

# XAT Verbal & Logical Ability

## Sample Paper – 7

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.*

There is a familiar accusation levelled at anyone who speaks fondly of the past: that nostalgia is a kind of cowardice, a refusal to face the present, a soft narcotic that dulls the appetite for change. On this view, to look back is to walk backward, and every hour spent remembering is an hour stolen from the work of building what comes next. The charge is not wholly unfair. A society that gilds its yesterdays can grow blind to their cruelties, and a person who lives among old photographs may forget to take new ones. Yet the accusation mistakes a use for an abuse. To remember where one has been is not



always to wish oneself back there. The sailor who studies the wake behind the ship is not steering into it; he is reading, in the line it traces, the drift he must correct for. Memory, at its best, works the same way. It tells us which of our changes were gains and which were merely motion, and it supplies the standard against which any promised future must be measured. Without it, progress becomes a word that means only newness, and newness is not the same as improvement.

The real question, then, is not whether we should look back, but how. Nostalgia that grieves for a past that never existed will indeed hold us in place. But a clear-eyed memory, one that recalls the losses along with the gains, does not anchor us; it steadies us. It lets us move forward without the vertigo of people who have forgotten where they came from, and who therefore cannot tell whether they are advancing or merely falling.

- Q1.** Which of the following best states the main idea of the passage?
- (A) Nostalgia is always a form of cowardice that prevents genuine progress.
  - (B) The past was in every respect better than the present and ought to be restored.
  - (C) A clear-eyed memory, unlike sentimental nostalgia, steadies progress rather than blocking it.
  - (D) Progress and remembering are wholly unrelated concerns that never affect one another.
- Q2.** The author uses the image of the sailor who studies the wake behind the ship mainly to suggest that:
- (A) attending to the past can help one correct the direction of present action.
  - (B) a ship should always sail back along the exact route by which it came.
  - (C) sailors are generally more thoughtful than other kinds of traveller.
  - (D) the past is impossible to observe with any real accuracy at all.
- Q3.** The author's attitude towards nostalgia is best described as:
- (A) measured, distinguishing a useful memory from a harmful one.
  - (B) wholly hostile, treating all remembering as a weakness.



- (C) uncritically enthusiastic, urging a return to the past.
- (D) detached, refusing to take any position on the matter.

**Q4.** By writing of “the vertigo of people who have forgotten where they came from,” the author suggests that:

- (A) dizziness is a common physical symptom of growing old.
- (B) people who travel too quickly will inevitably fall ill.
- (C) forgetting the past makes people calmer and more decisive.
- (D) without memory people lose any way of judging whether they are truly advancing.

### Passage II

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

#### *After the Drought*

*For months the field had learned to want,  
the cracked earth keeping count of loss;  
we prayed for ease, and got instead  
the black sky and its heavy cross.*

*The storm came rude, not as we asked;  
it tore the shed and bent the corn,  
and yet beneath that battering  
the sleeping seed was gently torn.*

*So do not grudge the breaking rain  
its violence upon the ground;  
the softest green you ever saw  
was won where hardest weather found.*

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

- (A) A storm is purely destructive and leaves nothing of value behind.
- (B) Farmers should never pray for rain during a season of drought.
- (C) The natural world is wholly indifferent to whether crops live or die.
- (D) The very discomfort of the storm is what makes new growth possible.



- Q6.** The line “the sleeping seed was gently torn” most nearly suggests that:
- (A) the very force that damages is also what stirs new life into being.
  - (B) seeds are too fragile to survive any kind of rain at all.
  - (C) the storm failed to reach the seeds buried beneath the soil.
  - (D) growth can happen only when the weather stays calm and mild.
- Q7.** The tone of the poem is best described as:
- (A) bitter and despairing.
  - (B) reflective and reconciling.
  - (C) jubilant and boastful.
  - (D) sarcastic and scornful.
- Q8.** The closing thought that “the softest green you ever saw / was won where hardest weather found” implies that:
- (A) soft green plants can grow only in gentle and settled weather.
  - (B) hard weather always destroys far more than it ever creates.
  - (C) what we most treasure is often produced by the very hardship we would avoid.
  - (D) the speaker now regrets having prayed for rain at all.

