations in the history of the United States, enabling the rise of metropolitan areas like Phoenix and Las Vegas that barely existed when Carrier first started tinkering with the idea in the early 1900s. Sometimes

the unintended consequence comes about when consumers use an invention in a surprising way. Edison famously thought his phonograph, which he sometimes called "the talking machine," would primarily be used to take dictation. . . .But then later innovators. . . discovered a much larger audience willing to pay for musical recordings made on descendants of Edison's original invention. In other cases, the original innovation comes into the world disguised as a plaything. . . the way the animatronic dolls of the mid-1700s inspired Jacquard to invent the first "programmable" loom and Charles Babbage to invent the first machine that fit the modern definition of a computer, setting the stage for the revolution in programmable technology that would transform the 21st century in countless ways. We live under the gathering storm of modern history's most momentous unintended consequence. . . .carbon-based climate change. Imagine the vast sweep of inventors whose ideas started the Industrial Revolution, all the entrepreneurs and scientists and hobbyists who had a hand in bringing it about. Line up a thousand of them and ask them all what they had been hoping to do with their work. Not one would say that their intent had been to deposit enough carbon in the atmosphere to create a greenhouse effect that trapped heat at the surface of the planet. And yet here we are. Ethyl (leaded fuel) and Freon belonged to the same general class of secondary effect: innovations whose unintended consequences stem from some kind of waste by-product that they emit. But the potential health threats of Ethyl (unleaded fuel) were visible in the 1920s, unlike, say, the long-term effects of atmospheric carbon build up in the early days of the Industrial Revolution. . . . Indeed, it is reasonable to see CFCs (chlorofluorocarbons) as a forerunner of the kind of threat we will most likely face in the coming decades, as it becomes increasingly possible for individuals or small groups to create new scientific advances — through chemistry or biotechnology or materials science — setting off unintended consequences that reverberate on a global scale.

Question.3
Carrier, Babbage, and Edison are mentioned in the passage to illustrate the author's point that

1. the secondary effect of past inventions mostly resulted in the creation of new inventions.
2. inventions typically end up being used for entirely different purposes than the intended ones.
3. despite the original intention, the unintended consequences of their inventions were largely beneficial.
4. these inventors could not have visualised the eventual impact of their inventions on society.

Answer: 4. these inventors could not have visualised the eventual impact of their inventions on society.
Solution:

The author mentions Carrier, Babbage, and Edison to highlight how their inventions, while groundbreaking at the time, had far-reaching and unforeseen consequences. None of these inventors could have fully anticipated the ways in which their creations would shape the future.
Let's analyze the other options:
1. The secondary effect of past inventions mostly resulted in the creation of new inventions. While this is true in some cases, it's not the primary point the author is making.
2. Inventions typically end up being used for entirely different purposes than the intended ones. While this is true for some inventions, it's not universally true, and it's not the main point the author is trying to convey. 3. Despite the original intention, the unintended consequences of their inventions were largely beneficial. While some of the unintended consequences of these inventions were beneficial, others were not. The author is not making a claim about the net positive or negative impact of these inventions.
Therefore, the correct answer is option 4.

Quick Tip
When analyzing a passage, it's important to consider the author's main argument and the supporting evidence they provide. Look for recurring themes and patterns in the text to identify the author's overall point.

Comprehension:
The passage below is accompanied by four questions. Based on the passage, choose the best answer for each question. The history of any major technological or industrial advance is inevitably shadowed by a less predictable history of unintended consequences and secondary effects — what economists sometimes call "externalities." Sometimes those consequences are innocuous ones, or even beneficial. Gutenberg invents the printing press, and literacy rates rise, which causes a significant part of the reading public to require spectacles for the first time, which creates a surge of investment in lens-making across Europe, which leads to the invention of the telescope and the microscope. Oftentimes the secondary effects seem to belong to an entirely different sphere of society. When Willis Carrier hit upon the idea of air-conditioning, the technology was primarily intended for industrial use: ensuring cool, dry air for factories that required low-humidity environments. But... it touched off one of the largest migrations in the history of the United States, enabling the rise of metropolitan areas like Phoenix and Las Vegas that barely existed when Carrier first started tinkering with the idea in the early 1900s. Sometimes the unintended consequence comes about when consumers use an invention in a surprising way. Edison famously thought his phonograph, which he sometimes called "the talking machine," would primarily be used to take dictation....But then later innovators... discovered a much larger audience willing to pay for musical recordings made on descendants of Edison's original invention. In other cases, the original innovation comes into the world disguised as a plaything... the way the animatronic dolls of the mid-1700s inspired Jacquard to invent the first "programmable" loom and Charles Babbage to invent the first machine that fit the modern definition of a computer, setting the stage

for the revolution in programmable technology that would transform the 21st century in countless ways. We live under the gathering storm of modern history's most momentous unintended consequence....carbon-based climate change. Imagine the vast sweep of inventors whose ideas started the Industrial Revolution, all the entrepreneurs and scientists and hobbyists who had a hand in bringing it about. Line up a thousand of them and ask them all what they had been hoping to do with their work. Not one would say that their intent had been to deposit enough carbon in the atmosphere to create a greenhouse effect that trapped heat at the surface of the planet. And yet here we are. Ethyl (leaded fuel) and Freon belonged to the same general class of secondary effect: innovations whose unintended consequences stem from some kind of waste by-product that they emit. But the potential health threats of Ethyl (unleaded fuel) were visible in the 1920s, unlike, say, the long-term effects of atmospheric carbon build up in the early days of the Industrial Revolution.... Indeed, it is reasonable to see CFCs (chlorofluorocarbons) as a forerunner of the kind of threat we will most likely face in the coming decades, as it becomes increasingly possible for individuals or small groups to create new scientific advances — through chemistry or biotechnology or materials science — setting off unintended consequences that reverberate on a global scale.

Question.4
We can assume that the author would support all of the following views EXCEPT:

1. The by-products of leaded fuel, rather than the fuel itself, were responsible for the build-up of carbon-related gases in the atmosphere.
2. The emissions caused by the large-scale use of leaded fuel ought to have been addressed earlier than they were.
3. While technological advances in the past have had innocuous or beneficial outcomes, more recent advances have the potential to be more threatening globally.
4. It has become far easier for people today to bring out innovations with dire worldwide consequences than it was earlier.

Answer: 3. While technological advances in the past have had innocuous or beneficial outcomes, more recent advances have the potential to be more threatening globally.
Solution:
The author's main argument is that technological advancements, while often beneficial, can also have unintended and harmful consequences. The author uses the example of leaded fuel to illustrate this point. The author emphasizes that while the initial intent of leaded fuel was to improve engine performance, it had severe environmental and health consequences.
Let's analyze the other options:
1. The by-products of leaded fuel, rather than the fuel itself, were responsible for the build-up of carbon-related gases in the atmosphere. This is a factual statement and

aligns with the author's argument about the unintended consequences of technological advancements. 2. The emissions caused by the large-scale use of leaded fuel ought to have been addressed earlier than they were. This is also a valid point that supports the author's argument. 4. It has become far easier for people today to bring out innovations with dire worldwide consequences than it was earlier. This statement echoes the author's concern about the potential negative impacts of modern technology.
However, option 3 contradicts the author's point. The author does not suggest that recent technological advancements are inherently more dangerous than past ones. Instead, the author emphasizes that the potential for both positive and negative consequences exists with any technological advancement, regardless of the era.
Therefore, the correct answer is option 3.

Quick Tip
When analyzing a passage, it's crucial to identify the author's main argument and supporting evidence. Look for inconsistencies between the answer choices and the author's main point.

