

CAT 2018 Question Paper with Solution

Slot 1 VARC

Direction (Q1-5): The passage below is accompanied by a set of questions. Choose the best answer to each question.

"Everybody pretty much agrees that the relationship between elephants and people has dramatically changed," [says psychologist Gay] Bradshaw. "Where for centuries humans and elephants lived in relatively peaceful coexistence, there is now hostility and violence. Now, I use the term 'violence' because of the intentionality associated with it, both in the aggression of humans and, at times, the recently observed behavior of elephants." . . .

Typically, elephant researchers have cited, as a cause of aggression, the high levels of testosterone in newly matured male elephants or the competition for land and resources between elephants and humans. But. . . Bradshaw and several colleagues argue that today's elephant populations are suffering from a form of chronic stress, a kind of species-wide trauma. Decades of poaching and culling and habitat loss, they claim, have so disrupted the intricate web of familial and societal relations by which young elephants have traditionally been raised in the wild, and by which established elephant herds are governed, that what we are now witnessing is nothing less than a precipitous collapse of elephant culture. . . .

Elephants, when left to their own devices, are profoundly social creatures. Young elephants are raised within an extended, multitiered network of doting female caregivers that includes the birth mother, grandmothers, aunts and friends. These relations are maintained over a life span as long as 70 years. Studies of established herds have shown that young elephants stay within 15 feet of their mothers for nearly all of their first eight years of life, after which young females are socialized into the matriarchal network, while young males go off for a time into an all-male social group before coming back into the fold as mature adults. . . .

This fabric of elephant society, Bradshaw and her colleagues [demonstrate], ha[s] effectively been frayed by years of habitat loss and poaching, along with systematic culling by government agencies to control elephant numbers and translocations of herds to different habitats. As a result of such social upheaval, calves are now being born to and raised by ever younger and inexperienced mothers. Young orphaned elephants, meanwhile, that have witnessed the death of a parent at the hands of poachers are coming of age in the absence of the support system that defines traditional elephant life. "The loss of elephant elders," [says] Bradshaw "and the traumatic experience of witnessing the massacres of their family, impairs normal brain and behavior development in young elephants."

What Bradshaw and her colleagues describe would seem to be an extreme form of anthropocentric conjecture if the evidence that they've compiled from various elephant researchers. . . weren't so compelling. The elephants of decimated herds, especially orphans who've watched the death of their parents and elders from poaching and culling, exhibit behavior typically associated with post-traumatic stress disorder and other trauma-related disorders in humans: abnormal startle

response, unpredictable asocial behavior, inattentive mothering and hyper aggression.. . .

[According to Bradshaw], "Elephants are suffering and behaving in the same ways that we recognize in ourselves as a result of violence Except perhaps for a few specific features, brain organization and early development of elephants and humans are extremely similar."

1. The passage makes all of the following claims EXCEPT:

- A. elephant mothers are evolving newer ways of rearing their calves to adapt to emerging threats.
- B. the elephant response to deeply disturbing experiences is similar to that of humans.
- C. human actions such as poaching and culling have created stressful conditions for elephant communities.
- D. elephants establish extended and enduring familial relationships as do humans.

Answer: A

Solution:

Refer to the second last paragraph: 'The elephants of decimated herds, especially orphans who've watched the death of their parents and elders from poaching and culling, exhibit behavior typically associated with post-traumatic stress disorder and other trauma-related disorders in humans: abnormal startle response, unpredictable asocial behavior, inattentive mothering and hyper aggression.. . .' Options B and C can be verified from this extract.

Option D can be verified from the following lines of the third paragraph: 'young elephants are raised within an extended, multi-tiered network of doting female caregivers that includes the birth mother, grandmothers, aunts and friends. These relations are maintained over a life span as long as 70 years'.

Option A cannot be verified from this paragraph. Nowhere has it been stated that elephant mothers are evolving newer ways of rearing their calves.

Hence, the correct answer is option A.

2. Which of the following statements best expresses the overall argument of this passage?

- A. Recent elephant behaviour could be understood as a form of species-wide trauma-related response.
- B. Elephants, like the humans they are in conflict with, are profoundly social creatures.

- C. The relationship between elephants and humans has changed from one of coexistence to one of hostility.
- D. The brain organisation and early development of elephants and humans are extremely similar.

Answer: A

Solution:

In short, the question is asking for the central idea of this passage.

The main idea of the passage is the changed elephant behavior and species-wide trauma which they have endured due to various human activities. Option A states this and is the correct answer.

Options B and D are a part of the overall argument but they are not the key ideas.

Option C is also not the main argument of the passage. The passage is not focused on the relationship between elephants and humans. The passage is more focused on shedding some light on the aggressive behavior of elephants and of exploring the causes behind the same.

Hence, the correct answer is option A.

3. Which of the following measures is Bradshaw most likely to support to address the problem of elephant aggression?

- A. Funding of more studies to better understand the impact of testosterone on male elephant aggression.
- B. The development of treatment programmes for elephants drawing on insights gained from treating post-traumatic stress disorder in humans.
- C. Studying the impact of isolating elephant calves on their early brain development, behaviour and aggression.
- D. Increased funding for research into the similarity of humans and other animals drawing on insights gained from human-elephant similarities.

Answer: B

Solution:

Refer to the relevant extract: 'The elephants of decimated herds, especially orphans who've watched the death of their parents and elders from poaching and culling, exhibit behavior typically associated with post-traumatic stress disorder and other trauma-related disorders in humans: abnormal startle response, unpredictable asocial behavior, inattentive mothering and hyper aggression.. . .' Since the behavior depicted by elephants is similar to the behavior depicted by humans,

therefore, any treatment that works for humans should be recommended for elephants as well. Option B states this and is the correct answer.

