

XAT Verbal & Logical Ability

Sample Paper – 3

Duration: 59 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 26

Instructions

- This paper contains **26** Multiple Choice Questions (Single Correct Answer), modelled on the Verbal & Logical Ability section of **XAT** (Xavier Aptitude Test), conducted by XLRI.
- Each correct answer carries **+1 mark**, with **0.25 marks deducted** for every incorrect answer. (In the actual XAT you may leave up to **8** questions across Part 1 unattempted without penalty; thereafter each blank costs **0.10** marks.)
- The paper has **three reading passages** (including a poem), each followed by four questions, and a set of **fourteen** standalone Verbal & Logical Reasoning questions.
- Answer every question **only** on the basis of the passage or the argument given; do not rely on outside information or opinion of your own.
- Attempt this practice paper in one timed sitting of about **59 minutes**. Use of mobile phones, dictionaries, and electronic gadgets is prohibited.

Passage I

Directions (Q1–Q4): Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow. Base your answers only on the passage.

We treat memory as an unmixed good and forgetting as its failure, a leak in a vessel we would rather keep sealed. To forget a name, an appointment, a face is felt as a small defeat, and the technologies of our age promise to end such defeats forever by recording everything we do. Yet a life in which nothing was ever forgotten would not be a richer life; it might well be an unbearable one.

Consider what forgetting quietly does for us. It lets a quarrel fade so that a friendship can resume. It dulls the sharp edge of grief until a loss can be carried rather than collapsed



under. It allows the person we once were, clumsy and ashamed, to be gently released, so that we are not chained forever to our worst afternoon. A mind that kept every slight in its original heat would have no room left in which to forgive.

There is a harder point here than mere convenience. To remember everything is, in a sense, to be unable to choose what matters, for significance requires that most things fall away. The archivist who keeps every scrap keeps nothing, since the one needed letter is lost among a million trivial ones. Forgetting is not the opposite of meaning but one of its conditions; it is the pruning without which the tree of memory could not bear fruit.

None of this is to praise carelessness, nor to excuse the deliberate erasing of what ought to be faced. A society that forgets its injustices is condemned to repeat them. But between total recall and willed amnesia lies the ordinary human mercy of letting go, and it is worth remembering that forgetting, too, can be a form of grace.

Q1. Which of the following best states the main idea of the passage?

- (A) Modern technology has finally solved the problem of human forgetting.
- (B) A society ought to erase deliberately all memory of its past injustices.
- (C) Forgetting, far from being only a failure, can be a mercy and a condition of a meaningful life.
- (D) Memory is in every circumstance more valuable than forgetting.

Q2. It can be inferred that the author would regard a technology that records everything we do as:

- (A) the surest route to a richer and happier life.
- (B) harmless so long as the recordings are kept private.
- (C) potentially burdensome, since a life that forgets nothing may prove unbearable.
- (D) useful chiefly for preserving a society's memory of injustice.

Q3. The author's attitude towards forgetting is best described as:

- (A) indignant and accusing.
- (B) coldly neutral and detached.
- (C) nostalgic and mournful.



(D) sympathetic and reflective, treating forgetting as a quiet mercy.

Q4. In the final sentence, the word “grace” most nearly means:

- (A) an unearned mercy or blessing.
- (B) physical elegance of movement.
- (C) a period of extra time granted before a penalty falls due.
- (D) a short prayer said before a meal.

Passage II

Directions (Q5–Q8): Read the following poem and answer the questions that follow. Base your answers only on the poem.

The Tide’s Patience

*The sea does not resent the pulling moon,
nor name its nightly leaving a defeat;
it lays its whole grey length along the dune,
then draws back slow, and leaves the sand complete.*

*It is in no great hurry; it has time.
It comes, and having come, it turns to go,
and what it takes at dusk, by morning’s climb
it carries back, as if it wished it so.*

*So I have learned the patience I once lacked:
to let the loved thing leave, and then to wait,
as sure as any tide of coming back –
the sea holds nothing, yet it holds it straight.*

Q5. Which of the following best captures the central theme of the poem?