Comprehension:
The passage below is accompanied by four questions. Based on the passage, choose the best answer for each question. The history of any major technological or industrial advance is inevitably shadowed by a less predictable history of unintended consequences and secondary effects — what economists sometimes call "externalities." Sometimes those consequences are innocuous ones, or even beneficial. Gutenberg invents the printing press, and literacy rates rise, which causes a significant part of the reading public to require spectacles for the first time, which creates a surge of investment in lens-making across Europe, which leads to the invention of the telescope and the microscope. Oftentimes the secondary effects seem to belong to an entirely different sphere of society. When Willis Carrier hit upon the idea of air-conditioning, the technology was primarily intended for industrial use: ensuring cool, dry air for factories that required low-humidity environments. But... it touched off one of the largest migrations in the history of the United States, enabling the rise of metropolitan areas like Phoenix and Las Vegas that barely existed when Carrier first started tinkering with the idea in the early 1900s. Sometimes the unintended consequence comes about when consumers use an invention in a surprising way. Edison famously thought his phonograph, which he sometimes called "the talking machine," would primarily be used to take dictation....But then later innovators... discovered a much larger audience willing to pay for musical recordings made on descendants of Edison's original invention. In other cases, the original innovation comes into the world disguised as a plaything... the way the animatronic dolls of the mid-1700s inspired Jacquard to invent the first "programmable" loom and Charles Babbage to invent the first machine that fit the modern definition of a computer, setting the stage for the revolution in programmable technology that would transform the 21st century in countless ways. We live under the gathering storm of modern history's most momentous

unintended consequence. . . .carbon-based climate change. Imagine the vast sweep of inventors whose ideas started the Industrial Revolution, all the entrepreneurs and scientists and hobbyists who had a hand in bringing it about. Line up a thousand of them and ask them all what they had been hoping to do with their work. Not one would say that their intent had been to deposit enough carbon in the atmosphere to create a greenhouse effect that trapped heat at the surface of the planet. And yet here we are. Ethyl (leaded fuel) and Freon belonged to the same general class of secondary effect: innovations whose unintended consequences stem from some kind of waste by-product that they emit. But the potential health threats of Ethyl (unleaded fuel) were visible in the 1920s, unlike, say, the long-term effects of atmospheric carbon build up in the early days of the Industrial Revolution. . . . Indeed, it is reasonable to see CFCs (chlorofluorocarbons) as a forerunner of the kind of threat we will most likely face in the coming decades, as it becomes increasingly possible for individuals or small groups to create new scientific advances — through chemistry or biotechnology or materials science — setting off unintended consequences that reverberate on a global scale.

Question.5
Which of the following best conveys the main point of the first paragraph?

1. The full impact of technological advances cannot be estimated in the short run as the ripple effects often extend far beyond the original intent.
2. The secondary effects of most major technological advances in the past, especially if they were unintended, have turned out to be beneficial.
3. It is important to judge an invention not by its immediate outcomes, but by the holistic impact of its secondary effects.
4. The entire impact of a technological advance should be evaluated by the boost its secondary effects gives to generating further technological advances.

Answer: 1. The full impact of technological advances cannot be estimated in the short run as the ripple effects often extend far beyond the original intent.

Solution:
The first paragraph emphasizes the long-term, unforeseen consequences of technological advancements. It highlights how these advancements can have ripple effects that extend far beyond their initial purpose. This is best captured by option 1.
Let's analyze the other options:
2. The secondary effects of most major technological advances in the past, especially if they were unintended, have turned out to be beneficial. This statement is too broad and doesn't capture the nuanced point that some unintended consequences can be harmful. 3. It is important to judge an invention not by its immediate outcomes, but by the holistic impact of its secondary effects. While this is a valid point, it doesn't fully capture the idea of long-term, unpredictable consequences. 4. The entire impact of a technological

advance should be evaluated by the boost its secondary effects gives to generating further technological advances. This option focuses too narrowly on technological progress and doesn't consider the broader societal implications.
Therefore, the correct answer is option 1.

Quick Tip
When identifying the main point of a paragraph, look for the central idea that the author is trying to convey. Pay attention to the topic sentence and the supporting details.

Question6
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.

1. No known real researcher of human behaviour would say that gender is all nature or all nurture.
2. The evidence for a biological basis for gender certainly doesn't mean we should be complacent in the face of sexism.
3. Many people are uncomfortable with the idea that gender is not purely a social construct.
4. Despite this empirical truth, researchers who study the biological basis of gender often face political pushback.
5. There's a political preference for gender to be only a reflection of social factors and so entirely malleable.

Answer: 2
Solution:
The main theme of the paragraph is the tension between biological and social factors in determining gender, and the societal resistance to acknowledging a biological basis for gender. Sentences 1, 3, 4, and 5 all directly relate to this theme.
Sentence 2, while related to gender and societal attitudes, doesn't directly fit the theme of the paragraph. It discusses the importance of fighting sexism, even in the face of biological evidence, which is a slightly different focus.
Therefore, sentence 2 is the odd one out.

Quick Tip
When solving sentence rearrangement questions, look for the central theme or topic that connects the sentences. Identify the sentence that doesn't fit this theme and is likely the odd one out.

Question.7
The passage given below is followed by four alternate summaries. Choose the option that best captures the essence of the passage.

Recent important scientific findings have emerged from crossing the boundaries of scientific fields. They stem from physicists collaborating with biologists, sociologists and others, to answer questions about our world. But physicists and their potential collaborators often find their cultures out of sync. For one, physicists often discard a lot of information while extracting broad patterns; for other scientists, information is not readily disposed. Further, many non-physicists are uncomfortable with mathematical models. Still, the desire to work on something new and different is real, and there are clear benefits from the collision of views.

1. Physicists have successfully buried their differences on research methods applied in other fields in their desire to find answers to baffling scientific questions.
2. Large data sets and mathematical models in physics research combined with the research methods of non-physicist collaborators have yielded important scientific findings.
3. The desire to diversify their research and answer important questions has led to several collaborations between physicists and other social scientists.
4. Despite differences in their research styles, physicists' research collaborations with scholars from other disciplines have yielded important research findings.

Answer: 4. Despite differences in their research styles, physicists' research collaborations with scholars from other disciplines have yielded important research findings.
Solution:
The passage highlights the challenges and benefits of interdisciplinary collaboration between physicists and other scientists. While there are differences in research methods and approaches, the desire for innovation and the potential for significant discoveries have driven these collaborations. Option 4 accurately captures this essence.
Let's analyze the other options:
1. Physicists have successfully buried their differences on research methods applied in other fields in their desire to find answers to baffling scientific questions. This option overstates the extent to which physicists have compromised their methods. The passage emphasizes the differences in approaches and how they can be complementary, not that they have been entirely reconciled. 2. Large data sets and mathematical models in physics research combined with the research methods of non-physicist collaborators have yielded important scientific findings. While this is true to some extent, it doesn't capture the full picture of the challenges and benefits of interdisciplinary collaboration. 3. The desire to diversify their research and answer important questions has led to several collaborations

between physicists and other social scientists. This option focuses on the motivation for collaboration but doesn't address the challenges and the eventual success of these collaborations.
Therefore, the correct answer is option 4.

Quick Tip
When analyzing a passage, identify the main idea and the supporting details. Look for the option that best summarizes the main idea and the key points.

Question.8
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: [T]he Europeans did not invent globalization.
Paragraph: The first phase of globalization occurred long before the introduction of either steam or electric power... Chinese consumers at all social levels consumed vast quantities of spices, fragrant woods and unusual plants. The peoples of Southeast Asia who lived in forests gave up their traditional livelihoods and completely reoriented their economies to supply Chinese consumers.....(1)..... . These exchanges of the year 1000 opened some of the routes through which goods and peoples continued to travel after Columbus traversed the mid-Atlantic. .....(2)..... . Yet the world of 1000 differed from that of 1492 in important ways....the travellers who encountered one another in the year 1000 were much closer technologically. ..... (3) ..... . They changed and augmented what was already there since 1000. ..... (4) ..... . If globalization hadn't yet begun, Europeans wouldn't have been able to penetrate the markets in so many places as quickly as they did after 1492.

1. Option 4
2. Option 3
3. Option 2
4. Option 1

Answer: 2. Option 3
Solution:
The missing sentence, "[T]he Europeans did not invent globalization," best fits in position 3. It provides a contrasting point to the previous sentence, which highlights the technological differences between the worlds of 1000 and 1492. By asserting that globalization predates European exploration, the sentence emphasizes the continuity of global trade and exchange.
Placing the sentence in any other position would disrupt the flow of the paragraph and not fit the logical progression of the argument.

Quick Tip

When solving sentence placement questions, consider the logical flow of the paragraph and the connection between the sentences. The missing sentence should fit seamlessly into the context and provide essential information.

Question.9
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: Yet each day the flock produced eggs with calcareous shells though they apparently had not ingested any calcium from land which was entirely lacking in limestone.
Paragraph: Early in this century a young Breton schoolboy who preparing himself for a scientific career began to notice a strange fact about hens in his father's poultry yard.....(1)..... As they scratched the soil they constantly seemed to be pecking at specks of mica, a siliceous material dotting the ground..... (2)..... No one could explain to Louis Kervran why the chickens selected the mica, or why each time a bird was killed for the family cooking pot no trace of the mica could be found in its gizzard. .....(3) ..... It took Kervran many years to establish that the chickens were transmuting one element into another. ..... (4) ..... .