Option A can be eliminated because it doesn't state how "studying the impact of testosterone" would help in addressing the problem of elephant aggression.

Options C and D don't address the problem of elephant aggression, which is the main idea of the passage.

Hence, the correct answer is option B.

4. In paragraph 4, the phrase, 'The fabric of elephant society. . . has(s) effectively been frayed by. . .' is:

- A. an accurate description of the condition of elephant herds today.
- B. a metaphor for the effect of human activity on elephant communities.
- C. an exaggeration aimed at bolstering Bradshaw's claims.
- D. an ode to the fragility of elephant society today.

Answer: B

Solution:

'The fabric' in 'The fabric has been frayed' is a metaphorical depiction of the 'effect of human activity on elephant societies of today'.

A metaphor is a figure of speech in which a word or phrase is applied to an object or action to which it is not literally applicable.

Option B states this and is the correct answer.

Hence, the correct answer is option B.

5. In the first paragraph, Bradshaw uses the term 'violence' to describe the recent change in the human-elephant relationship because, according to him:

- A. there is a purposefulness in human and elephant aggression towards each other.
- B. elephant herds and their habitat have been systematically destroyed by humans.
- C. human-elephant interactions have changed their character over time.
- D. both humans and elephants have killed members of each other's species.

Answer: A

Solution:

Refer to the relevant extract: 'Now, I use the term 'violence' because of the intentionality associated with it, both in the aggression of humans and, at times, the recently observed behavior of elephants.'" The author uses the word "intentionality" to mean that there is a reason behind the mutual aggression between the two species. Option A covers this essence by mentioning the word "purposefulness'.

Option B is an extreme choice not borne out by the passage. 'Systematic Destruction' is far-fetched.

Option C doesn't delve into 'reasons' behind the violent human-elephant relationships.

Option D is incorrect because 'violence' is not to be equated with 'killing' members of each other's species.

Hence, the correct answer is option A.

Direction (Q6-10): The passage below is accompanied by a set of questions. Choose the best answer to each question.

The only thing worse than being lied to is not knowing you're being lied to. It's true that plastic pollution is a huge problem, of planetary proportions. And it's true we could all be doing more to reduce our plastic footprint. The lie is that blame for the plastic problem is wasteful consumers and that changing our individual habits will fix it.

Recycling plastic is to saving the Earth what hammering a nail is to halting a falling skyscraper. You struggle to find a place to do it and feel pleased when you succeed. But your effort is wholly inadequate and distracts from the real problem of why the building is collapsing in the first place. The real problem is that single-use plastic—the very idea of producing plastic items like grocery bags, which we use for an average of 12 minutes but can persist in the environment for half a millennium—is an incredibly reckless abuse of technology. Encouraging individuals to recycle more will never solve the problem of a massive production of single-use plastic that should have been avoided in the first place.

As an ecologist and evolutionary biologist, I have had a disturbing window into the accumulating literature on the hazards of plastic pollution. Scientists have long recognized that plastics biodegrade slowly, if at all, and pose multiple threats to wildlife through entanglement and consumption. More recent reports highlight dangers posed by absorption of toxic chemicals in the water and by plastic odors that mimic some species' natural food. Plastics also accumulate up the food chain, and studies now show that we are likely ingesting it ourselves in seafood. . . .

Beginning in the 1950s, big beverage companies like Coca-Cola and Anheuser-Busch, along with Phillip Morris and others, formed a non-profit called

Keep America Beautiful. Its mission is/was to educate and encourage environmental stewardship in the public. At face value, these efforts seem benevolent, but they obscure the real problem, which is the role that corporate polluters play in the plastic problem. This clever misdirection has led journalist and author Heather Rogers to describe Keep America Beautiful as the first corporate greenwashing front, as it has helped shift the public focus to consumer recycling behavior and actively thwarted legislation that would increase extended producer responsibility for waste management. . . .

The greatest success of Keep America Beautiful has been to shift the onus of environmental responsibility onto the public while simultaneously becoming a trusted name in the environmental movement. . . .

So what can we do to make responsible use of plastic a reality? First: reject the lie. Litterbugs are not responsible for the global ecological disaster of plastic. Humans can only function to the best of their abilities, given time, mental bandwidth and systemic constraints. Our huge problem with plastic is the result of a permissive legal framework that has allowed the uncontrolled rise of plastic pollution, despite clear evidence of the harm it causes to local communities and the world's oceans. Recycling is also too hard in most parts of the U.S. and lacks the proper incentives to make it work well.

6. In the second paragraph, the phrase 'what hammering a nail is to halting a falling skyscraper' means:
- A. relying on emerging technologies to mitigate the ill-effects of plastic pollution.
 - B. encouraging the responsible production of plastics by firms.
 - C. focusing on consumer behaviour to tackle the problem of plastics pollution.
 - D. focusing on single-use plastic bags to reduce the plastics footprint.

Answer: C

Solution:

Refer to the relevant extract: 'The lie is that blame for the plastic problem is wasteful consumers and that changing our individual habits will fix it.' and the first sentence of the second paragraph which states, 'Recycling plastic is to saving the Earth what hammering a nail is to halting a falling skyscraper'. These extracts clearly imply that changing consumer behavior towards plastic won't solve the problem of plastic pollution. Thus, option C is the correct answer.

Options A, B and D can be eliminated.

Hence, the correct answer is option C.

7. In the first paragraph, the author uses "lie" to refer to the:

- A. blame assigned to consumers for indiscriminate use of plastics.
- B. understatement of the enormity of the plastics pollution problem.
- C. understatement of the effects of recycling plastics.
- D. fact that people do not know they have been lied to.

Answer: A

Solution:

Refer to the relevant extract: 'The lie is that blame for the plastic problem is wasteful consumers and that changing our individual habits will fix it'. The 'lie' refers to 'blame assigned to consumers for indiscriminate use of plastics'. Thus, option A is the correct answer.