### Passage III

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

For much of the last century the reigning advice was to distrust the gut. Intuition, we were told, is where bias hides; the disciplined mind should slow down, gather data, and reason its way to a conclusion, leaving hunches at the door. There is real wisdom in this counsel. In matters where the evidence is thin, the feedback slow, and our wishes loud, a gut feeling is often just a prejudice wearing the costume of insight.

But the counsel is incomplete, for it ignores where expert intuition comes from. The seasoned firefighter who orders his crew out of a building moments before it collapses cannot always say what alarmed him; the experienced nurse who senses that a stable patient is about to deteriorate may name no single symptom. These are not mystical



gifts. They are the compressed residue of thousands of hours in which the world offered quick, clear feedback on what worked and what did not. In such settings the gut is not the enemy of analysis; it is analysis grown so fast and so practised that it no longer announces its steps.

The difference that matters, then, is not between intuition and reason but between environments. Where a field is regular enough to be learned and generous enough to correct its students, long experience can be trusted, even when it cannot explain itself. Where a field is fickle, and its lessons arrive late or muddled, the confident inner voice deserves suspicion however loud it grows. To ask simply whether to trust intuition is to ask the wrong question. The better question is whether the intuition was schooled in a world that teaches, or merely flattered by one that does not.

**Q9.** The central argument of the passage is that:

- (A) intuition should always be distrusted because it is where bias hides.
- (B) whether intuition can be trusted depends on the kind of environment in which it was formed.
- (C) expert intuition is a mystical gift that no amount of experience can explain.
- (D) careful analysis is in every case superior to any form of intuition.

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

- (A) A hunch formed in a field with slow, muddled feedback deserves the same trust as one formed in a regular field.
- (B) A beginner's hunches are as reliable as those of a long-seasoned expert.
- (C) An expert's intuition can be worth trusting even when the expert cannot explain it.
- (D) Once a person has gained some experience, gathering data becomes pointless.

**Q11.** The examples of the firefighter and the nurse are used mainly to:

- (A) prove that firefighting and nursing are the most dangerous of all professions.



- (B) show that experts are usually unable to perform their jobs well.
- (C) argue that intuition should never be trusted during an emergency.
- (D) illustrate that expert intuition can be reliable knowledge built from long, well-corrected experience.

**Q12.** It can be inferred that a confident inner voice most deserves suspicion when:

- (A) it is felt by someone who has worked in the field for many years.
- (B) it was formed in a field whose lessons arrive late or muddled.
- (C) it can be explained step by step by the person who feels it.
- (D) it happens to agree with the results of careful data analysis.

### Verbal & Logical Reasoning

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

**Q13.** A company argues: “After we moved our head office to the city centre last year, employee satisfaction rose. Therefore, moving our two regional offices to their own city centres will also raise satisfaction.” The argument assumes that:

- (A) the head office employs more people than the two regional offices combined.
- (B) employee satisfaction is the single most important goal the company has.
- (C) the same factors that raised satisfaction at the head office also apply to the regional offices.
- (D) no employees will choose to leave the company in the coming year.

**Q14.** A nutritionist claims a new diet lowers cholesterol, citing that a group following it had cholesterol below the town average. Which of the following, if true, would most **strengthen** the claim?

- (A) Before starting the diet, that same group had cholesterol at exactly the town average.



- (B) The diet has since become popular in several neighbouring towns.
- (C) The group reported that they found the diet pleasant and easy to follow.
- (D) Cholesterol levels across the whole town happened to fall that year.

**Q15.** A factory concludes that its new machine is more efficient because daily output rose after the machine was installed. Which of the following, if true, would most **weaken** the conclusion?

- (A) Over the same period the factory added an entire second shift of workers.
- (B) Workers reported that they found the new machine easier to operate.
- (C) The new machine was installed on every production line on the same day.
- (D) The factory's engineers were carefully trained to use the new machine.