1. Option 3
2. Option 2
3. Option 4
4. Option 1

Answer: 1. Option 3
Solution:
The missing sentence logically fits after sentence 2. It provides a crucial piece of information that the chickens were producing eggshells without a clear source of calcium, leading to the central mystery of the paragraph. Placing the sentence in position 3 creates a coherent narrative flow.
The other options do not fit the logical progression of the paragraph. Placing the sentence at the beginning or end would disrupt the flow of the narrative.

Quick Tip

When solving sentence placement questions, consider the logical flow of the paragraph and the connection between the sentences. The missing sentence should fit seamlessly into the context and provide essential information.

Comprehension:
The passage below is accompanied by four questions. Based on the passage, choose the best answer for each question. (. . .) There are three other common drivers for carnivore-human attacks, some of which are more preventable than others. Natural aggression-based conflicts – such as those involving females protecting their young or animals protecting a food source – can often be avoided as long as people stay away from those animals and their food. Carnivores that recognise humans as a means to get food, are a different story. As they become more reliant on human food they might find at campsites or in rubbish bins, they become less avoidant of humans. Losing that instinctive fear response puts them into more situations where they could get into an altercation with a human, which often results in that bear being put down by humans. "A fed bear is a dead bear," says Servheen, referring to a common saying among biologists and conservationists. Predatory or predation-related attacks are quite rare, only accounting for 17 percent of attacks in North America since 1955. They occur when a carnivore views a human as prey and hunts it like it would any other animal it uses for food. (. . .) Then there are animal attacks provoked by people taking pictures with them or feeding them in natural settings such as national parks which often end with animals being euthanised out of precaution. "Eventually, that animal becomes habituated to people, and [then] bad things happen to the animal. And the folks who initially wanted to make that connection don't necessarily realise that," says Christine Wilkinson, a postdoctoral researcher at UC Berkeley, California, who's been studying coyote-human conflicts. After conducting countless postmortems on all types of carnivore-human attacks spanning 75 years, Penteriani's team believes 50 percent could have been avoided if humans reacted differently. A 2017 study co-authored by Penteriani found that engaging in risky behaviour around large carnivores increases the likelihood of an attack. Two of the most common risky behaviours are parents leaving their children to play outside unattended and walking an unleashed dog, according to the study. Wilkinson says 66 percent of coyote attacks involve a dog. "[People] end up in a situation where their dog is being chased, or their dog chases a coyote, or maybe they're walking their dog near a den that's marked, and the coyote wants to escort them away," says Wilkinson. Experts believe climate change also plays a part in the escalation of human-carnivore conflicts, but the correlation still needs to be ironed out. "As finite resources become scarcer, carnivores and people are coming into more frequent contact, which means that more conflict could occur," says Jen Miller, international programme specialist for the US Fish and Wildlife Service. For example, she says, there was an uptick in lion attacks in western India during a drought when lions and people were relying on the same water sources. (. . .) The likelihood of human-carnivore conflicts appears to be higher in areas of low-income countries dominated by vast rural landscapes and farmland, according to Penteriani's research. "There are a lot of working landscapes in the Global South that are really heterogeneous, that are interspersed with carnivore habitats, forests and savannahs, which creates a lot more opportunity for these encounters, just statistically," says Wilkinson.

Question.10
According to the passage, what is a significant factor that contributes to the habituation

of carnivores to human presence?

1. The reduction in carnivores' instinctive fear response, resulting from their reliance upon human-provided food.
2. The predatory perception of humans as potential prey within the carnivores' food chain.
3. The increased scarcity of resources due to climate change, forcing carnivores to venture outside their natural habitats in search of sustenance.
4. The natural aggression exhibited by carnivores, exacerbated by human interference, particularly when they are safeguarding their offspring or food sources.

Answer: 1. The reduction in carnivores' instinctive fear response, resulting from their reliance upon human-provided food.
Solution:
The passage likely discusses the phenomenon of wildlife becoming accustomed to human presence, particularly when they are provided with food sources. This can lead to a reduction in their natural fear response, making them more likely to approach humans.
Let's analyze the other options:
2. The predatory perception of humans as potential prey within the carnivores' food chain. This is unlikely to be a significant factor in habituation, as it would more likely lead to avoidance or aggression towards humans. 3. The increased scarcity of resources due to climate change, forcing carnivores to venture outside their natural habitats in search of sustenance. While this could lead to increased human-wildlife encounters, it doesn't necessarily explain the habituation of carnivores to human presence. 4. The natural aggression exhibited by carnivores, exacerbated by human interference, particularly when they are safeguarding their offspring or food sources. This option suggests that human interference increases aggression in carnivores, which is not consistent with the idea of habituation.
Therefore, the correct answer is option 1.

Quick Tip
When answering questions about a passage, carefully read the text and pay attention to the specific details. Eliminate options that are clearly incorrect or do not align with the information provided in the passage.

Comprehension:
The passage below is accompanied by four questions. Based on the passage, choose the best answer for each question. (. . .) There are three other common drivers for carnivore-human attacks, some of which are more preventable than others. Natural aggression-based conflicts – such as those involving females protecting their young or

animals protecting a food source – can often be avoided as long as people stay away from those animals and their food. Carnivores that recognise humans as a means to get food, are a different story. As they become more reliant on human food they might find at campsites or in rubbish bins, they become less avoidant of humans. Losing that instinctive fear response puts them into more situations where they could get into an altercation with a human, which often results in that bear being put down by humans. "A fed bear is a dead bear," says Servheen, referring to a common saying among biologists and conservationists. Predatory or predation-related attacks are quite rare, only accounting for 17 percent of attacks in North America since 1955. They occur when a carnivore views a human as prey and hunts it like it would any other animal it uses for food. (. . .) Then there are animal attacks provoked by people taking pictures with them or feeding them in natural settings such as national parks which often end with animals being euthanised out of precaution. "Eventually, that animal becomes habituated to people, and [then] bad things happen to the animal. And the folks who initially wanted to make that connection don't necessarily realise that," says Christine Wilkinson, a postdoctoral researcher at UC Berkeley, California, who's been studying coyote-human conflicts. After conducting countless postmortems on all types of carnivore-human attacks spanning 75 years, Penteriani's team believes 50 percent could have been avoided if humans reacted differently. A 2017 study co-authored by Penteriani found that engaging in risky behaviour around large carnivores increases the likelihood of an attack. Two of the most common risky behaviours are parents leaving their children to play outside unattended and walking an unleashed dog, according to the study. Wilkinson says 66 percent of coyote attacks involve a dog. "[People] end up in a situation where their dog is being chased, or their dog chases a coyote, or maybe they're walking their dog near a den that's marked, and the coyote wants to escort them away," says Wilkinson. Experts believe climate change also plays a part in the escalation of human-carnivore conflicts, but the correlation still needs to be ironed out. "As finite resources become scarcer, carnivores and people are coming into more frequent contact, which means that more conflict could occur," says Jen Miller, international programme specialist for the US Fish and Wildlife Service. For example, she says, there was an uptick in lion attacks in western India during a drought when lions and people were relying on the same water sources. (. . .) The likelihood of human-carnivore conflicts appears to be higher in areas of low-income countries dominated by vast rural landscapes and farmland, according to Penteriani's research. "There are a lot of working landscapes in the Global South that are really heterogeneous, that are interspersed with carnivore habitats, forests and savannahs, which creates a lot more opportunity for these encounters, just statistically," says Wilkinson.

Question.11

Given the insights provided by Penteriani's research and Wilkinson's statement, which of the following conclusions can be drawn about the relationship between landscape heterogeneity and human-carnivore conflicts?

1. The diversity and interspersion of working landscapes with carnivore habitats in

rural areas increase the statistical probability of encounters between humans and carnivores.

2. Low-income countries with vast, contiguous wilderness areas are less prone to human-carnivore conflicts because these areas lack the human presence necessary for such encounters.
3. Landscape heterogeneity, characterized by a mix of farmland and natural habitats, inherently reduces the chances of human-carnivore conflicts by providing more refuge for wildlife away from human activity.
4. Homogeneous landscapes with uniform agricultural practices are more likely to experience high rates of human-carnivore conflicts due to the predictability of resources.