Options B, C and D are thus eliminated.

Hence, the correct answer is option A.

8. The author lists all of the following as negative effects of the use of plastics EXCEPT the:

- A. slow pace of degradation or non-degradation of plastics in the environment.
- B. air pollution caused during the process of recycling plastics.
- C. adverse impacts on the digestive systems of animals exposed to plastic.
- D. poisonous chemicals released into the water and food we consume.

Answer: B

Solution:

Options A, C and D are mentioned in the third paragraph.

Option B, which states, 'Air Pollution' caused during the process of recycling plastics has not been stated in the passage.

Hence, the correct answer is option B.

9. Which of the following interventions would the author most strongly support?

- A. Completely banning all single-use plastic bags.
- B. Having all consumers change their plastic consumption habits.
- C. Recycling all plastic debris in the seabed.
- D. Passing regulations targeted at producers that generate plastic products.

Answer: D

Solution:

Refer to the relevant extracts: 'This clever misdirection has led journalist and author Heather Rogers to describe Keep America Beautiful as the first corporate greenwashing front, as it has helped shift the public focus to consumer recycling behavior and actively thwarted legislation that would increase extended producer responsibility for waste management... .' and 'Our huge problem with plastic is the result of a permissive legal framework that has allowed the uncontrolled rise of plastic pollution, despite clear evidence of the harm it causes to local communities and the world's oceans.' This implies that legislations should be passed to target the producers and not the consumers. Thus, Option D is the correct answer.

Option A is correct in that the author would likely support single use plastic but that can only be done from the producer point of view and not that of the consumer. Eliminate option A.

Option B is not possible according to the passage.

Recycling does not work, according to the author. Eliminate option C.

Hence, the correct answer is option D.

10. It can be inferred that the author considers the Keep America Beautiful organisation:

- A. an innovative example of a collaborative corporate social responsibility initiative.
- B. a sham as it diverted attention away from the role of corporates in plastics pollution.
- C. an important step in sensitising producers to the need to tackle plastics pollution.
- D. a "greenwash" because it was a benevolent attempt to improve public recycling habits.

Answer: B

Solution:

Refer to the relevant extract: 'This clever misdirection has led journalist and author Heather Rogers to describe Keep America Beautiful as the first corporate greenwashing front, as it has helped shift the public focus to consumer recycling behavior and actively thwarted legislation....' Thus, from this extract we can infer that the author believes that the Keep America Beautiful diverted people's attention away from the role of the corporates in plastic pollution. Thus, option B is the correct answer.

Option A contradicts the author's view.

Option C has not been mentioned in the passage.

Option D uses the term 'greenwash' incorrectly. The initiative was a greenwash because it helped '...shift the public focus to consumer recycling behavior and actively thwarted legislation....'

Hence, the correct answer is option B.

Direction (Q11-15): The passage below is accompanied by a set of questions. Choose the best answer to each question.

Economists have spent most of the 20th century ignoring psychology, positive or otherwise. But today there is a great deal of emphasis on how happiness can shape global economies, or — on a smaller scale — successful business practice. This is driven, in part, by a trend in "measuring" positive emotions, mostly so they can be optimized. Neuroscientists, for example, claim to be able to locate specific emotions, such as happiness or disappointment, in particular areas of the brain. Wearable technologies, such as Spire, offer data-driven advice on how to reduce stress.

We are no longer just dealing with "happiness" in a philosophical or romantic sense — it has become something that can be monitored and measured, including by our behavior, use of social media and bodily indicators such as pulse rate and facial expressions.

There is nothing automatically sinister about this trend. But it is disquieting that the businesses and experts driving the quantification of happiness claim to have our best interests at heart, often concealing their own agendas in the process. In the workplace, happy workers are viewed as a "win-win." Work becomes more pleasant, and employees, more productive. But this is now being pursued through the use of performance-evaluating wearable technology, such as Humanyze or Virgin Pulse, both of which monitor physical signs of stress and activity toward the goal of increasing productivity.

Cities such as Dubai, which has pledged to become the "happiest city in the world," dream up ever-more elaborate and intrusive ways of collecting data on well-being — to the point where there is now talk of using CCTV cameras to monitor facial expressions in public spaces. New ways of detecting emotions are hitting the market all the time: One company, Beyond Verbal, aims to calculate moods conveyed in a phone conversation, potentially without the knowledge of at least one of the participants. And Facebook [has] demonstrated. . . that it could influence our emotions through tweaking our news feeds — opening the door to ever-more targeted manipulation in advertising and influence.

As the science grows more sophisticated and technologies become more intimate with our thoughts and bodies, a clear trend is emerging. Where happiness indicators were once used as a basis to reform society, challenging the obsession

with money that G.D.P. measurement entrenches, they are increasingly used as a basis to transform or discipline individuals.

Happiness becomes a personal project, that each of us must now work on, like going to the gym. Since the 1970s, depression has come to be viewed as a cognitive or neurological defect in the individual, and never a consequence of circumstances. All of this simply escalates the sense of responsibility each of us feels for our own feelings, and with it, the sense of failure when things go badly. A society that deliberately removed certain sources of misery, such as precarious and exploitative employment, may well be a happier one. But we won't get there by making this single, often fleeting emotion, the overarching goal.

11. In the author's opinion, the shift in thinking in the 1970s:

- A. introduced greater stress into people's lives as they were expected to be responsible for their own happiness.
- B. was a welcome change from the earlier view that depression could be cured by changing circumstances.
- C. put people in touch with their own feelings rather than depending on psychologists.
- D. reflected the emergence of neuroscience as the authority on human emotions.