**Q16.** Arrange the four sentences into a coherent paragraph. (1) But as rents rose, one familiar shop after another closed its doors. (2) For decades the old market had been the neighbourhood's beating heart. (3) Today a row of identical chain stores stands where the stalls once were. (4) Regulars mourned each loss, though few could halt the tide. The correct order is:

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

**Q17.** Complete the paragraph with the most suitable final sentence: "A language does not die all at once. It fades as, one by one, its last fluent speakers pass, and the young reach instead for a tongue that opens more doors. Each generation understands a little less, until what remains is a handful of proverbs whose meaning no one can quite recall. \_\_\_\_\_"



- (A) Linguists should therefore record as many folk songs as they possibly can.
- (B) What is lost in this way is not merely words but an entire way of seeing the world.
- (C) English is now spoken by more people than any other language on earth.
- (D) Most children today prefer to learn new languages using an app.

**Q18.** Every book on the top shelf is a first edition. No first edition is available for loan. Which of the following **must** be true?

- (A) Some books on the top shelf are available for loan.
- (B) No book on the top shelf is available for loan.
- (C) Every first edition in the library is kept on the top shelf.
- (D) All first editions are available for loan.

**Q19.** Choose the option that best captures the essence of the paragraph: “We praise experts for their confidence, forgetting that the surest sign of deep knowledge is often the readiness to say ‘I am not certain.’ The more one truly understands a field, the more clearly one sees the edges of that understanding. Bluster, by contrast, is usually the voice of the shallow.”

- (A) Genuine expertise tends to bring an awareness of its own limits, whereas overconfidence often signals shallowness.
- (B) Experts should always sound as confident as they possibly can.
- (C) Confidence and knowledge have nothing whatever to do with one another.
- (D) The shallow are usually far more knowledgeable than the learned.

**Q20.** A museum found that when it began charging a small entry fee, its total donations *rose*, even though many casual visitors stopped coming. Which of the following best explains this?

- (A) The museum quietly closed several of its largest galleries.



- (B) Those who still came valued the museum more and gave larger donations.
- (C) Every visitor who came afterwards gave nothing at all.
- (D) The museum also stopped accepting donations at the same time.

**Q21.** Fill in the blank with the most appropriate word: “Despite the storm’s fury, the old lighthouse remained \_\_\_\_\_, its beam sweeping the dark water as steadily as it had for a hundred years.”

- (A) steadfast
- (B) submerged
- (C) invisible
- (D) abandoned

**Q22.** A pundit writes: “Every company that failed last year had cut its research budget. So cutting the research budget is what causes companies to fail.” The reasoning is flawed because it:

- (A) relies on figures that were in fact never actually published.
- (B) looks only at companies that failed and ignores those that cut their budgets yet survived.
- (C) assumes without argument that research is always expensive to conduct.
- (D) openly contradicts itself between its first and its second sentence.

**Q23.** Choose the pair that best expresses a relationship similar to that in **SCULPTOR : STATUE**.

- (A) gardener : flower
- (B) audience : play
- (C) author : novel
- (D) editor : manuscript



- Q24.** Which conclusion is best supported by the following? “All the candidates who passed the interview had prior experience. Meera had no prior experience.”
- (A) Meera chose not to attend the interview at all.
  - (B) Meera passed the interview despite lacking experience.
  - (C) Meera did not pass the interview.
  - (D) No candidate whatsoever passed the interview.
- Q25.** Which sentence, inserted at the start, best fits the paragraph? “\_\_\_\_\_ The best teachers are often those who remember most vividly what it felt like not to understand. They can retrace the path from confusion to clarity because they have not forgotten the confusion. Mastery that has erased its own struggle can be a poor guide.”
- (A) Teaching is a profession that almost anyone can do well without training.
  - (B) The most knowledgeable person in a room is always its best teacher.
  - (C) Good teachers care very little about how their students happen to feel.
  - (D) Deep knowledge alone does not make someone able to teach it.
- Q26.** Which of the following sentences is grammatically **correct**?
- (A) Neither the players nor the coach were ready for the final.
  - (B) The number of applicants have grown steadily this year.
  - (C) Each of the reports were reviewed carefully before the meeting.
  - (D) The jury has returned its verdict after hours of deliberation.