Answer: 1. The diversity and interspersion of working landscapes with carnivore habitats in rural areas increase the statistical probability of encounters between humans and carnivores.
Solution:
The key insight from Penteriani's research and Wilkinson's statement is that the coexistence of human activities and wildlife habitats can increase the likelihood of human-carnivore conflicts. When human-modified landscapes are interspersed with natural habitats, it creates opportunities for encounters between humans and wildlife. This increased interaction can lead to conflicts, especially when resources like food or livestock are involved.
Let's analyze the other options:
2. Low-income countries with vast, contiguous wilderness areas are less prone to human-carnivore conflicts because these areas lack the human presence necessary for such encounters. While this may be true in some cases, it's not a generalizable conclusion. Human activities, such as logging, mining, or agriculture, can encroach on wilderness areas, leading to increased human-wildlife conflict. 3. Landscape heterogeneity, characterized by a mix of farmland and natural habitats, inherently reduces the chances of human-carnivore conflicts by providing more refuge for wildlife away from human activity. While this might be true in some cases, it's not always the case. A diverse landscape can also increase the chances of encounters between humans and wildlife, especially if there are abundant resources that attract both. 4. Homogeneous landscapes with uniform agricultural practices are more likely to experience high rates of human-carnivore conflicts due to the predictability of resources. This is a possible scenario, but it's not the only factor contributing to human-carnivore conflicts. Other factors, such as the presence of human settlements and the availability of alternative food sources for wildlife, can also play a role.
Therefore, the correct answer is option 1.

Quick Tip
When analyzing a passage, pay attention to the specific claims made by the authors and the evidence they provide to support those claims. Consider alternative Solutions and evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of each option.

Comprehension:
The passage below is accompanied by four questions. Based on the passage, choose the best answer for each question. (. . .) There are three other common drivers for carnivore-human attacks, some of which are more preventable than others. Natural aggression-based conflicts – such as those involving females protecting their young or animals protecting a food source – can often be avoided as long as people stay away from those animals and their food. Carnivores that recognise humans as a means to get food, are a different story. As they become more reliant on human food they might find at campsites or in rubbish bins, they become less avoidant of humans. Losing that instinctive fear response puts them into more situations where they could get into an altercation with a human, which often results in that bear being put down by humans. "A fed bear is a dead bear," says Servheen, referring to a common saying among biologists and conservationists. Predatory or predation-related attacks are quite rare, only accounting for 17 percent of attacks in North America since 1955. They occur when a carnivore views a human as prey and hunts it like it would any other animal it uses for food. (. . .) Then there are animal attacks provoked by people taking pictures with them or feeding them in natural settings such as national parks which often end with animals being euthanised out of precaution. "Eventually, that animal becomes habituated to people, and [then] bad things happen to the animal. And the folks who initially wanted to make that connection don't necessarily realise that," says Christine Wilkinson, a postdoctoral researcher at UC Berkeley, California, who's been studying coyote-human conflicts. After conducting countless postmortems on all types of carnivore-human attacks spanning 75 years, Penteriani's team believes 50 percent could have been avoided if humans reacted differently. A 2017 study co-authored by Penteriani found that engaging in risky behaviour around large carnivores increases the likelihood of an attack. Two of the most common risky behaviours are parents leaving their children to play outside unattended and walking an unleashed dog, according to the study. Wilkinson says 66 percent of coyote attacks involve a dog. "[People] end up in a situation where their dog is being chased, or their dog chases a coyote, or maybe they're walking their dog near a den that's marked, and the coyote wants to escort them away," says Wilkinson. Experts believe climate change also plays a part in the escalation of human-carnivore conflicts, but the correlation still needs to be ironed out. "As finite resources become scarcer, carnivores and people are coming into more frequent contact, which means that more conflict could occur," says Jen Miller, international programme specialist for the US Fish and Wildlife Service. For example, she says, there was an uptick in lion attacks in western India during a drought when lions and people were relying on the same water sources. (. . .) The likelihood of human-carnivore conflicts appears to be higher in areas of low-income countries dominated by vast rural landscapes and farmland, according to Penteriani's research. "There are a lot of working landscapes in the Global South that are really heterogeneous, that are interspersed with carnivore habitats, forests and savannahs, which creates a lot more opportunity for these encounters, just statistically," says Wilkinson.

Question.12
Which of the following statements, if false, would be inconsistent with the concerns raised in the passage regarding the drivers of carnivore-human conflicts?

1. Climate change has had negligible effects on the frequency of carnivore-human interactions in affected regions.
2. Predatory attacks by carnivores are a common occurrence and have steadily increased over the past few decades.
3. Human efforts to avoid risky behaviours around large carnivores have proven effective in reducing conflict incidents.
4. Carnivores lose their instinctive fear of humans, when consistently exposed to human food sources.

Answer: 1. Climate change has had negligible effects on the frequency of carnivore-human interactions in affected regions.
Solution:
The passage likely discusses the impact of climate change on human-carnivore conflicts. If climate change has a significant impact on these conflicts, then the statement "Climate change has had negligible effects on the frequency of carnivore-human interactions in affected regions" would be inconsistent with the concerns raised in the passage.
Let's analyze the other options:
2. Predatory attacks by carnivores are a common occurrence and have steadily increased over the past few decades. This statement aligns with the concerns raised in the passage about the increasing frequency of human-carnivore conflicts. 3. Human efforts to avoid risky behaviours around large carnivores have proven effective in reducing conflict incidents. This statement is also consistent with the passage, as it suggests that human behavior can play a role in mitigating conflicts. 4. Carnivores lose their instinctive fear of humans, when consistently exposed to human food sources. This statement is consistent with the passage, as it highlights one of the factors that can lead to increased human-carnivore interactions.
Therefore, the correct answer is option 1.

Quick Tip
When answering "if false" questions, focus on identifying the statement that directly contradicts the main points or arguments presented in the passage.

Comprehension:
The passage below is accompanied by four questions. Based on the passage, choose the best answer for each question. (. . .) There are three other common drivers for carnivore-human attacks, some of which are more preventable than others. Natural

aggression-based conflicts – such as those involving females protecting their young or animals protecting a food source – can often be avoided as long as people stay away from those animals and their food. Carnivores that recognise humans as a means to get food, are a different story. As they become more reliant on human food they might find at campsites or in rubbish bins, they become less avoidant of humans. Losing that instinctive fear response puts them into more situations where they could get into an altercation with a human, which often results in that bear being put down by humans. "A fed bear is a dead bear," says Servheen, referring to a common saying among biologists and conservationists. Predatory or predation-related attacks are quite rare, only accounting for 17 percent of attacks in North America since 1955. They occur when a carnivore views a human as prey and hunts it like it would any other animal it uses for food. (. . .) Then there are animal attacks provoked by people taking pictures with them or feeding them in natural settings such as national parks which often end with animals being euthanised out of precaution. "Eventually, that animal becomes habituated to people, and [then] bad things happen to the animal. And the folks who initially wanted to make that connection don't necessarily realise that," says Christine Wilkinson, a postdoctoral researcher at UC Berkeley, California, who's been studying coyote-human conflicts. After conducting countless postmortems on all types of carnivore-human attacks spanning 75 years, Penteriani's team believes 50 percent could have been avoided if humans reacted differently. A 2017 study co-authored by Penteriani found that engaging in risky behaviour around large carnivores increases the likelihood of an attack. Two of the most common risky behaviours are parents leaving their children to play outside unattended and walking an unleashed dog, according to the study. Wilkinson says 66 percent of coyote attacks involve a dog. "[People] end up in a situation where their dog is being chased, or their dog chases a coyote, or maybe they're walking their dog near a den that's marked, and the coyote wants to escort them away," says Wilkinson. Experts believe climate change also plays a part in the escalation of human-carnivore conflicts, but the correlation still needs to be ironed out. "As finite resources become scarcer, carnivores and people are coming into more frequent contact, which means that more conflict could occur," says Jen Miller, international programme specialist for the US Fish and Wildlife Service. For example, she says, there was an uptick in lion attacks in western India during a drought when lions and people were relying on the same water sources. (. . .) The likelihood of human-carnivore conflicts appears to be higher in areas of low-income countries dominated by vast rural landscapes and farmland, according to Penteriani's research. "There are a lot of working landscapes in the Global South that are really heterogeneous, that are interspersed with carnivore habitats, forests and savannahs, which creates a lot more opportunity for these encounters, just statistically," says Wilkinson.

Question.13

According to the passage, which of the following scenarios would MOST likely exacerbate the frequency of carnivore-human conflicts?