Answer: A

Solution:

Refer to the relevant extract: 'Since the 1970s, depression has come to be viewed as a cognitive or neurological defect in the individual, and never a consequence of circumstances. All of this simply escalates the sense of responsibility each of us feels for our own feelings, and with it, the sense of failure when things go badly.' Thus, option A is the correct answer as it makes the point that before the 1970s, people thought that depression was a result of their circumstances but post 1970s, people became more responsible towards their feelings as they now believed that Depression was a neurological defect.

Option B is incorrect as nothing related to curing depression has been mentioned in the passage.

Option C refers to 'psychologists' which are nowhere mentioned in these lines.

Option D is completely baseless and cannot be determined from the passage.

Hence, the correct answer is option A.

12. The author's view would be undermined by which of the following research findings?

- A. There is a definitive move towards the adoption of wearable technology that taps into emotions.

- B. A proliferation of gyms that are collecting data on customer well-being.
- C. Individuals worldwide are utilising technologies to monitor and increase their well-being.
- D. Stakeholders globally are moving away from collecting data on the well-being of individuals.

Answer: D

Solution:

The author's views can be found in the following lines: 'Cities such as Dubai, which has pledged to become the "happiest city in the world," dream up ever-more elaborate and intrusive ways of collecting data on well-being — to the point where there is now talk of using CCTV cameras to monitor facial expressions in public spaces'. Option D negates this fact that stakeholders are moving towards collecting more data on the well-being of individuals. Therefore, it undermines the author's argument.

The above extract eliminates options A, B and C.

Hence, the correct answer is option D.

13. According to the author, Dubai:

- A. develops sophisticated technologies to monitor its inhabitants' states of mind.
- B. incentivises companies that prioritise worker welfare.
- C. collaborates with Facebook to selectively influence its inhabitants' moods.
- D. is on its way to becoming one of the world's happiest cities.

Answer: A

Solution:

Refer to the relevant extract, 'Cities such as Dubai, which has pledged to become the "happiest city in the world," dream up ever-more elaborate and intrusive ways of collecting data on well-being — to the point where there is now talk of using CCTV cameras to monitor facial expressions in public spaces...' Clearly, Option A is the correct choice.

Options B and C are not mentioned in the passage.

Option D makes a false claim. Dubai is not yet on its way to becoming the happiest city. Rather it wants to be one.

Hence, the correct answer is option A.

14. According to the author, wearable technologies and social media are contributing most to:

- A. happiness as a "personal project".
- B. disciplining individuals to be happy.
- C. depression as a thing of the past.
- D. making individuals aware of stress in their lives.

Answer: B

Solution:

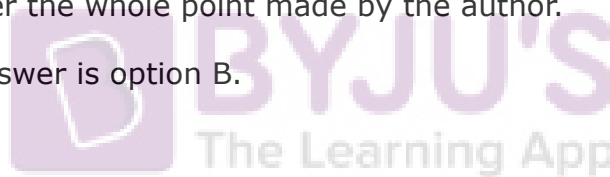
From the first paragraph which states that 'wearable devices are helping us to reduce stress', it can be easily inferred that what the author means is that these devices are disciplining individuals to be happy. Thus, option B is the correct answer.

Option A cannot be determined from the passage.

Option C is distorting the idea in the passage.

Option D doesn't cover the whole point made by the author.

Hence, the correct answer is option B.



15. From the passage we can infer that the author would like economists to:

- A. correlate measurements of happiness with economic indicators.
- B. measure the effectiveness of Facebook and social media advertising.
- C. incorporate psychological findings into their research cautiously.
- D. work closely with neuroscientists to understand human behaviour.

Answer: C

Solution:

Refer to the relevant extract, 'Economists have spent most of the 20th century ignoring psychology, positive or otherwise.' Clearly, the author wants economists to 'incorporate psychological findings into their research cautiously.' Thus, option C is the correct answer.

Options A, B and D have not been mentioned in the passage with regard to economists. They can thus be eliminated.

Hence, the correct answer is option C.

Direction (Q16-19): The passage below is accompanied by a set of questions. Choose the best answer to each question.

When researchers at Emory University in Atlanta trained mice to fear the smell of almonds (by pairing it with electric shocks), they found, to their consternation, that both the children and grandchildren of these mice were spontaneously afraid of the same smell. That is not supposed to happen. Generations of schoolchildren have been taught that the inheritance of acquired characteristics is impossible. A mouse should not be born with something its parents have learned during their lifetimes, any more than a mouse that loses its tail in an accident should give birth to tailless mice. . . .

Modern evolutionary biology dates back to a synthesis that emerged around the 1940s-60s, which married Charles Darwin's mechanism of natural selection with Gregor Mendel's discoveries of how genes are inherited. The traditional, and still dominant, view is that adaptations – from the human brain to the peacock's tail – are fully and satisfactorily explained by natural selection (and subsequent inheritance). Yet [new evidence] from genomics, epigenetics and developmental biology [indicates] that evolution is more complex than we once assumed. . . .

In his book *On Human Nature* (1978), the evolutionary biologist Edward O Wilson claimed that human culture is held on a genetic leash. The metaphor [needs revision] Imagine a dog-walker (the genes) struggling to retain control of a brawny mastiff (human culture). The pair's trajectory (the pathway of evolution) reflects the outcome of the struggle. Now imagine the same dog-walker struggling with multiple dogs, on leashes of varied lengths, with each dog tugging in different directions. All these tugs represent the influence of developmental factors, including epigenetics, antibodies and hormones passed on by parents, as well as the ecological legacies and culture they bequeath. . . .

The received wisdom is that parental experiences can't affect the characters of their offspring. Except they do. The way that genes are expressed to produce an organism's phenotype – the actual characteristics it ends up with – is affected by chemicals that attach to them. Everything from diet to air pollution to parental behaviour can influence the addition or removal of these chemical marks, which switches genes on or off. Usually these so-called 'epigenetic' attachments are removed during the production of sperm and eggs cells, but it turns out that some escape the resetting process and are passed on to the next generation, along with the genes. This is known as 'epigenetic inheritance', and more and more studies are confirming that it really happens. Let's return to the almond-fearing mice. The inheritance of an epigenetic mark transmitted in the sperm is what led the mice's offspring to acquire an inherited fear. . . .