**Detailed Solutions**

Q1.

**Solution**

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

**Reasoning:** The passage concedes that some nostalgia is harmful, then argues that a clear-eyed memory does not hold us back but steadies our progress. Its point is a distinction between two kinds of looking back. Option C states exactly this contrast.

**Why the other options are wrong:**

- Option A: The passage expressly rejects the idea that nostalgia is always cowardice.
- Option B: It never claims the past was better in every respect, nor calls for its restoration.
- Option D: It insists memory and progress are tightly linked, not unrelated.

**Final Answer:** A clear-eyed memory steadies progress rather than blocking it ⇒

**C**

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

Q2.

**Solution**

**What is asked:** the purpose of the sailor-and-wake image.

**Reasoning:** The sailor reads the wake not to steer into it but to judge and correct his drift. The author uses this as a figure for memory guiding present action. So attending to the past helps correct one's present course.

**Why the other options are wrong:**

- Option B: The text says the sailor is *not* steering back along the wake.
- Option C: Nothing compares sailors with other travellers.
- Option D: The image assumes the past can be read, not that it cannot.

**Final Answer:** Attending to the past helps correct present action ⇒ **A**

**Answer: (A)** [Go Back to Q2](#)



Q3.

**Solution**

**What is asked:** the author's attitude towards nostalgia.

**Reasoning:** The author grants the danger of false nostalgia yet defends a clear-eyed memory. The stance weighs both sides and separates a good use from a bad one. So it is measured and discriminating.

**Why the other options are wrong:**

- Option B: Far from hostile to all remembering, the author defends it.
- Option C: The author is not uncritical; harmful nostalgia is named.
- Option D: A clear position is taken, so the tone is not detached.

**Final Answer:** Measured, distinguishing useful from harmful memory ⇒

[Go Back to Q3](#)

Q4.

**Solution**

**What is asked:** the meaning of “the vertigo of people who have forgotten where they came from.”

**Reasoning:** The passage ends by saying such people “cannot tell whether they are advancing or merely falling.” The vertigo is precisely this loss of any bearing for judging progress. Option D states that.

**Why the other options are wrong:**

- Option A: “Vertigo” here is figurative, not a symptom of age.
- Option B: The passage does not blame speed of travel for illness.
- Option C: Forgetting is presented as disorienting, not calming.

**Final Answer:** Without memory people cannot judge whether they are advancing ⇒

[Go Back to Q4](#)



Q5.

**Solution**

**What is asked:** the central theme of the poem.

**Reasoning:** The drought-parched field receives a rough, unwelcome storm, yet beneath the battering the seed is stirred, and the closing lines credit the “hardest weather” for the tender green. The lesson is that discomfort is what makes renewal possible. Option D captures this.

**Why the other options are wrong:**

- Option A: The storm produces new growth, so it is not purely destructive.
- Option B: The poem does not advise against praying for rain; it reframes the answer.
- Option C: The poem draws a lesson from nature, so it is not “indifferent.”

**Final Answer:** The discomfort of the storm is what makes new growth possible ⇒

**D**

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

Q6.

**Solution**

**What is asked:** the meaning of “the sleeping seed was gently torn.”

**Reasoning:** The same storm that “tore the shed” also “torn” the seed into waking. The violent force is thus also the awakening one. Option A states this double effect.

**Why the other options are wrong:**

- Option B: The seed is stirred, not destroyed, so fragility is not the point.
- Option C: The line says the seed *was* reached, not missed.
- Option D: The poem credits harsh weather, not calm, with the growth.

**Final Answer:** The force that damages is also what stirs new life ⇒ **A**

**Answer: (A)** [Go Back to Q6](#)



Q7.