1. Attempting to photograph wild animals from within secured viewing areas in na-

tional parks and protected zones.

2. Implementing "food waste" management strategies to prevent wild animals being attracted to human food sources.
3. Unleashing dogs by pet owners in areas with known high concentrations of large carnivores.
4. Addressing the impact of climate change on the availability of resources for wildlife.

Answer: 3. Unleashing dogs by pet owners in areas with known high concentrations of large carnivores.
Solution:
The passage likely discusses the factors that contribute to human-carnivore conflicts. Unleashing dogs in areas with large carnivores can provoke defensive or aggressive behavior from the carnivores, increasing the risk of conflict. This action directly exacerbates the situation.
Let's analyze the other options:
1. Attempting to photograph wild animals from within secured viewing areas in national parks and protected zones. This action is generally safe and controlled, and it can help reduce human-wildlife conflict by minimizing disturbance to wildlife. 2. Implementing "food waste" management strategies to prevent wild animals being attracted to human food sources. This is a proactive measure to reduce human-wildlife conflict by removing a potential attractant. 4. Addressing the impact of climate change on the availability of resources for wildlife. This action can help mitigate the indirect effects of climate change on human-wildlife conflict, such as increased competition for resources.
Therefore, the correct answer is option 3.

Quick Tip
When analyzing a passage, pay attention to the specific details and the underlying themes. Consider the potential consequences of each action and how they might affect human-wildlife interactions.

Question.14
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: Science has officially crowned us superior to our early-rising brethren.
Paragraph: My fellow night owls, grab a strong cup of coffee and gather around: I have great news.....(1)..... For a long time, our kind has been unfairly maligned. Stereotyped as lazy and undisciplined. Told we ought to be morning larks. Advised to go to bed early so we can wake before 5am and run a marathon before breakfast like all high-flyers seem to do. Now, however, we are having the last laugh.....(2).... It may be a tad more complicated than that. A study published last week, which you may have

already seen while scrolling at 1am, suggests that staying up late could be good for brain power.....(3)..... Is this study a thinly veiled PR exercise conducted by a caffeine-pill company? Nope, it's legit.....(4)..... Research led by academics at Imperial College London studied data on more than 26,000 people and found that "self-declared 'night owls' generally tend to have higher cognitive scores".....

1. Option 3
2. Option 4
3. Option 1
4. Option 2

Answer: 2. Option 2
Solution:
The sentence "Science has officially crowned us superior to our early-rising brethren" logically fits after the sentence "Now, however, we are having the last laugh." It provides a clear transition and introduces the main point of the paragraph, which is the scientific evidence supporting the benefits of being a night owl.
Placing the sentence in any other position would disrupt the flow of the paragraph and not fit the logical progression of the argument.

Quick Tip
When solving sentence placement questions, consider the logical flow of the paragraph and the connection between the sentences. The missing sentence should fit seamlessly into the context and provide essential information.

Question.15
The passage given below is followed by four alternate summaries. Choose the option that best captures the essence of the passage.

Different from individuals, states conduct warfare operations using the DIME model—"diplomacy, information, military, and economics." Most states do everything they can to inflict pain and confusion on their enemies before deploying the military. In fact, attacks on vectors of information are a well-worn tactic of war and usually are the first target when the charge begins. It's common for telecom data and communications networks to be routinely monitored by governments, which is why the open data policies of the web are so concerning to many advocates of privacy and human rights.
With the worldwide adoption of social media, more governments are getting involved in low-grade information warfare through the use of cyber troops. According to a study by the Oxford Internet Institute in 2020, cyber troops are "government or political party actors tasked with manipulating public opinion online." The Oxford research group was able to identify 81 countries with active cyber troop operations utilizing many different strategies to spread false information, including spending millions on online advertising.

1. Using the DIME model, together with military operations, many governments simultaneously conduct information warfare with the help of cyber troops and routinely monitor telecom data and communications networks.
2. Governments primarily use the DIME model to deploy cyber troops who practice low-grade information warfare, seeking to manipulate public opinion with the objective of inflicting pain and confusion on their enemies.
3. As part of conducting information warfare as per the DIME model, many governments routinely monitor telecom data and communications networks, and use cyber troops on social media to manipulate public opinion.
4. Following the DIME model, many governments have taken advantage of open data policies of the web to deploy cyber troops who manipulate domestic public opinion, using advertising and other strategies to spread false information.

Answer: 3. As part of conducting information warfare as per the DIME model, many governments routinely monitor telecom data and communications networks, and use cyber troops on social media to manipulate public opinion.
Solution:
The passage highlights how governments employ the DIME model to conduct information warfare, which includes monitoring communications, using cyber troops for online manipulation, and spreading misinformation. Option 3 accurately captures this core idea.
Let's analyze the other options:
1. While the passage mentions the use of cyber troops and monitoring, it doesn't emphasize simultaneous deployment with military operations as the primary focus. 2. The passage highlights the broader use of information warfare tactics, not just the deployment of cyber troops. 4. While the passage mentions the use of open data policies for surveillance, the main emphasis is on the use of cyber troops for manipulation, not necessarily domestic public opinion.
Therefore, the correct answer is option 3.

Quick Tip
When analyzing a passage, identify the main argument and the supporting details. Look for the option that best summarizes the main idea and the key points.

Comprehension:
The passage below is accompanied by four questions. Based on the passage, choose the best answer for each question. [S]pices were a global commodity centuries before European voyages. There was a complex chain of relations, yet consumers had little knowledge of producers and vice versa. Desire for spices helped fuel European colonial empires to create political, military and commercial networks under a single power. Historians know a fair amount about the supply of spices in Europe during the medieval period – the

origins, methods of transportation, the prices – but less about demand. Why go to such extraordinary efforts to procure expensive products from exotic lands? Still, demand was great enough to inspire the voyages of Christopher Columbus and Vasco Da Gama, launching the first fateful wave of European colonialism. . . . So, why were spices so highly prized in Europe in the centuries from about 1000 to 1500? One widely disseminated Solution for medieval demand for spices was that they covered the taste of spoiled meat. . . . Medieval purchasers consumed meat much fresher than what the average city-dweller in the developed world of today has at hand. However, refrigeration was not available, and some hot spices have been shown to serve as an anti-bacterial agent. Salting, smoking or drying meat were other means of preservation. Most spices used in cooking began as medical ingredients, and throughout the Middle Ages spices were used as both medicines and condiments. Above all, medieval recipes involve the combination of medical and culinary lore in order to balance food's humeral properties and prevent disease. Most spices were hot and dry and so appropriate in sauces to counteract the moist and wet properties supposedly possessed by most meat and fish. . . . Where spices came from was known in a vague sense centuries before the voyages of Columbus. Just how vague may be judged by looking at medieval world maps . . . To the medieval European imagination, the East was exotic and alluring. Medieval maps often placed India close to the so-called Earthly Paradise, the Garden of Eden described in the Bible. Geographical knowledge has a lot to do with the perceptions of spices' relative scarcity and the reasons for their high prices. An example of the varying notions of scarcity is the conflicting information about how pepper is harvested. As far back as the 7th century Europeans thought that pepper in India grew on trees "guarded" by serpents that would bite and poison anyone who attempted to gather the fruit. The only way to harvest pepper was to burn the trees, which would drive the snakes underground. Of course, this bit of lore would explain the shriveled black peppercorns, but not white, pink or other colors. Spices never had the enduring allure or power of gold and silver or the commercial potential of new products such as tobacco, indigo or sugar. But the taste for spices did continue for a while beyond the Middle Ages. As late as the 17th century, the English and the Dutch were struggling for control of the Spice Islands: Dutch New Amsterdam, or New York, was exchanged by the British for one of the Moluccan Islands where nutmeg was grown.

Question.16

If a trader brought white peppercorns from India to medieval Europe, all of the following are unlikely to happen, EXCEPT:

1. Europeans would doubt the story of pepper harvesting.
2. the price of spices would decrease.
3. pepper would no longer be considered exotic.
4. medieval maps would be used as navigational aids.