Epigenetics is only part of the story. Through culture and society, [humans and other animals] inherit knowledge and skills acquired by [their] parents. . . . All this complexity points to an evolutionary process in which genomes (over hundreds to

thousands of generations), epigenetic modifications and inherited cultural factors (over several, perhaps tens or hundreds of generations), and parental effects (over single-generation timespans) collectively inform how organisms adapt. These extra-genetic kinds of inheritance give organisms the flexibility to make rapid adjustments to environmental challenges, dragging genetic change in their wake – much like a rowdy pack of dogs.

16. The Emory University experiment with mice points to the inheritance of:

- A. psychological markers.
- B. acquired characteristics.
- C. personality traits.
- D. acquired parental fears.

Answer: B

Solution:

Refer to the relevant extract, 'a mouse should not be born with something that its parents have learned during their lifetime'. 'Learned during lifetime' implies 'acquired traits'. Thus, option B is the correct answer.

Option A is out of the scope of the passage.

Option C doesn't mention 'acquired' with the personality traits. It can be eliminated.

Option D is a narrow answer choice as it talks only about 'fear'.

Hence, the correct answer is option B.

17. Which of the following best describes the author's argument?

- A. Darwin's and Mendel's theories together best explain evolution.
- B. Mendel's theory of inheritance is unfairly underestimated in explaining evolution.
- C. Wilson's theory of evolution is scientifically superior to either Darwin's or Mendel's.
- D. Darwin's theory of natural selection cannot fully explain evolution.

Answer: A

Solution:

Refer to the following extract, '...which married Charles Darwin's mechanism of natural selection with Gregor Mendel's discoveries of how genes are inherited. The traditional, and still dominant, view is that adaptations – from the human brain to the peacock's tail – are fully and satisfactorily explained by natural selection (and subsequent inheritance). Yet [new evidence] from genomics, epigenetics and

developmental biology [indicates] that evolution is more complex than we once assumed. ' Going by this extract, option A becomes the correct answer.

Options B and Option D are not mentioned in the passage.

Option C cannot be determined or inferred from the passage.

Hence, the correct answer is option A.

18. Which of the following, if found to be true, would negate the main message of the passage?

- A. A study affirming the influence of socio-cultural markers on evolutionary processes.
- B. A study highlighting the criticality of epigenetic inheritance to evolution.
- C. A study indicating the primacy of ecological impact on human adaptation.
- D. A study affirming the sole influence of natural selection and inheritance on evolution.

Answer: D

Solution:

The central idea of the passage is that evolution can be understood as a function of natural selection and inheritance. Any option that weakens this idea will be the correct answer. Going by this logic, option D is the correct answer.

Options A and B will strengthen the main message while option C has not been mentioned in the passage.

Hence, the correct answer is option D.

19. The passage uses the metaphor of a dog walker to argue that evolutionary adaptation is most comprehensively understood as being determined by:

- A. extra genetic, genetic, epigenetic and genomic legacies.
- B. socio-cultural, genetic, epigenetic, and genomic legacies
- C. ecological, hormonal, extra genetic and genetic legacies.
- D. genetic, epigenetic, developmental factors, and ecological legacies.

Answer: D

Solution:

Refer to the following extract: 'All these tugs represent the influence of developmental factors, including epigenetics, antibodies and hormones passed on by parents, as well as the ecological legacies and culture they bequeath.' Going by this, we can see that only option D has these terms and no other extraneous terms.

Option A has a new term, extra-genetic.

Option B has a new term, socio-cultural.

Option C has genetic legacies instead of ecological legacies.

Hence, the correct answer is option D.

Direction (Q20-24): The passage given below is followed by a set of five questions. Choose the best answer to each question.

[The] Indian government [has] announced an international competition to design a National War Memorial in New Delhi, to honour all of the Indian soldiers who served in the various wars and counter-insurgency campaigns from 1947 onwards. The terms of the competition also specified that the new structure would be built adjacent to the India Gate – a memorial to the Indian soldiers who died in the First World War. Between the old imperialist memorial and the proposed nationalist one, India's contribution to the Second World War is airbrushed out of existence.

The Indian government's conception of the war memorial was not merely absent-minded.

Rather, it accurately reflected the fact that both academic history and popular memory have yet to come to terms with India's Second World War, which continues to be seen as little more than mood music in the drama of India's advance towards independence and partition in 1947

Further, the political trajectory of the postwar subcontinent has militated against popular remembrance of the war. With partition and the onset of the India-Pakistan rivalry, both of the new nations needed fresh stories for self-legitimation rather than focusing on shared wartime experiences.

However, the Second World War played a crucial role in both the independence and partition of India. The Indian army recruited, trained and deployed some 2.5 million men, almost 90,000 of which were killed and many more injured. Even at the time, it was recognised as the largest volunteer force in the war. . . .

India's material and financial contribution to the war was equally significant. India emerged as a major military-industrial and logistical base for Allied operations in south-east Asia and the Middle East. This led the United States to take considerable

interest in the country's future, and ensured that this was no longer the preserve of the British government.

Other wartime developments pointed in the direction of India's independence. In a stunning reversal of its long-standing financial relationship with Britain, India finished the war as one of the largest creditors to the imperial power.

Such extraordinary mobilization for war was achieved at great human cost, with the Bengal famine the most extreme manifestation of widespread wartime deprivation. The costs on India's home front must be counted in millions of lives.