- (A) The sea is a cruel force that takes from us and never gives back.
- (B) Human beings ought to try to control the tides for their own benefit.
- (C) The moon and the sea are locked in an endless and bitter struggle.
- (D) Like the returning tide, what we lose may come back, and from this we can learn patience.

Q6. The image of the sea carrying back at morning “what it takes at dusk” most nearly suggests that:



- (A) the sea is unpredictable and cannot be relied upon at all.
- (B) morning is always to be preferred to the evening.
- (C) what seems to be lost may, in time, be restored.
- (D) the sea deliberately punishes those who watch it.

Q7. The tone of the poem is best described as:

- (A) calm, patient and accepting.
- (B) angry and rebellious.
- (C) frightened and despairing.
- (D) playful and comic.

Q8. The paradox of the final line, that the sea “holds nothing, yet holds it straight,” most nearly implies that:

- (A) the sea is in fact completely empty of water.
- (B) holding on tightly is the only way to keep what one loves.
- (C) the speaker has decided never to let anything go again.
- (D) by not clutching at what it has, the sea keeps faith with its constant return.

Passage III

Directions (Q9–Q12): Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow. Base your answers only on the passage.

To arrive alone in a great city is to discover a strange new freedom. In the village one is known: every errand is observed, every choice weighed against a lifetime of expectation. The city offers the opposite gift. Here one is nobody in particular, a face among a million faces, and in that anonymity lies a curious liberty. One may reinvent oneself on a Monday and again on a Thursday, and no one will remember, or care, that the two people do not match.

This freedom, though, has a shadow. The same crowd that releases us from the village’s watchful eye also withholds the village’s warmth. To be unknown is to be, in a quiet way, unheld. A person may fall ill behind a lit window while a thousand strangers pass below, and none will knock. The city that asks nothing of us also promises nothing in return; its indifference cuts both ways.



Writers about urban life have long noticed this double face. The crowd, they observe, is the loneliest place of all, precisely because it is so full. Surrounded by people to whom one owes nothing, one may also feel that no one is owed to oneself. The freedom to be anyone shades imperceptibly into the fear that one is no one.

Perhaps this is why the city dweller so often builds, within the vast anonymity, a small deliberate village of chosen friends. Having escaped the community one was born into, one sets about assembling another by choice. The great crowd remains, magnificent and blank; but inside it, if one is fortunate, a handful of windows learn one's name.

Q9. The central argument of the passage is that:

- (A) village life is in every respect superior to life in a great city.
- (B) the anonymity of a great city grants freedom but also brings loneliness, a gift with two edges.
- (C) people should avoid large cities because they are dangerous places to live.
- (D) a city dweller can never form any genuine friendships at all.

Q10. With which of the following would the author most likely agree?

- (A) The freedom offered by the city is worthless and should be refused.
- (B) Strangers in a city have a duty to knock on every lit window they pass.
- (C) The warmth of the village can never be replaced in any form.
- (D) Within the city's anonymity, people often build a chosen community of their own.

Q11. The example of the person falling ill behind a lit window is used mainly to:

- (A) illustrate the loneliness that accompanies the city's anonymity.
- (B) prove that cities have too few hospitals for their populations.
- (C) argue that lit windows are a common feature of urban buildings.
- (D) show that strangers in a city are generally cruel by nature.



- Q12.** It can be inferred from the passage that the “small deliberate village of chosen friends” is:
- (A) an official institution organised by the city government.
 - (B) proof that the original village was better in every way.
 - (C) a way of recovering warmth and belonging within the city’s anonymity.
 - (D) a sign that the city dweller has failed to enjoy true freedom.

Verbal & Logical Reasoning

Directions (Q13–Q26): Answer each of the following questions on its own terms.