Answer: 1. Europeans would doubt the story of pepper harvesting.
Solution:
In medieval Europe, spices were highly valued and often seen as exotic and mysterious. The source of spices, such as pepper, was often shrouded in myth and legend. If a trader brought white peppercorns directly from India, it would not necessarily dispel these myths. People might still be skeptical about the origin and harvesting process of such a valuable commodity.
Let's analyze the other options:
2. the price of spices would decrease. Bringing pepper directly from India could potentially reduce the price of spices in Europe, as it would eliminate the need for middlemen.
3. pepper would no longer be considered exotic. Seeing the source of pepper and understanding its cultivation could diminish its exotic appeal. 4. medieval maps would be used as navigational aids. While medieval maps were used for navigation, this is not directly related to the introduction of pepper from India.
Therefore, the correct answer is option 1.

Quick Tip
When answering "EXCEPT" questions, it's helpful to consider each option individually and evaluate its plausibility based on the given context.

Comprehension:
: The passage below is accompanied by four questions. Based on the passage, choose the best answer for each question. [S]pices were a global commodity centuries before European voyages. There was a complex chain of relations, yet consumers had little knowledge of producers and vice versa. Desire for spices helped fuel European colonial empires to create political, military and commercial networks under a single power. Historians know a fair amount about the supply of spices in Europe during the medieval period – the origins, methods of transportation, the prices – but less about demand. Why go to such extraordinary efforts to procure expensive products from exotic lands? Still, demand was great enough to inspire the voyages of Christopher Columbus and Vasco Da Gama, launching the first fateful wave of European colonialism. . . . So, why were spices so highly prized in Europe in the centuries from about 1000 to 1500? One widely disseminated Solution for medieval demand for spices was that they covered the taste of spoiled meat. . . . Medieval purchasers consumed meat much fresher than what the average city-dweller in the developed world of today has at hand. However, refrigeration was not available, and some hot spices have been shown to serve as an anti-bacterial agent. Salting, smoking or drying meat were other means of preservation. Most spices used in cooking began as medical ingredients, and throughout the Middle Ages spices were used as both medicines and condiments. Above all, medieval recipes involve the combination of medical and culinary lore in order to balance food's humeral properties and prevent disease. Most spices were hot and dry and so appropriate in sauces to counteract the moist and wet properties supposedly possessed by most meat and fish. . . . Where

spices came from was known in a vague sense centuries before the voyages of Columbus. Just how vague may be judged by looking at medieval world maps . . . To the medieval European imagination, the East was exotic and alluring. Medieval maps often placed India close to the so-called Earthly Paradise, the Garden of Eden described in the Bible. Geographical knowledge has a lot to do with the perceptions of spices' relative scarcity and the reasons for their high prices. An example of the varying notions of scarcity is the conflicting information about how pepper is harvested. As far back as the 7th century Europeans thought that pepper in India grew on trees "guarded" by serpents that would bite and poison anyone who attempted to gather the fruit. The only way to harvest pepper was to burn the trees, which would drive the snakes underground. Of course, this bit of lore would explain the shriveled black peppercorns, but not white, pink or other colors. Spices never had the enduring allure or power of gold and silver or the commercial potential of new products such as tobacco, indigo or sugar. But the taste for spices did continue for a while beyond the Middle Ages. As late as the 17th century, the English and the Dutch were struggling for control of the Spice Islands: Dutch New Amsterdam, or New York, was exchanged by the British for one of the Moluccan Islands where nutmeg was grown.

Question.17
In the context of the passage, the people who heard the story of pepper trees being guarded by snakes would be least likely to arrive at the conclusion that

1. It is not advisable to go to India to harvest the pepper themselves.
2. This is why pepper is so hot.
3. It is no surprise that the pepper supply is limited.
4. Pepper is costly for good reason.

Answer: 2. This is why pepper is so hot.
Solution:
The story of pepper trees being guarded by snakes is likely a myth or legend created to explain the rarity and value of pepper. It's unlikely that people would connect the presence of snakes with the spiciness of pepper. The other options are more plausible conclusions based on the scarcity and perceived value of pepper.
Let's analyze the other options:
1. It is not advisable to go to India to harvest the pepper themselves. This is a reasonable conclusion, as the story of dangerous guardians would deter people from attempting to harvest pepper themselves. 3. It is no surprise that the pepper supply is limited. If pepper is difficult to obtain due to dangerous guardians, it would explain why the supply is limited. 4. Pepper is costly for good reason. The rarity and difficulty of obtaining pepper would justify its high price.
Therefore, the correct answer is option 2.

Quick Tip

When analyzing a passage, consider the context and the cultural beliefs of the time period. Look for logical connections between the information provided and the potential conclusions.

Comprehension:
The passage below is accompanied by four questions. Based on the passage, choose the best answer for each question. [S]pices were a global commodity centuries before European voyages. There was a complex chain of relations, yet consumers had little knowledge of producers and vice versa. Desire for spices helped fuel European colonial empires to create political, military and commercial networks under a single power. Historians know a fair amount about the supply of spices in Europe during the medieval period – the origins, methods of transportation, the prices – but less about demand. Why go to such extraordinary efforts to procure expensive products from exotic lands? Still, demand was great enough to inspire the voyages of Christopher Columbus and Vasco Da Gama, launching the first fateful wave of European colonialism. . . . So, why were spices so highly prized in Europe in the centuries from about 1000 to 1500? One widely disseminated Solution for medieval demand for spices was that they covered the taste of spoiled meat. . . . Medieval purchasers consumed meat much fresher than what the average city-dweller in the developed world of today has at hand. However, refrigeration was not available, and some hot spices have been shown to serve as an anti-bacterial agent. Salting, smoking or drying meat were other means of preservation. Most spices used in cooking began as medical ingredients, and throughout the Middle Ages spices were used as both medicines and condiments. Above all, medieval recipes involve the combination of medical and culinary lore in order to balance food's humeral properties and prevent disease. Most spices were hot and dry and so appropriate in sauces to counteract the moist and wet properties supposedly possessed by most meat and fish. . . . Where spices came from was known in a vague sense centuries before the voyages of Columbus. Just how vague may be judged by looking at medieval world maps . . . To the medieval European imagination, the East was exotic and alluring. Medieval maps often placed India close to the so-called Earthly Paradise, the Garden of Eden described in the Bible. Geographical knowledge has a lot to do with the perceptions of spices' relative scarcity and the reasons for their high prices. An example of the varying notions of scarcity is the conflicting information about how pepper is harvested. As far back as the 7th century Europeans thought that pepper in India grew on trees "guarded" by serpents that would bite and poison anyone who attempted to gather the fruit. The only way to harvest pepper was to burn the trees, which would drive the snakes underground. Of course, this bit of lore would explain the shriveled black peppercorns, but not white, pink or other colors. Spices never had the enduring allure or power of gold and silver or the commercial potential of new products such as tobacco, indigo or sugar. But the taste for spices did continue for a while beyond the Middle Ages. As late as the 17th century, the English and the Dutch were struggling for control of the Spice Islands: Dutch New Amsterdam,

or New York, was exchanged by the British for one of the Moluccan Islands where nutmeg was grown.

Question.18
It can be inferred that all of the following contributed to a decline in the allure of spices, EXCEPT:

1. increase in the availability of spices.
2. changes in European cuisine.
3. changes in the system of medical treatment.
4. the development of refrigeration techniques.

Answer: 1. increase in the availability of spices.
Solution:
The passage likely discusses the historical significance of spices, particularly their high value and demand in Europe during the medieval period. A decline in the allure of spices would be associated with factors that reduced their perceived value or availability.
Let's analyze the other options:
2. changes in European cuisine: Changes in culinary preferences and the introduction of new ingredients could have reduced the demand for spices. 3. changes in the system of medical treatment: The decline in the use of spices for medicinal purposes could have reduced their demand. 4. the development of refrigeration techniques: Refrigeration allowed for the preservation of food, reducing the need for spices to mask the taste of spoiled food.
Therefore, the correct answer is option 1. An increase in the availability of spices would likely maintain or even increase their demand.

Quick Tip
When answering "EXCEPT" questions, focus on identifying the option that doesn't fit the given context. Look for factors that would contradict the trend of declining interest in spices.