Indians signed up to serve on the war and home fronts for a variety of reasons [M]any were convinced that their contribution would open the doors to India's freedom The political and social churn triggered by the war was evident in the massive waves of popular protest and unrest that washed over rural and urban India in the aftermath of the conflict. This turmoil was crucial in persuading the Attlee government to rid itself of the incubus of ruling India.. . .

Seventy years on, it is time that India engaged with the complex legacies of the Second World War. Bringing the war into the ambit of the new national memorial would be a fitting – if not overdue – recognition that this was India's War.

20. In the first paragraph, the author laments the fact that:

- A. there is no recognition of the Indian soldiers who served in the Second World War.
- B. the new war memorial will be built right next to India Gate.
- C. India lost thousands of human lives during the Second World War.
- D. funds will be wasted on another war memorial when we already have the India Gate memorial.

Answer: A

Solution:

Refer to the following extract: 'Between the old imperialist memorial and the proposed nationalist one, India's contribution to the Second World War is airbrushed out of existence.' Clearly, the phrase 'airbrushed out of existence' means 'to go completely unnoticed'. Thus, A is the correct answer.

Options B, C and D can be eliminated from the information given in the above extract.

Hence, the correct answer is option A.

21. The phrase 'mood music' is used in the second paragraph to indicate that the Second World War is viewed as:

- A. setting the stage for the emergence of the India–Pakistan rivalry in the subcontinent.
- B. a tragic period in terms of loss of lives and national wealth.
- C. a backdrop to the subsequent independence and partition of the region.
- D. a part of the narrative on the ill-effects of colonial rule on India.

Answer: C

Solution:

Refer to the following extract: 'Rather, it accurately reflected the fact that both academic history and popular memory have yet to come to terms with India's Second World War, which continues to be seen as little more than mood music in the drama of India's advance towards independence and partition in 1947". Mood-Music therefore refers to the light music being played in the background without having any significant impact on the overall scenario of events. So, mood music here refers to "a backdrop to the subsequent independence and partition of the region.' Thus, option C is the correct answer.

Options A, B and D do not conform to the above extract with regard to mood music and can thus be eliminated.

Hence, the correct answer is option C.

22. The author lists all of the following as outcomes of the Second World War EXCEPT:

- A. independence of the subcontinent and its partition into two countries.
- B. US recognition of India's strategic location and role in the War.
- C. large-scale deaths in Bengal as a result of deprivation and famine.
- D. the large financial debt India owed to Britain after the War.

Answer: D

Solution:

Option A can be verified from the very first paragraph.

Option B can be verified from the fourth paragraph.

Option C can be verified from the eighth paragraph.

Option D is stating the exact opposite of what is given in the passage. The passage states that it was Britain that owed huge sums of money to India and not the other way round.

Hence, the correct answer is option D.

23. The author claims that omitting mention of Indians who served in the Second World War from the new National War Memorial is:

- A. a reflection of the academic and popular view of India's role in the War.
- B. appropriate as their names can always be included in the India Gate memorial.
- C. a reflection of misplaced priorities of the post-independence Indian governments.
- D. is something which can be rectified in future by constructing a separate memorial.

Answer: A

Solution:

Refer to the following extract: 'Rather, it accurately reflected the fact that both academic history and popular memory have yet to come to terms with India's Second World War'. Thus, option A is the correct answer.

Options B and D are not stated in the passage.

Option C talks only about 'governments' and fails to make a mention of other parties that were involved.

Hence, the correct answer is option A.

24. The author suggests that a major reason why India has not so far acknowledged its role in the Second World War is that it:

- A. blames the War for leading to the momentous partition of the country.
- B. wants to forget the human and financial toll of the War on the country.
- C. has been focused on building an independent, non-colonial political identity.
- D. views the War as a predominantly Allied effort, with India playing only a supporting role.

Answer: C

Solution:

Refer to the following extract: 'With partition and the onset of the India-Pakistan rivalry, both of the new nations needed fresh stories for self-legitimization rather

than focusing on shared wartime experiences.' 'Self-legitimization' here means building a legitimate and independent identity. Thus, option C is the correct answer.

Options A, B and D fail to highlight this point and can therefore be eliminated.

Hence, the correct answer is option C.

25. **Direction:** The four sentences (labelled 1,2,3,4) given in this question, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labelled with a number. Decide on the proper sequence of order of the sentences and key in this sequence of four numbers as your answer.

1) Impartiality and objectivity are fiendishly difficult concepts that can cause all sorts of injustices even if transparently implemented.

2) It encourages us into bubbles of people we know and like, while blinding us to different perspectives, but the deeper problem of 'transparency' lies in the words '...and much more'.

3) Twitter's website says that 'tweets you are likely to care about most will show up first in your timeline...based on accounts you interact with most, tweets you engage with, and much more.'

4) We are only told some of the basic principles, and we can't see the algorithm itself, making it hard for citizens to analyse the system sensibly or fairly or be convinced of its impartiality and objectivity.

Answer:1324

Solution:

Sentence 1 introduces the topic on which this entire paragraph is based,i.e., 'impartiality and objectivity'.

3 is an example of 1 and can be placed directly after 3.

The practice in 3 is further elaborated in 2 which starts with It - meaning Twitter.

4 sums up the entire argument for us by stating that it is hard for people to analyse the system sensibly or fairly or be convinced of its impartiality and objectivity.

Hence, the correct sequence is 1324.

###TOPIC###Verbal||Verbal Reasoning||Parajumbles###

Tag Type: Type 1

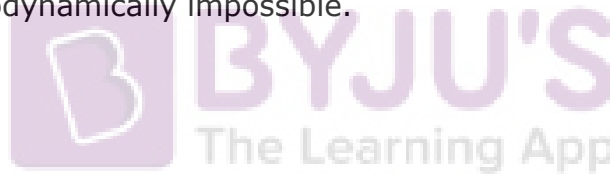
Extra Tag: Byju's
Extra Tag: CAT 2018 Slot 1

26. **Direction:** Five sentences related to a topic are given below. Four of them can be put together to form a meaningful and coherent short paragraph. Identify the odd one out. Choose its number as your answer and key it in.

