

XAT Verbal & Logical Ability

Sample Paper – 9

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.

To translate is to be caught, endlessly, between two claims that cannot both be fully honoured. The first is the claim of the original: its rhythm, its double meanings, the shadow a word throws in its own language. The second is the claim of the reader, who lives in another tongue and asks that the sentence arrive as though it had been born there. A translator who serves only the first produces something faithful and dead; one who serves only the second produces something graceful and false. The art lies in the impossible attempt to serve both at once.



Something is always lost. A pun that turns on the sound of two words will not survive the crossing; a proverb rooted in one country's weather or its food loses its soil. Yet it is a mistake to speak only of loss, for something is also found. Forced to rebuild a sentence from its foundations, the translator often notices what the original writer left half-buried, and a good translation can return to us meanings the first readers passed over. A poem read in two languages is not a poem halved but a poem seen from two sides.

This is why the old sneer, that the translator is a traitor, misses its mark. The translator does not betray the text; the translator negotiates with it, giving up one thing to save another, as any honest reader of a difficult book must. What we call the meaning of a work was never a fixed object waiting to be carried across intact. It was always something made anew each time the words were read, and translation only makes that quiet remaking visible.

- Q1.** Which of the following best states the main idea of the passage?
- (A) A faithful translation is always superior to a graceful one.
 - (B) Translation inevitably loses some things but also uncovers others, remaking a work's meaning rather than carrying it across intact.
 - (C) Great works of literature should never be translated at all.
 - (D) The chief duty of a translator is to serve the reader above the original.
- Q2.** It can be inferred that the author regards the "meaning" of a literary work as:
- (A) a fixed object that a skilled translator can carry across unchanged.
 - (B) something that only the original author can ever determine.
 - (C) something remade each time the work is read rather than fixed in advance.
 - (D) a quality wholly destroyed the moment a work is translated.
- Q3.** The author's attitude towards the saying that "the translator is a traitor" is best described as:
- (A) approving, since translators do betray the text.



- (B) anxious, since the charge may often prove true.
- (C) neutral, offering no judgement on the saying.
- (D) dismissive, treating the charge as a misunderstanding of what translation is.

Q4. By writing that “a poem read in two languages is not a poem halved but a poem seen from two sides,” the author suggests that:

- (A) reading a work in both languages can deepen rather than reduce one’s understanding of it.
- (B) every poem must be read in at least two languages before it can be understood.
- (C) a translated poem always loses exactly half of its original meaning.
- (D) the two versions of a poem will inevitably contradict each other.

Passage II

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

Borrowed Light

*The moon owns nothing of the light it lends;
it shines with fire that never was its own,
and yet the dark, that asks not where it ends,
is grateful for a brightness merely loaned.*

*It turns to us, each night, an altered face,
now full, now thinned to a paring, now to none,
and still we call it constant in its place,
one moon behind the many we have known.*

*So far it hangs that all its seas lie still;
no ship, no shout, can reach that pale plateau.
Yet what is far can steady what is near —
the tides obey a stone they cannot know.*

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

- (A) The moon is a proud, self-sufficient source of its own powerful light.
- (B) The night sky is frightening and fundamentally hostile to human life.



- (C) Though the moon shines with borrowed light and constantly changes its face, it remains a steady, distant presence that still shapes what is near.
- (D) The moon ought to be reached, mapped, and settled by human ships.
- Q6.** The line “the tides obey a stone they cannot know” most nearly suggests that:
- (A) the moon is made of ordinary stone and nothing more.
- (B) something distant and unreachable can still exert a steady influence on what is near.
- (C) the tides move entirely independently of the moon.
- (D) one thing must first be known before it can affect another.
- Q7.** The tone of the poem is best described as:
- (A) mournful and despairing.
- (B) contemplative and quietly reverent.
- (C) jubilant and boastful.
- (D) sarcastic and dismissive.
- Q8.** The idea that the moon is “constant” even as it shows “a different face” each night implies that:
- (A) the moon does not really change its appearance at all.
- (B) constancy is impossible for anything found in nature.
- (C) only wholly unchanging things deserve to be admired.
- (D) something can remain essentially constant even while its outward form keeps changing.

Passage III

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



We are taught to think of habit as the enemy of freedom. To act from habit, we say, is to act without choosing, to be carried along a rut worn by our past selves rather than to decide afresh. On this view the free life is one of constant, deliberate choice, and every routine is a small surrender of the will. There is something to this. A habit that has hardened into compulsion, that we cannot break even when it plainly harms us, is a kind of bondage.

Yet the picture is too simple. Consider how little we could do if every act demanded a fresh decision. The pianist who has drilled her scales until the fingers move unbidden is not less free at the keyboard but more; the very automatism of her hands releases her attention for the music. The habits of grammar let us speak without assembling each sentence like a machine. Far from stealing our freedom, such habits are what make its exercise possible, clearing away a thousand small choices so that the mind is free for the choices that matter.