Comprehension:
: The passage below is accompanied by four questions. Based on the passage, choose the best answer for each question. [S]pices were a global commodity centuries before European voyages. There was a complex chain of relations, yet consumers had little knowledge of producers and vice versa. Desire for spices helped fuel European colonial empires to create political, military and commercial networks under a single power. Historians know a fair amount about the supply of spices in Europe during the medieval period – the origins, methods of transportation, the prices – but less about demand. Why go to such

extraordinary efforts to procure expensive products from exotic lands? Still, demand was great enough to inspire the voyages of Christopher Columbus and Vasco Da Gama, launching the first fateful wave of European colonialism. . . . So, why were spices so highly prized in Europe in the centuries from about 1000 to 1500? One widely disseminated Solution for medieval demand for spices was that they covered the taste of spoiled meat. . . . Medieval purchasers consumed meat much fresher than what the average city-dweller in the developed world of today has at hand. However, refrigeration was not available, and some hot spices have been shown to serve as an anti-bacterial agent. Salting, smoking or drying meat were other means of preservation. Most spices used in cooking began as medical ingredients, and throughout the Middle Ages spices were used as both medicines and condiments. Above all, medieval recipes involve the combination of medical and culinary lore in order to balance food's humeral properties and prevent disease. Most spices were hot and dry and so appropriate in sauces to counteract the moist and wet properties supposedly possessed by most meat and fish. . . . Where spices came from was known in a vague sense centuries before the voyages of Columbus. Just how vague may be judged by looking at medieval world maps . . . To the medieval European imagination, the East was exotic and alluring. Medieval maps often placed India close to the so-called Earthly Paradise, the Garden of Eden described in the Bible. Geographical knowledge has a lot to do with the perceptions of spices' relative scarcity and the reasons for their high prices. An example of the varying notions of scarcity is the conflicting information about how pepper is harvested. As far back as the 7th century Europeans thought that pepper in India grew on trees "guarded" by serpents that would bite and poison anyone who attempted to gather the fruit. The only way to harvest pepper was to burn the trees, which would drive the snakes underground. Of course, this bit of lore would explain the shriveled black peppercorns, but not white, pink or other colors. Spices never had the enduring allure or power of gold and silver or the commercial potential of new products such as tobacco, indigo or sugar. But the taste for spices did continue for a while beyond the Middle Ages. As late as the 17th century, the English and the Dutch were struggling for control of the Spice Islands: Dutch New Amsterdam, or New York, was exchanged by the British for one of the Moluccan Islands where nutmeg was grown.

Question.19

In the context of the passage, which one of the following conclusions CANNOT be reached?

1. Colonialism was motivated by the demand for spices.
2. Tobacco was more marketable than spices.
3. The spice trade was a driver of colonial expansion.
4. India was colonized for its spices and gold.

Answer: 4. India was colonized for its spices and gold.

Solution:
While spices and other valuable resources were certainly a motive for European colonization, it's an oversimplification to say that India was colonized solely for these reasons. Colonialism was driven by a complex interplay of factors, including economic, political, and cultural motivations.
Let's analyze the other options:
1. Colonialism was motivated by the demand for spices. This conclusion is supported by the historical context of European exploration and colonization, where spices were highly valued commodities. 2. Tobacco was more marketable than spices. While tobacco became a significant commodity in later colonial periods, it's not necessarily more accurate to say it was more marketable than spices, especially considering the historical demand for spices. 3. The spice trade was a driver of colonial expansion. The desire to control the spice trade was a significant factor in the expansion of European empires.
Therefore, the correct answer is option 4.

Quick Tip
When answering "CANNOT be reached" questions, carefully evaluate each option against the information provided in the passage. Look for conclusions that are not directly supported by the text or that oversimplify complex historical events.

Question.20
All of the following are listed as reasons why academics choose to review other scholars' work EXCEPT:

1. It is seen as an opportunity to expand their influence in the academic community.
2. Some use this as an opportunity to publicize their own review work.
3. It is seen as a form of service to the academic community.
4. It helps them keep current with cutting-edge ideas in their academic disciplines.

Answer: 1. It is seen as an opportunity to expand their influence in the academic community.
Solution:
While academic review can enhance an individual's reputation and visibility within the academic community, it's not the primary motivation for most academics. The primary motivations are typically:
Service to the community: Contributing to the quality of academic discourse and knowledge dissemination. Staying updated: Keeping up-to-date with the latest research and developments in their field. Self-promotion: Using reviews to showcase their expertise and knowledge.

Therefore, option 1, "It is seen as an opportunity to expand their influence in the academic community," is the least likely reason for academics to choose to review other scholars' work.

Quick Tip

When answering "EXCEPT" questions, focus on identifying the option that doesn't fit the given context. Look for the reason that is least likely to be a primary motivation for academic review.

Comprehension:
The passage below is accompanied by four questions. Based on the passage, choose the best answer for each question. The job of a peer reviewer is thankless. Collectively, academics spend around 70 million hours every year evaluating each other's manuscripts on the behalf of scholarly journals — and they usually receive no monetary compensation and little if any recognition for their effort. Some do it as a way to keep abreast with developments in their field; some simply see it as a duty to the discipline. Either way, academic publishing would likely crumble without them. In recent years, some scientists have begun posting their reviews online, mainly to claim credit for their work. Sites like Publons allow researchers to either share entire referee reports or simply list the journals for whom they've carried out a review.... The rise of Publons suggests that academics are increasingly placing value on the work of peer review and asking others, such as grant funders, to do the same. While that's vital in the publish-or-perish culture of academia, there's also immense value in the data underlying peer review. Sharing peer review data could help journals stamp out fraud, inefficiency, and systemic bias in academic publishing..... Peer review data could also help root out bias. Last year, a study based on peer review data for nearly 24,000 submissions to the biomedical journal eLife found that women and non-Westerners were vastly underrepresented among peer reviewers. Only around one in every five reviewers was female, and less than two percent of reviewers were based in developing countries.... Openly publishing peer review data could perhaps also help journals address another problem in academic publishing: fraudulent peer reviews. For instance, a minority of authors have been known to use phony email addresses to pose as an outside expert and review their own manuscripts.... Opponents of open peer review commonly argue that confidentiality is vital to the integrity of the review process; referees may be less critical of manuscripts if their reports are published, especially if they are revealing their identities by signing them. Some also hold concerns that open reviewing may deter referees from agreeing to judge manuscripts in the first place, or that they'll take longer to do so out of fear of scrutiny.... Even when the content of reviews and the identity of reviewers can't be shared publicly, perhaps journals could share the data with outside researchers for study. Or they could release other figures that wouldn't compromise the anonymity of reviews but that might answer important questions about how long the reviewing process takes, how many researchers editors have to reach out to on average to find one who will carry out the work, and the geographic distribution of

peer reviewers. Of course, opening up data underlying the reviewing process will not fix peer review entirely, and there may be instances in which there are valid reasons to keep the content of peer reviews hidden and the identity of the referees confidential. But the norm should shift from opacity in all cases to opacity only when necessary.

Question.21
According to the passage, some are opposed to making peer reviews public for all the following reasons EXCEPT that it

1. makes reviewers reluctant to review manuscripts, especially if these are critical of the submitted work.
2. delays the manuscript evaluation process as reviewers would take longer to write their reviews.
3. deters reviewers from producing honest, if critical, reviews that are vital to the sound publishing process.
4. leaves the reviewers unexposed to unwarranted and unjustified criticism or comments from others.

Answer: 4. leaves the reviewers unexposed to unwarranted and unjustified criticism or comments from others.
Solution:
The passage likely discusses the potential benefits and drawbacks of making peer reviews public. One of the concerns raised is that making reviews public could expose reviewers to unwarranted criticism or negative feedback, which might discourage them from providing honest and critical assessments.
Let's analyze the other options:
1. makes reviewers reluctant to review manuscripts, especially if these are critical of the submitted work. This is a valid concern, as reviewers might be hesitant to provide negative feedback if their identity is publicly known. 2. delays the manuscript evaluation process as reviewers would take longer to write their reviews. If reviewers are more cautious about their language and tone, it could potentially slow down the review process. 3. deters reviewers from producing honest, if critical, reviews that are vital to the sound publishing process. Fear of public scrutiny might lead reviewers to provide less critical feedback, which could negatively impact the quality of the peer review process.
Therefore, the correct answer is option 4.

Quick Tip
When answering "EXCEPT" questions, focus on identifying the option that doesn't fit the given context. Look for the reason that is least likely to be a concern associated with making peer reviews public.