- Q13.** A hospital administrator argues: “Since we introduced a new triage system last year, waiting times in the emergency ward have dropped. Therefore, introducing the same system in our outpatient clinic will reduce waiting times there too.” The argument assumes that:
- (A) the emergency ward treats more patients than the outpatient clinic.
 - (B) the conditions that reduced waiting times in the emergency ward also hold in the outpatient clinic.
 - (C) waiting times are the most serious problem the hospital currently faces.
 - (D) no new patients will visit the hospital in the coming year.
- Q14.** A nutritionist claims that a new breakfast cereal improves children’s concentration, citing that children who ate it scored higher on an attention test than the national average. Which of the following, if true, would most **strengthen** the claim?
- (A) The company that makes the cereal paid for the study.
 - (B) The cereal has since become popular in several other countries.
 - (C) Before they began eating the cereal, those same children had scored only at the national average.
 - (D) The attention test that year was slightly easier than in previous years.



- Q15.** A gym concludes that its new fitness programme is effective because members' average weight fell after the programme began. Which of the following, if true, would most **weaken** the conclusion?
- (A) Over the same period the gym began admitting only younger members who were already very fit.
 - (B) Members said they enjoyed the new programme more than the old one.
 - (C) The programme was launched at all of the gym's branches on the same day.
 - (D) The trainers were carefully instructed on how to run the programme.
- Q16.** Arrange the four sentences into a coherent paragraph. (1) These houses soon became places not just to drink but to argue, trade and plot. (2) In time, some of them grew into the first newspapers, stock exchanges and clubs. (3) When coffee first reached Europe, it was sold as a rare medicine. (4) But as the drink grew cheaper, shops opened where anyone could sit and sip for a penny. The correct order is:
- (A) 3-1-4-2
 - (B) 3-4-1-2
 - (C) 4-3-1-2
 - (D) 1-4-2-3
- Q17.** Complete the paragraph with the most suitable final sentence: "A garden is never finished; it is only ever paused. The gardener plants not for the season in hand but for one she may not live to see, trusting that some later hand will weed and water where hers left off. _____"
- (A) Gardening is therefore the most expensive of all the common hobbies.
 - (B) To tend a garden is thus to keep faith with a future one will never see.
 - (C) Most gardens today are smaller than they were a century ago.



(D) A gardener should always wear gloves while handling thorny plants.

Q18. All the members of the choir can read music. No one who can read music was rejected at the audition. Which of the following **must** be true?

- (A) Some members of the choir were rejected at the audition.
- (B) Everyone who can read music is a member of the choir.
- (C) Everyone who was accepted at the audition is in the choir.
- (D) No member of the choir was rejected at the audition.

Q19. Choose the option that best captures the essence of the paragraph: “We prize the expert who answers quickly and distrust the one who pauses. Yet a swift answer is often only a well-worn one, repeated before the question was fully heard. The slower reply, which takes the trouble to understand what is actually being asked, is frequently the wiser, even if it arrives late.”

- (A) Experts should always answer as quickly as they possibly can.
- (B) A slower, considered answer is often wiser than a quick, ready one.
- (C) It is impossible to give a wise answer to any difficult question.
- (D) Speed of reply is the surest sign of real expertise.

Q20. A museum found that when it began charging a small entry fee, the number of visitors who stayed for the full exhibition *rose*, even though total admissions *fell*. Which of the following best explains this?

- (A) The small fee discouraged casual passers-by, so those who did pay were the genuinely interested, who stayed longer.
- (B) The museum quietly extended its opening hours at the same time.
- (C) The exhibition was moved to a smaller and less interesting room.
- (D) Visitors who paid the fee left almost immediately after entering.

Q21. Fill in the blank with the most appropriate word: “Though the evidence against him was overwhelming, he remained _____, insisting on his innocence to the very end.”



- (A) apologetic
- (B) bewildered
- (C) unrepentant
- (D) grateful

Q22. A traveller writes: “The three people I met in that country were rude to me. Clearly, the people of that country are rude.” The reasoning is flawed because it:

- (A) relies on a survey that was in fact never actually carried out.
- (B) draws a sweeping conclusion about a whole nation from a tiny, unrepresentative sample.
- (C) assumes, without stating it, that rudeness is always intentional.
- (D) openly contradicts itself between its first and its second sentence.