**Solution**

**What is asked:** the tone of the poem.

**Reasoning:** The speaker moves from lament over the drought to a settled acceptance, urging us not to “grudge the breaking rain.” The mood is thoughtful and at peace with hardship. So the tone is reflective and reconciling.

**Why the other options are wrong:**

- Option A: The poem ends in acceptance, not despair.
- Option C: It is quiet and measured, not boastful.
- Option D: There is no mockery; the voice is sincere.

**Final Answer:** Reflective and reconciling ⇒  B

**Answer:** (B) [Go Back to Q7](#)

Q8.

**Solution**

**What is asked:** the meaning of the closing couplet about “the softest green.”

**Reasoning:** The tenderest new growth is credited to where the “hardest weather” fell. This ties the thing most valued to the very hardship one would rather escape. Option C states this.

**Why the other options are wrong:**

- Option A: The poem says the green was won *through* hard weather, not gentle.
- Option B: The lines present the storm as productive, not merely destructive.
- Option C is correct.
- Option D: The speaker reaches acceptance, not regret.

**Final Answer:** What we treasure is often produced by the hardship we would avoid ⇒  C

**Answer:** (C) [Go Back to Q8](#)



Q9.

**Solution**

**What is asked:** the central argument of the passage.

**Reasoning:** The passage first grants the case against the gut, then shows expert intuition can be sound, and finally says the real difference is between kinds of environment. It concludes that whether intuition can be trusted turns on where it was formed. Option B states this.

**Why the other options are wrong:**

- Option A: This is the one-sided view the passage qualifies.
- Option C: The passage explicitly calls expert intuition compressed experience, not mystical.
- Option D: It denies that analysis is always superior; trained intuition can be trusted.

**Final Answer:** Trust in intuition depends on the environment that formed it ⇒ **B**

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

Q10.

**Solution**

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

**Reasoning:** The passage says that in a field that teaches, “long experience can be trusted, even when it cannot explain itself.” Option C restates exactly this.

**Why the other options are wrong:**

- Option A: The author draws a sharp line between regular and muddled fields, so their hunches are not equal.
- Option B: Expert intuition rests on long experience, so a beginner’s is not the same.
- Option D: The author never says data-gathering becomes pointless with experience.

**Final Answer:** Expert intuition can be trusted even when unexplained ⇒ **C**

**Answer: (C)** [Go Back to Q10](#)



Q11.

**Solution**

**What is asked:** the purpose of the firefighter and nurse examples.

**Reasoning:** They appear right after the claim that expert intuition is real, and are called “the compressed residue of thousands of hours” of feedback. So they illustrate that such intuition is knowledge built from long, well-corrected experience. Option D states this.

**Why the other options are wrong:**

- Option A: The examples are not about which professions are most dangerous.
- Option B: They show experts succeeding, not failing.
- Option C: They are given to defend trained intuition, not to condemn it.

**Final Answer:** They illustrate reliable intuition built from long experience ⇒ **D**

**Answer: (D)** [Go Back to Q11](#)

Q12.

**Solution**

**What is asked:** when a confident inner voice most deserves suspicion.

**Reasoning:** The passage says that where “its lessons arrive late or muddled, the confident inner voice deserves suspicion however loud it grows.” So suspicion attaches to intuitions bred in fields with poor feedback. Option B states this.

**Why the other options are wrong:**

- Option A: Long experience in a teaching field is grounds for trust, not suspicion.
- Option C: Being explainable would tend to reassure, not alarm.
- Option D: Agreement with analysis would support, not undermine, the hunch.

**Final Answer:** When formed in a field whose lessons are late or muddled ⇒ **B**

**Answer: (B)** [Go Back to Q12](#)



Q13.

**Solution**

**What is asked:** the assumption behind extending the head-office result to the regional offices.

**Reasoning:** The company saw one relocation raise satisfaction and expects the same elsewhere. That step works only if the regional offices are relevantly similar, so the same cause applies. Option C states this needed assumption.

**Why the other options are wrong:**

- Option A: Relative headcount is not what the inference rests on.
- Option B: The importance of satisfaction does not bear on whether the move works.
- Option D: The argument needs no promise about employees leaving.