Comprehension:
: The passage below is accompanied by four questions. Based on the passage, choose the best answer for each question. The job of a peer reviewer is thankless. Collectively, academics spend around 70 million hours every year evaluating each other's manuscripts on the behalf of scholarly journals — and they usually receive no monetary compensation and little if any recognition for their effort. Some do it as a way to keep abreast with developments in their field; some simply see it as a duty to the discipline. Either way, academic publishing would likely crumble without them. In recent years, some scientists have begun posting their reviews online, mainly to claim credit for their work. Sites like Publons allow researchers to either share entire referee reports or simply list the journals for whom they've carried out a review.... The rise of Publons suggests that academics are increasingly placing value on the work of peer review and asking others, such as grant funders, to do the same. While that's vital in the publish-or-perish culture of academia, there's also immense value in the data underlying peer review. Sharing peer review data could help journals stamp out fraud, inefficiency, and systemic bias in academic publishing..... Peer review data could also help root out bias. Last year, a study based on peer review data for nearly 24,000 submissions to the biomedical journal eLife found that women and nonWesterners were vastly underrepresented among peer reviewers. Only around one in every five reviewers was female, and less than two percent of reviewers were based in developing countries.... Openly publishing peer review data could perhaps also help journals address another problem in academic publishing: fraudulent peer reviews. For instance, a minority of authors have been known to use phony email addresses to pose as an outside expert and review their own manuscripts.... Opponents of open peer review commonly argue that confidentiality is vital to the integrity of the review process; referees may be less critical of manuscripts if their reports are published, especially if they are revealing their identities by signing them. Some also hold concerns that open reviewing may deter referees from agreeing to judge manuscripts in the first place, or that they'll take longer to do so out of fear of scrutiny.... Even when the content of reviews and the identity of reviewers can't be shared publicly, perhaps journals could share the data with outside researchers for study. Or they could release other figures that wouldn't compromise the anonymity of reviews but that might answer important questions about how long the reviewing process takes, how many researchers editors have to reach out to on average to find one who will carry out the work, and the geographic distribution of peer reviewers. Of course, opening up data underlying the reviewing process will not fix peer review entirely, and there may be instances in which there are valid reasons to keep the content of peer reviews hidden and the identity of the referees confidential. But the norm should shift from opacity in all cases to opacity only when necessary.

Question.22
Based on the passage we can infer that the author would most probably support

1. greater transparency across the peer review process in academic publishing.
2. preserving the anonymity of reviewers to protect them from criticism.

3. publicizing peer review data rather than the publication of actual reviews.

4. more careful screening to ensure the recruitment of content-familiar peer reviewers.

Answer: 1. greater transparency across the peer review process in academic publishing.
Solution:
The passage likely discusses the potential benefits and drawbacks of making peer reviews public. Given the author's positive stance on transparency and accountability in the peer review process, it is reasonable to infer that they would support greater transparency.
Let's analyze the other options:
2. preserving the anonymity of reviewers to protect them from criticism. While anonymity can protect reviewers from personal attacks, it can also hinder transparency and accountability. 3. publicizing peer review data rather than the publication of actual reviews. This option might compromise the confidentiality of the review process and could potentially discourage reviewers from providing honest feedback. 4. more careful screening to ensure the recruitment of content-familiar peer reviewers. While this is a valid concern, it doesn't directly address the issue of transparency in the peer review process.
Therefore, the correct answer is option 1.

Quick Tip
When inferring the author's stance, consider the overall tone and argument of the passage. Look for clues in the text that suggest the author's attitude towards transparency, accountability, and the role of peer review in the academic process.

Comprehension:
The passage below is accompanied by four questions. Based on the passage, choose the best answer for each question. The job of a peer reviewer is thankless. Collectively, academics spend around 70 million hours every year evaluating each other's manuscripts on the behalf of scholarly journals — and they usually receive no monetary compensation and little if any recognition for their effort. Some do it as a way to keep abreast with developments in their field; some simply see it as a duty to the discipline. Either way, academic publishing would likely crumble without them. In recent years, some scientists have begun posting their reviews online, mainly to claim credit for their work. Sites like Publons allow researchers to either share entire referee reports or simply list the journals for whom they've carried out a review.... The rise of Publons suggests that academics are increasingly placing value on the work of peer review and asking others, such as grant funders, to do the same. While that's vital in the publish-or-perish culture of academia, there's also immense value in the data underlying peer review. Sharing peer review data could help journals stamp out fraud, inefficiency, and systemic bias in academic publishing..... Peer review data could also help root out bias. Last year, a study based on peer review data for nearly 24,000 submissions to the biomedical journal eLife found that women and nonWesterners were vastly underrepresented among peer reviewers. Only

around one in every five reviewers was female, and less than two percent of reviewers were based in developing countries.... Openly publishing peer review data could perhaps also help journals address another problem in academic publishing: fraudulent peer reviews. For instance, a minority of authors have been known to use phony email addresses to pose as an outside expert and review their own manuscripts.... Opponents of open peer review commonly argue that confidentiality is vital to the integrity of the review process; referees may be less critical of manuscripts if their reports are published, especially if they are revealing their identities by signing them. Some also hold concerns that open reviewing may deter referees from agreeing to judge manuscripts in the first place, or that they'll take longer to do so out of fear of scrutiny.... Even when the content of reviews and the identity of reviewers can't be shared publicly, perhaps journals could share the data with outside researchers for study. Or they could release other figures that wouldn't compromise the anonymity of reviews but that might answer important questions about how long the reviewing process takes, how many researchers editors have to reach out to on average to find one who will carry out the work, and the geographic distribution of peer reviewers. Of course, opening up data underlying the reviewing process will not fix peer review entirely, and there may be instances in which there are valid reasons to keep the content of peer reviews hidden and the identity of the referees confidential. But the norm should shift from opacity in all cases to opacity only when necessary.

Question.23
According to the passage, which of the following is the only reason NOT given in favour of making peer review data public?

1. It will deal with peer review fraud such as authors publishing bogus reviews of their work.
2. It could address various inefficiencies and fraudulent practices that continue in the academic publishing process.
3. It can tackle the problem of selecting appropriately qualified reviewers for academic writing.
4. It would highlight the gender and race biases currently existing in the selection of reviewers.

Answer: 3. It can tackle the problem of selecting appropriately qualified reviewers for academic writing.
Solution:
The passage likely discusses the potential benefits of making peer reviews public, such as increased transparency and accountability. While the passage might mention the importance of selecting qualified reviewers, it's unlikely that making peer reviews public directly addresses this issue.
Let's analyze the other options:

1. It will deal with peer review fraud such as authors publishing bogus reviews of their work. Making reviews public can help identify and prevent such fraudulent activities. 2. It could address various inefficiencies and fraudulent practices that continue in the academic publishing process. Increased transparency can help expose and address various issues in the publishing process. 4. It would highlight the gender and race biases currently existing in the selection of reviewers. By making the review process more transparent, it might reveal any biases that may exist.
Therefore, the correct answer is option 3.

Quick Tip
When answering "EXCEPT" questions, focus on identifying the option that doesn't fit the given context. Look for the reason that is least likely to be a benefit of making peer reviews public.

Question.24
The passage given below is followed by four alternate summaries. Choose the option that best captures the essence of the passage.

John Cleese told Fox News Digital that comedians do not have the freedom to be funny in 2022. "There's always been limitations on what they're allowed to say," Cleese said. "I think it's particularly worrying at the moment because you can only create in an atmosphere of freedom, where you're not checking everything you say critically before you move on. What you have to be able to do is to build without knowing where you're going because you've never been there before. That's what creativity is — you have to be allowed to build. And a lot of comedians now are sitting there and when they think of something, they say something like, 'Can I get away with it? I don't think so. So and so got into trouble, and he said that, oh, she said that. You see what I mean? And that's the death of creativity."

1. Comedians must not check what they think and say. They must go where no one has gone before.
2. Comedians are being prevented from saying what they want and that is the death of this art form.
3. Creativity and critical thinking cannot work together. Comedians must first be creative, and later be critical.
4. Freedom and creativity are essential for comedy. Fear about offending people hinders originality.

Answer: 4. Freedom and creativity are essential for comedy. Fear about offending people hinders originality.
Solution:

The passage highlights the importance of creative freedom for comedians. Cleese argues that the current climate of self-censorship and fear of offending people is stifling creativity. The essence of the passage is that comedians need the freedom to experiment and take risks without constantly worrying about potential backlash.
Let's analyze the other options:
1. While the passage emphasizes the importance of taking risks, it doesn't suggest that comedians should blindly say whatever comes to mind. 2. This option is too broad and doesn't capture the specific point about the impact of self-censorship on creativity. 3. The passage doesn't suggest that creativity and critical thinking are incompatible. Instead, it argues that self-censorship hinders both.
Therefore, the correct answer is option 4.

Quick Tip
When analyzing a passage, identify the main argument and the supporting details. Look for the option that best summarizes the main idea and the key points.