Q23. Choose the pair that best expresses a relationship similar to that in **DROUGHT : WATER**.

- (A) flood : rain
- (B) harvest : grain
- (C) library : books
- (D) famine : food

Q24. Which sentence, inserted at the start, best fits the paragraph? “_____ The apprentice sweeps the floor for a year before touching the clay; the medical student watches a hundred operations before making a single cut. What looks like delay is in fact the slow laying of a foundation, without which the later skill would have nothing to stand on.”

- (A) We are impatient to begin, yet every craft demands a long and humble apprenticeship first.
- (B) Talent, once given, needs no training of any kind in order to flourish.
- (C) Most apprentices today abandon their trades within the very first year.



(D) The fastest learners are always those who skip the basics entirely.

Q25. Which conclusion is best supported by the following? “Every book on the top shelf is a first edition. The dictionary is not a first edition.”

- (A) The dictionary is not on the top shelf.
- (B) The dictionary is on the top shelf but was misplaced.
- (C) No book in the room is a first edition.
- (D) Every first edition is kept on the top shelf.

Q26. Which of the following sentences is grammatically **correct**?

- (A) The number of applicants have increased sharply this year.
- (B) Each of the reports was reviewed before the meeting.
- (C) Neither of the two answers are correct.
- (D) The scissors is lying on the table.



Detailed Solutions**Q1.****Solution**

What is asked: the main idea of the whole passage.

Reasoning: The passage opens by noting how we prize memory and scorn forgetting, then argues that forgetting lets us forgive, carry grief, and choose what matters. It closes by calling forgetting “a form of grace.” Option C states exactly this balance.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: The passage doubts, rather than celebrates, technology that records everything.
- Option B: It expressly warns that a society forgetting its injustices repeats them.
- Option D: Its whole point is that forgetting can be more merciful than total recall.

Final Answer: Forgetting can be a mercy and a condition of a meaningful life ⇒

C

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q1](#)

Q2.**Solution**

What is asked: an inference about how the author views total-recording technology.

Reasoning: The author says a life in which nothing was ever forgotten “might well be an unbearable one.” A technology that records everything would produce just such a life. So the author would see it as potentially burdensome.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: The author denies that never forgetting makes life richer.
- Option B: Privacy is not the author’s concern here; the burden is inner.
- Option D: The author’s caution is broad, not narrowed to preserving injustice.

Final Answer: Potentially burdensome, since forgetting nothing may be unbearable ⇒ **C**



Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q2](#)

Q3.

Solution

What is asked: the author's attitude towards forgetting.

Reasoning: The author calls forgetting a "mercy" and "a form of grace," language of warmth and quiet approval. The voice is thoughtful rather than fierce. So it is sympathetic and reflective.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: There is no indignation; the tone is gentle, not accusing.
- Option B: The author is clearly not detached; a warm case is made.
- Option C: The mood is not mournful; it consoles rather than grieves.

Final Answer: Sympathetic and reflective, treating forgetting as a quiet mercy ⇒

D

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q3](#)

Q4.

Solution

What is asked: the meaning of "grace" in the final sentence.

Reasoning: The sentence describes forgetting as a "mercy of letting go" and then "a form of grace." In that setting "grace" means an unearned mercy or blessing. Option A gives this sense.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option B: Physical elegance is a different sense of "grace," not meant here.
- Option C: A grace period before a penalty is unrelated to the passage.
- Option D: A mealtime prayer is a distinct meaning the context does not support.

Final Answer: An unearned mercy or blessing ⇒ **A**

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q4](#)



Q5.

Solution

What is asked: the central theme of the poem.

Reasoning: The tide leaves and returns; what it takes at dusk it carries back by morning. From this the speaker learns to let the loved thing go and wait, sure of its return. Option D captures this lesson of patience and return.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: The sea is not shown as cruel; it gives back what it takes.
- Option B: The poem admires the tide, not a wish to control it.
- Option C: There is no struggle; the sea does not resent the moon.