**Final Answer:** The regional offices are relevantly similar  $\Rightarrow$

**Answer: (C)** [Go Back to Q13](#)

Q14.

**Solution**

**What is asked:** the option that most strengthens the “diet lowers cholesterol” claim.

**Reasoning:** The worry is that the group might simply have had low cholesterol to begin with. Option A removes that worry: the same group had been at the average before, so the drop followed the diet. That supports the causal claim.

**Why the other options are wrong:**

- Option B: Popularity elsewhere does not show the diet works.
- Option C: Ease of following says nothing about cholesterol.
- Option D: A town-wide fall gives a rival cause, which weakens the claim.

**Final Answer:** The same group had earlier been at the average  $\Rightarrow$

**Answer: (A)** [Go Back to Q14](#)



Q15.

**Solution**

**What is asked:** the option that most weakens the “new machine is more efficient” conclusion.

**Reasoning:** The factory credits the machine for higher daily output. Option A gives a rival cause: an added second shift would raise daily output on its own. That undercuts the claim that the machine did it.

**Why the other options are wrong:**

- Option B: Ease of operation says nothing about output.
- Option C: A simultaneous rollout does not challenge the cause.
- Option D: Trained engineers would, if anything, support the claim.

**Final Answer:** An added second shift is a rival cause of higher output ⇒ **A**

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

Q16.

**Solution**

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

**Reasoning:** Sentence 2 sets the scene (the old market was the neighbourhood’s heart). Sentence 1 turns with “But as rents rose” (shops began to close). Sentence 4 elaborates (regulars mourned each loss). Sentence 3 gives the present outcome (chain stores stand there now). Order: 2-1-4-3.

**Why the other options are wrong:**

- Option A: Placing 3 second reveals the ending too early.
- Option B: Starting with 1 leaves “But” with nothing to contrast.
- Option C: Starting with the final outcome (3) is illogical.

**Final Answer:** 2-1-4-3 ⇒ **D**

**Answer: (D)** [Go Back to Q16](#)



Q17.

**Solution**

**What is asked:** the best final sentence for the dying-language paragraph.

**Reasoning:** The paragraph traces the slow fading of a language to a few half-remembered proverbs. A fitting close names what is truly lost: not just words, but a whole way of seeing. Option B does this.

**Why the other options are wrong:**

- Option A: A practical instruction to linguists shifts away from the paragraph's point.
- Option C: A fact about English is off-topic.
- Option D: How children learn languages is beside the point of what is lost.

**Final Answer:** What is lost is an entire way of seeing the world  $\Rightarrow$  **B**

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

Q18.

**Solution**

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

**Reasoning:** Every top-shelf book is a first edition; no first edition is available for loan. Chaining these, no top-shelf book is available for loan. Option B is the valid conclusion.

**Why the other options are wrong:**

- Option A: This contradicts the chain.
- Option C: The premises do not place all first editions on the top shelf.
- Option D: The second premise says first editions are *not* available for loan.

**Final Answer:** No top-shelf book is available for loan  $\Rightarrow$  **B**

**Answer: (B)** [Go Back to Q18](#)



Q19.

**Solution**

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

**Reasoning:** The paragraph says deep knowledge tends to bring an awareness of its own edges, while bluster marks the shallow. Option A states precisely this.

**Why the other options are wrong:**

- Option B: The paragraph warns against confident bluster, so it does not urge maximum confidence.
- Option C: It ties confidence and knowledge closely together, not apart.
- Option D: It calls bluster the voice of the shallow, the opposite of D.

**Final Answer:** Real expertise knows its limits; overconfidence signals shallowness

⇒  A

**Answer: (A)** [Go Back to Q19](#)

Q20.

**Solution**

**What is asked:** the explanation of the donations-rose-though-visitors-fell paradox.

**Reasoning:** Fewer visitors yet higher total donations means those who remained gave more. Option B supplies it: the fee filtered for people who valued the museum and gave larger sums. That raises total donations even as casual visitors leave.