- 1) Translators are like bumblebees.
- 2) Though long since scientifically disproved, this factoid is still routinely trotted out.
- 3) Similar pronouncements about the impossibility of translation have dogged practitioners since Leonardo Bruni's *De interpretatione recta*, published in 1424
- 4) Bees, unaware of these deliberations, have continued to flit from flower to flower, and translators continue to translate.
- 5) In 1934, the French entomologist August Magnan pronounced the flight of the bumblebee to be aerodynamically impossible.

Answer: 2

Solution:



Sentence 1 is a very good opening sentence as it introduces the topic of discussion; similarities between translators and bumblebees.

5 elaborates on the flight of bumblebees and can be placed directly after 1.

Sentence 3, which talks about similar statements about translators, should be placed directly after 5.

Sentence 4, sums up the whole argument and can be placed at the end.

Sentence 2 is the odd one out. The information that this factoid is being routinely trotted out despite being disapproved doesn't fit in this paragraph logically.

Hence, the correct answer is sentence 2.

###TOPIC###Verbal||Verbal Reasoning||Parajumbles###

Tag Type: Type 2

Extra Tag: Byju's

Extra Tag: CAT 2018 Slot 1

27. **Direction:** The four sentences (labelled 1, 2, 3, and 4) given in this question, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper order for the sentences and key in this sequence of four numbers as your answer.

- 1) The woodland's canopy receives most of the sunlight that falls on the trees.
- 2) Swifts do not confine themselves to woodlands, but hunt wherever there are insects in the air.
- 3) With their streamlined bodies, swifts are agile flyers, ideally adapted to twisting and turning through the air as they chase flying insects – the creatures that form their staple diet.
- 4) Hundreds of thousands of insects fly in the sunshine up above the canopy, some falling prey to swifts and swallows.

Answer: 1432

Solution:

Sentences 1 and 4 form a pair. 'The Canopy' in 4 refers to the woodland's canopy in 1.

3-2 form a pair. 3 elaborates on the swifts and swallows and 2 provides additional information about swifts.

2 states, 'Swifts do not confine themselves to woodlands...'. Therefore, the 3-2 pair will come after the 1-4 which has introduced woodlands.

Hence, the correct answer is 1432.

###TOPIC###Verbal||Verbal Reasoning||Parajumbles###

Tag Type: Type 1

Extra Tag: Byju's

Extra Tag: CAT 2018 Slot 1

28. **Direction:** The passage given below is followed by four summaries. Choose the option that best captures the author's position.

Production and legitimation of scientific knowledge can be approached from a number of perspectives. To study knowledge production from the sociology of professions perspective would mean a focus on the institutionalization of a body of knowledge. The professions- approach informed earlier research on managerial occupation, business schools and management knowledge. It however tends to reify institutional power structures in its understanding of the links between

knowledge and authority. Knowledge production is restricted in the perspective to the selected members of the professional community, most notably to the university faculties and professional colleges. Power is understood as a negative mechanism, which prevents the non- professional actors from offering their ideas and information as legitimate knowledge.

- A. Professions-approach aims at the institutionalization of knowledge but restricts knowledge production as a function of a select few.
- B. The study of knowledge production can be done through many perspectives.
- C. Professions-approach focuses on the creation of institutions of higher education and disciplines to promote knowledge production
- D. The professions-approach has been one of the most relied upon perspective in the study of management knowledge production.

Answer: A

Solution:

Option B sums up only the first part of the paragraph.

Option D with 'most relied upon perspective' is incorrect. Nowhere has it been stated that it is one of the most reliable perspectives.

Between options A and C, A is a better choice because it mentions the limitation of professions-approach as well, thereby covering the whole essence of the paragraph.

Hence, the correct answer is option A.

###TOPIC###Verbal||Verbal Reasoning||Paragraph Summary###

Tag Type: Type 1

Extra Tag: Byju's

Extra Tag: CAT 2018 Slot 1

29. **Direction:** The passage given below is followed by four summaries. Choose the option that best captures the author's position.

Artificial embryo twinning is a relatively low-tech way to make clones. As the name suggests, this technique mimics the natural process that creates identical twins. In nature, twins form very early in development when the embryo splits in two. Twinning happens in the first days after egg and sperm join, while the embryo is made of just a small number of unspecialized cells. Each half of the embryo continues dividing on its own, ultimately developing into separate, complete individuals. Since they developed from the same fertilized egg, the resulting individuals are genetically identical.

- A. Artificial embryo twinning is low-tech and mimetic of the natural development of genetically identical twins from the embryo after fertilization.
- B. Artificial embryo twinning is low-tech unlike the natural development of identical twins from the embryo after fertilization.

- C. Artificial embryo twinning is just like the natural development of twins, where during fertilization twins are formed.
- D. Artificial embryo twinning is low-tech and is close to the natural development of twins where the embryo splits into two identical twins.

Answer: A

Solution:

Option A captures the key ideas of the paragraph accurately. Artificial embryo twinning is low-tech and mimics the natural development of genetically identical twins from the embryo after fertilization.

Option B describes the process of Artificial embryo twinning and then states it is not artificial embryo twinning.

Option C, too, distorts the facts stated in the passage. Twins are not formed during fertilization. Option D mentions that the embryo splits into two identical twins which is incorrect.

Hence, the correct answer is option A.

###TOPIC###Verbal||Verbal Reasoning||Paragraph Summary###

Tag Type: Type 1

Extra Tag: Byju's



Extra Tag: CAT 2018 Slot 1

30. **Direction:** The passage given below is followed by four summaries. Choose the option that best captures the author's position.