Final Answer: What we lose may come back, and from this we learn patience ⇒

D

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q5](#)

Q6.

Solution

What is asked: the meaning of the sea carrying back at morning “what it takes at dusk.”

Reasoning: The image sets loss at dusk against restoration at dawn. It shows that what the tide removes it later returns. So what seems lost may, in time, be restored.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: The tide is presented as reliable, not unpredictable.
- Option B: The point is return, not a ranking of morning over evening.
- Option D: Nothing suggests the sea is punishing anyone.

Final Answer: What seems lost may, in time, be restored ⇒ C

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q6](#)



Q7.

Solution

What is asked: the tone of the poem.

Reasoning: The sea is “in no great hurry,” and the speaker learns “patience” and how to “wait.” The mood is settled and untroubled. So the tone is calm, patient and accepting.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option B: There is no anger or rebellion in the voice.
- Option C: The poem soothes rather than frightens or despairs.
- Option D: Nothing in it is playful or comic; it is serious and quiet.

Final Answer: Calm, patient and accepting ⇒ **A**

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q7](#)

Q8.

Solution

What is asked: the meaning of the closing paradox, that the sea “holds nothing, yet holds it straight.”

Reasoning: The sea keeps nothing back, letting the water go with each ebb, and precisely so it stays true to its unfailing return. The paradox links not clutching with keeping faith. Option D states this.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: The line is figurative, not a claim that the sea is empty.
- Option B: The poem’s lesson is to let go, not to hold on tightly.
- Option C: The speaker learns to release, not to refuse ever to let go.

Final Answer: By not clutching, the sea keeps faith with its constant return ⇒ **D**

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q8](#)



Q9.

Solution

What is asked: the central argument of the passage.

Reasoning: The passage praises the freedom of the city's anonymity, then shows its "shadow" of loneliness, calling the crowd a gift that "cuts both ways." It presents anonymity as freeing yet isolating. Option B states this two-edged claim.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: The passage does not rank the village above the city overall.
- Option C: It never warns that cities are dangerous places to live.
- Option D: It ends by describing chosen friendships that city dwellers do form.

Final Answer: City anonymity grants freedom but also loneliness ⇒

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q9](#)

Q10.

Solution

What is asked: the statement the author would most likely agree with.

Reasoning: The last paragraph says the city dweller "builds, within the vast anonymity, a small deliberate village of chosen friends." So the author agrees that people assemble a chosen community inside the crowd. Option D follows directly.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: The author values the city's freedom; it is not called worthless.
- Option B: The lit-window image describes indifference, not a stated duty to knock.
- Option C: The passage shows warmth can be rebuilt by choice, so "never" is too strong.

Final Answer: People build a chosen community within the city's anonymity ⇒

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q10](#)



Q11.

Solution

What is asked: the purpose of the lit-window example.

Reasoning: The example appears right after “To be unknown is to be, in a quiet way, unheld.” The ill person whom no stranger helps dramatises the loneliness bound up with anonymity. So it illustrates that loneliness. Option A is correct.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option B: The point is not the supply of hospitals.
- Option C: The number of lit windows is not the passage’s concern.
- Option D: The strangers are indifferent, not shown as cruel by nature.

Final Answer: It illustrates the loneliness that accompanies anonymity ⇒ A

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q11](#)

Q12.

Solution

What is asked: what can be inferred about the “village of chosen friends.”

Reasoning: Having escaped the community one was born into, the dweller assembles another by choice, so “a handful of windows learn one’s name.” This recovers warmth and belonging inside the anonymous crowd. Option C states this.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: It is deliberately chosen by the person, not organised by government.
- Option B: The passage does not claim the birth-village was better in every way.
- Option D: Building chosen friends coexists with freedom; it is not a failure of it.

Final Answer: A way of recovering warmth and belonging within anonymity ⇒

C

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q12](#)



Q13.