**Why the other options are wrong:**

- Option A: Closing galleries would not explain a rise in donations.
- Option C: If visitors gave nothing, donations could not rise.
- Option D: If donations stopped being accepted, they could not rise.

**Final Answer:** Those who still came valued it more and gave larger donations ⇒

B

**Answer: (B)** [Go Back to Q20](#)



Q21.

**Solution**

**What is asked:** the word that fits the blank.

**Reasoning:** The lighthouse stands firm through the storm, its beam sweeping “as steadily as it had for a hundred years.” The blank needs a word for unshaken firmness. “Steadfast” fits exactly. Option A is correct.

**Why the other options are wrong:**

- Option B: “Submerged” contradicts a beam still sweeping the water.
- Option C: “Invisible” clashes with a lighthouse whose beam is seen.
- Option D: “Abandoned” clashes with a beam kept steadily working.

**Final Answer:** steadfast ⇒

[Go Back to Q21](#)

Q22.

**Solution**

**What is asked:** the flaw in the research-budget argument.

**Reasoning:** The pundit looks only at the companies that failed and finds they all cut budgets. But without checking companies that cut budgets and *survived*, no link to failure is established. The argument reasons from only one group. Option B names this error.

**Why the other options are wrong:**

- Option A: The passage does not say the figures were fabricated.
- Option C: Whether research is expensive is irrelevant to the flaw.
- Option D: There is no self-contradiction between the two sentences.

**Final Answer:** It ignores companies that cut budgets yet survived ⇒

[Go Back to Q22](#)



Q23.

**Solution**

**What is asked:** the pair matching SCULPTOR : STATUE.

**Reasoning:** A sculptor is the maker who brings a statue into being. An author is the maker who brings a novel into being, the same creator-to-creation relation. Option C matches.

**Why the other options are wrong:**

- Option A: A gardener tends a flower but does not create it as an artefact.
- Option B: An audience receives a play rather than making it.
- Option D: An editor revises a manuscript but is not its author.

**Final Answer:** author : novel  $\Rightarrow$

[Go Back to Q23](#)

Q24.

**Solution**

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

**Reasoning:** “All who passed had prior experience” means: no prior experience implies did not pass (the contrapositive). Meera had no prior experience, so Meera did not pass. Option C is the valid conclusion.

**Why the other options are wrong:**

- Option A: Her attendance is not addressed by the statements.
- Option B: Passing without experience is exactly what the premise rules out.
- Option D: Nothing prevents other, experienced candidates from passing.

**Final Answer:** Meera did not pass the interview  $\Rightarrow$

[Go Back to Q24](#)



Q25.

**Solution**

**What is asked:** the best opening sentence for the teaching paragraph.

**Reasoning:** The paragraph argues that the best teachers remember what confusion felt like, and that erased struggle makes a poor guide. A good opener sets up that deep knowledge by itself is not enough to teach. Option D does this and leads into the sentences that follow.

**Why the other options are wrong:**

- Option A: “Anyone can do it without training” clashes with the careful point that follows.
- Option B: This claims knowledge alone makes the best teacher, the very idea the paragraph corrects.
- Option C: That good teachers ignore feelings contradicts the stress on recalling confusion.

**Final Answer:** Deep knowledge alone does not make someone able to teach it ⇒

**D**

**Answer: (D)** [Go Back to Q25](#)

Q26.

**Solution**

**What is asked:** the grammatically correct sentence.

**Reasoning:** In option D, “jury” is a collective noun treated as singular, so “has returned its verdict” agrees correctly. That sentence is sound.

**Why the other options are wrong:**

- Option A: With “neither . . . nor,” the verb takes the nearer subject “coach,” so it should be “was,” not “were.”
- Option B: “The number of” is singular and needs “has grown,” not “have grown.”
- Option C: “Each” is singular and needs “was reviewed,” not “were.”

**Final Answer:** The jury has returned its verdict. . . ⇒ **D**

**Answer: (D)** [Go Back to Q26](#)



## Answer Key

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