The conceptualization of landscape as a geometric object first occurred in Europe and is historically related to the European conceptualization of the organism, particularly the human body, as a geometric object with parts having a rational, three-dimensional organization and integration. The European idea of landscape appeared before the science of landscape emerged, and it is no coincidence that Renaissance artists such as Leonardo da Vinci, who studied the structure of the human body, also facilitated an understanding of the structure of landscape.

Landscape, which had been a subordinate background to religious or historical narratives, became an independent genre or subject of art by the end of the sixteenth century or the beginning of the seventeenth century.

- A. Landscape became a major subject of art at the turn of the sixteenth century.
- B. The three-dimensional understanding of the organism in Europe led to a similar approach towards the understanding of landscape.

- C. The study of landscape as an independent genre was aided by the Renaissance artists.
- D. The Renaissance artists were responsible for the study of landscape as a subject of art.

Answer: C

Solution:

Option A goes out of context because the paragraph states that landscape became an independent genre of art or form, while the option says it became a major subject of art.

Option B distorts the facts; it mentions that 'the three-dimensional understanding of the organism in Europe led to...landscape', while the passage says that the two are related.

Option C best captures the author's position, which in the passage is clearly visible as 'Renaissance artists also facilitated an understanding of the structure of landscape'.

Option D is incorrect because it distorts the fact by saying the Renaissance artists were responsible, while the passage says that they only facilitated it.

Hence, the correct answer is option C.

###TOPIC###Verbal||Verbal Reasoning||Paragraph Summary###

Tag Type: Type 1

Extra Tag: Byju's

Extra Tag: CAT 2018 Slot 1

31. **Direction:** The four sentences (labelled 1,2,3,4) given in this question, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labelled with a number. Decide on the proper sequence of order of the sentences and key in this sequence of four numbers as your answer:

- 1) But now we have another group: the unwitting enablers.
- 2) Democracy and high levels of inequality of the kind that have come to characterize the United States are simply incompatible.
- 3) Believing these people are working for a better world, they are, actually, at most, chipping away at the margins, making slight course corrections, ensuring the system goes on as it is, uninterrupted.

4) Very rich people will always use money to maintain their political and economic power.

Answer: 2413

Solution:

Sentence 2 opens the discussion by introducing the topic of inequality and 4 gives reasons for this inequality. Therefore, 2-4 form a pair.

1 introduces a new category of people - the unwitting enablers and 3 describes their actions. Thus, 1-3 form a pair.

Hence, the correct answer is 2413.

###TOPIC###Verbal||Verbal Reasoning||Parajumbles###

Tag Type: Type 1

Extra Tag: Byju's

Extra Tag: CAT 2018 Slot 1

32. **Direction:** Five sentences related to a topic are given below. Four of them can be put together to form a meaningful and coherent short paragraph. Identify the odd one out.

1) In many cases time inconsistency is what prevents our going from intention to action.

2) For people to continuously postpone getting their children immunized, they would need to be constantly fooled by themselves.

3) In the specific case of immunization, however, it is hard to believe that time inconsistency by itself would be sufficient to make people permanently postpone the decision if they were fully cognizant of its benefits.

4) In most cases, even a small cost of immunization was large enough to discourage most people.

5) Not only do they have to think that they prefer to spend time going to the camp next month rather than today, they also have to believe that they will indeed go next month.

Answer: 4

Solution:

All the sentences talk about time-inconsistency, citing the example of immunization, except sentence 4 which talks about the cost of immunization.

Hence, the correct answer is sentence 4.

###TOPIC###Verbal||Verbal Reasoning||Parajumbles###

Tag Type: Type 2

Extra Tag: Byju's

Extra Tag: CAT 2018 Slot 1

33. **Direction:** Five sentences related to a topic are given below. Four of them can be put together to form a meaningful and coherent short paragraph. Identify the odd one out.

- 1) Displacement in Bengal is thus not very significant in view of its magnitude.
- 2) A factor of displacement in Bengal is the shifting course of the Ganges leading to erosion of river banks.
- 3) The nature of displacement in Bengal makes it an interesting case study.
- 4) Since displacement due to erosion is well spread over a long period of time, it remains invisible.
- 5) Rapid displacement would have helped sensitize the public to its human costs.

Answer: 5

Solution:

Sentences 1-4 talk about displacement in Bengal due to the shifting course of the Ganges. Sentences 1-4 describe this shifting as a case study.

Sentence 5 dwells deeper into it as a hypothetical situation - rapid displacement - bringing into consideration its human costs and is the odd sentence out.

Hence, the correct answer is sentence 5.

###TOPIC###Verbal||Verbal Reasoning||Parajumbles###

Tag Type: Type 2

Extra Tag: Byju's

Extra Tag: CAT 2018 Slot 1

34. **Direction:** The four sentences (labelled 1, 2, 3, and 4) given in this question, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper order for the sentences and key in this sequence of four numbers as your answer.

- 1) The eventual diagnosis was skin cancer and after treatment all seemed well.
- 2) The viola player didn't know what it was; nor did her GP.
- 3) Then a routine scan showed it had come back and spread to her lungs.
- 4) It started with a lump on Cathy Perkins' index finger.

Answer:4213

Solution:

4 makes the mention of the protagonist's name and sheds some light on the onset of the disease.

2 describes her reaction to the same.

1 takes the story ahead by talking about the early diagnosis.

3 sits comfortably in the end. It mentions the latter diagnosis - a routine scan showed it had come back and spread to her lungs.

Hence, the correct answer is 4213.

###TOPIC###Verbal||Verbal Reasoning||Parajumbles###

Tag Type: Type 1

Extra Tag: Byju's

Extra Tag: CAT 2018 Slot 1