Solution

What is asked: the assumption behind generalising from the emergency ward to the outpatient clinic.

Reasoning: The administrator saw the system cut waiting times in one setting and concludes it will do so in another. That step works only if the two settings are relevantly similar, so the same cause carries over. Option B states this needed assumption.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: Relative patient volume is not what the inference depends on.
- Option C: The seriousness of waiting times is irrelevant to whether the system works.
- Option D: The argument needs no promise about the number of new patients.

Final Answer: The two settings are relevantly similar $\Rightarrow$ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q13](#)

Q14.

Solution

What is asked: the option that most strengthens the “cereal improves concentration” claim.

Reasoning: The worry is that the children were simply strong to begin with. Option C removes it: those same children had earlier scored only at the average, so the rise followed the cereal. That supports the causal claim.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: Company funding, if anything, casts doubt on the study.
- Option B: Popularity elsewhere does not show the cereal works.
- Option D: An easier test would weaken, not strengthen, the claim.

Final Answer: The same children had earlier been only average $\Rightarrow$ **C**

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q14](#)



Q15.

Solution

What is asked: the option that most weakens the “programme is effective” conclusion.

Reasoning: The gym credits the programme for a fall in average weight. Option A gives a rival cause: admitting only younger, already-fit members would lower the average on its own. That undercuts the claim that the programme did it.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option B: Enjoyment says nothing about whether weight actually fell because of the programme.
- Option C: A simultaneous launch does not challenge the cause.
- Option D: Well-trained trainers would, if anything, support the claim.

Final Answer: Admitting only younger, already-fit members is a rival cause $\Rightarrow$ **A**

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q15](#)

Q16.

Solution

What is asked: the correct order of the four sentences.

Reasoning: Sentence 3 opens the story (coffee first reached Europe as a medicine). Sentence 4 turns it with “But as the drink grew cheaper” (shops opened for anyone). Sentence 1 develops it (these houses became places to argue, trade and plot). Sentence 2 gives the outcome (they grew into newspapers, exchanges and clubs). Order: 3-4-1-2.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: Placing 1 before 4 leaves “these houses” with no shops yet introduced.
- Option C: Starting with 4 strands “But” with nothing to contrast.
- Option D: Starting with 1 has “these houses” refer to nothing.

Final Answer: 3-4-1-2 $\Rightarrow$ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q16](#)



Q17.

Solution

What is asked: the best final sentence for the garden paragraph.

Reasoning: The paragraph says the gardener plants for a season she may not live to see, trusting a later hand. A fitting close names this as keeping faith with a future one will never witness. Option B does exactly that.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: The cost of gardening is off the paragraph's point.
- Option C: The size of modern gardens is irrelevant here.
- Option D: Practical advice about gloves breaks the reflective thread.

Final Answer: To tend a garden is to keep faith with a future one will never see
⇒ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q17](#)

Q18.

Solution

What is asked: what must be true from the two statements.

Reasoning: Every choir member can read music; no one who can read music was rejected. Chaining these, no choir member was rejected. Option D is the valid conclusion.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: This directly contradicts the chain.
- Option B: The statements do not make every music-reader a choir member.
- Option C: Being accepted does not, by these statements, put one in the choir.

Final Answer: No member of the choir was rejected at the audition ⇒ **D**

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q18](#)



Q19.

Solution

What is asked: the best one-line summary of the paragraph.

Reasoning: The paragraph argues that a quick answer is often merely well-worn, while the slower reply that truly hears the question is frequently wiser. Option B states precisely this.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: This is the very habit the paragraph questions.
- Option C: The paragraph does not claim wise answers are impossible.
- Option D: It denies that speed is the sign of expertise.

Final Answer: A slower, considered answer is often wiser than a quick one ⇒ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q19](#)

Q20.

Solution

What is asked: the explanation of why more visitors stayed for the full show once a fee was charged.

Reasoning: A fee, however small, filters out casual walk-ins who would have drifted off quickly. Those who then choose to pay are the genuinely interested, who stay to the end. So total admissions fall while the share staying full rises. Option A supplies this.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option B: Longer hours would not explain why the fee changed who stayed.
- Option C: A smaller, duller room would tend to shorten visits, not lengthen them.
- Option D: If payers left at once, the number staying full would drop, not rise.

Final Answer: The fee filtered out casual visitors, leaving the genuinely interested ⇒ **A**

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q20](#)



Q21.

Solution

What is asked: the word that fits the blank.

Reasoning: Despite overwhelming evidence, he still insists on his innocence to the end. Someone who refuses to admit wrong in the face of proof is “unrepentant.” Option C fits both the defiance and the insistence on innocence.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: “Apologetic” contradicts his insistence on innocence.
- Option B: “Bewildered” does not match a firm claim of innocence.
- Option D: “Grateful” makes no sense against overwhelming evidence.

Final Answer: unrepentant ⇒

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q21](#)

Q22.

Solution

What is asked: the flaw in the traveller’s reasoning.

Reasoning: From just three encounters the traveller judges an entire nation. That leaps from a tiny, unrepresentative sample to a sweeping generalisation. Option B names this error.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: No survey is claimed, so it is not about a fabricated one.
- Option C: Whether rudeness is intentional is beside the point.
- Option D: There is no self-contradiction between the two sentences.

Final Answer: It generalises about a nation from a tiny, unrepresentative sample ⇒

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q22](#)



Q23.

Solution

What is asked: the pair matching DROUGHT : WATER.

Reasoning: A drought is a severe scarcity of water. A famine is a severe scarcity of food, the same scarcity relation. Option D matches.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: A flood is an excess of rain, the opposite of scarcity.
- Option B: A harvest is a gathering of grain, not a lack of it.
- Option C: A library is a collection of books, again not a scarcity.

Final Answer: famine : food $\Rightarrow$ D

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q23](#)

Q24.

Solution

What is asked: the best opening sentence for the apprenticeship paragraph.

Reasoning: The paragraph gives examples of long preparation before real work and calls this the laying of a foundation. A good opener sets up that theme: we are impatient, yet every craft demands a humble apprenticeship first. Option A does this and leads into the sweeping-floor and watching-operations examples.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option B: "Talent needs no training" contradicts the paragraph that follows.
- Option C: Apprentices abandoning trades is off the paragraph's point.
- Option D: Praising those who skip the basics cuts against the whole passage.

Final Answer: Every craft demands a long, humble apprenticeship first $\Rightarrow$ A

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q24](#)



Q25.

Solution

What is asked: the conclusion supported by the two statements.

Reasoning: “Every book on the top shelf is a first edition” means: not a first edition implies not on the top shelf (the contrapositive). The dictionary is not a first edition, so it is not on the top shelf. Option A is the valid conclusion.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option B: If it were on the top shelf it would be a first edition, so this cannot hold.
- Option C: Nothing rules out first editions sitting elsewhere in the room.
- Option D: The premise does not say all first editions are kept on the top shelf.

Final Answer: The dictionary is not on the top shelf $\Rightarrow$ **A**

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q25](#)

Q26.

Solution

What is asked: the grammatically correct sentence.

Reasoning: In option B, “Each” is singular, so “Each of the reports was reviewed” takes the singular verb correctly. That sentence is sound.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: “The number of” is singular and needs “has increased,” not “have.”
- Option C: “Neither of the two answers” is singular and needs “is,” not “are.”
- Option D: “Scissors” takes a plural verb, so it should be “are lying,” not “is lying.”

Final Answer: Each of the reports was reviewed before the meeting $\Rightarrow$ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q26](#)



Answer Key

Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans
1	C	2	C	3	D	4	A	5	D
6	C	7	A	8	D	9	B	10	D
11	A	12	C	13	B	14	C	15	A
16	B	17	B	18	D	19	B	20	A
21	C	22	B	23	D	24	A	25	A
26	B								