The real question, then, is not whether to live by habit, for we cannot avoid it, but which habits to build and which to break. A habit chosen and periodically re-examined is an instrument of freedom; a habit merely inherited and never questioned may quietly govern a whole life. Freedom is not the absence of routine but the ownership of it. To be free is not to stand forever undecided at every fork in the road, but to have made, in advance and on purpose, the kind of person who will walk that road well.

Q9. The central argument of the passage is that:

- (A) habit is not merely the enemy of freedom; the right habits can enable it, so the real issue is which habits to build or break.
- (B) all habits are forms of bondage that a free person should aim to eliminate entirely.
- (C) genuine freedom requires making a fresh, deliberate choice in every single moment.
- (D) the example of the pianist proves that skill has nothing to do with freedom.

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

- (A) A person who never questions an inherited habit is thereby more free.
- (B) The fewer routines one has, the freer one necessarily becomes.
- (C) A habit that is chosen and regularly re-examined can serve rather than limit freedom.



(D) Skilled, automatic action always reduces a person's freedom.

Q11. The example of the pianist drilling her scales is used mainly to:

- (A) show that automatic, habitual skill can free the mind for what matters rather than limit it.
- (B) prove that only trained musicians can ever be truly free.
- (C) argue that practising scales is unpleasant but unavoidable.
- (D) suggest that habits are always harmful once they become automatic.

Q12. It can be inferred that, for the author, the difference between a freeing habit and an enslaving one lies chiefly in:

- (A) how physically difficult the habit is to perform.
- (B) how many years the person has held the habit.
- (C) whether the habit was first taught by someone else.
- (D) whether the habit has been consciously chosen and remains open to re-examination.

Verbal & Logical Reasoning

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

Q13. A hospital argues: “Since we installed hand-sanitiser stations in the surgical ward last year, infections there have fallen. Therefore, installing the same stations in the maternity and paediatric wards will also reduce their infections.” The argument assumes that:

- (A) the surgical ward treats far more patients than the other two wards.
- (B) infections are the most costly problem the hospital currently faces.
- (C) the causes of infection that the stations addressed in the surgical ward also operate in the maternity and paediatric wards.
- (D) no new nursing staff will be hired in the coming year.

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



- (A) The nutritionist who designed the diet is widely respected in the field.
- (B) The diet has since become popular in several other countries.
- (C) Before they began the diet, the same group's cholesterol had been at the national average.
- (D) The people in the group happened to exercise less than average.

Q15. A bus company concludes that its new ticketing app is what raised ridership, since ridership grew after the app was launched. Which of the following, if true, would most **weaken** the conclusion?

- (A) Over the same period, petrol prices rose sharply, pushing many car commuters onto public transport.
- (B) Riders reported that they found the new app easy to use.
- (C) The app was rolled out across all routes on the same date.
- (D) The company advertised the app widely before its launch.

Q16. Arrange the four sentences into a coherent paragraph. (1) But the deeper a language buries such assumptions, the harder its speakers find them to see. (2) Every language carries, in its ordinary words, a set of assumptions about the world. (3) This is why learning a second language can feel like stepping outside one's own mind. (4) To a native speaker these assumptions seem not like choices but like plain facts. The correct order is:

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

Q17. Complete the paragraph with the most suitable final sentence: "A word learned from a dictionary is not yet truly known. Its full sense arrives only later, from the hundred sentences in which we hear it used, each adding a shade the definition could not fix. _____"



- (A) Meaning, in the end, is taught less by definitions than by the company a word keeps.
- (B) Dictionaries are, in fact, a fairly recent invention in most languages.
- (C) Children usually learn to read at about the age of six.
- (D) A large vocabulary is the surest single sign of a good education.

Q18. Every book in the reference room is a first edition. No first edition may be borrowed overnight. Which of the following **must** be true?

- (A) Some books in the reference room may be borrowed overnight.
- (B) Every book that may not be borrowed overnight is in the reference room.
- (C) No book in the reference room may be borrowed overnight.
- (D) All first editions are kept in the reference room.

Q19. Choose the option that best captures the essence of the paragraph: “We praise the person who speaks many languages, yet we rarely ask what such speaking costs. To hold two tongues in one head is to feel, at every turn, the gap between them, the thing sayable in one and not the other. The bilingual mind is not two monolingual minds added together; it is a single mind reshaped by the constant traffic between them.”

- (A) Bilingualism is not two separate language-minds combined but a single mind altered by the constant movement between two tongues.
- (B) People who speak many languages deserve far more praise than they usually receive.
- (C) It is impossible to say anything in one language that cannot also be said in another.
- (D) Learning a second language is mostly a matter of memorising vocabulary lists.

Q20. A museum removed the entry fee from its least-visited gallery, and although it now earned *nothing* at that gallery’s door, its total revenue *rose*. Which of the following best explains this?



- (A) The museum quietly closed the gallery down soon afterwards.
- (B) Visitors who came for the free gallery bought nothing else and left.
- (C) The museum made every one of its galleries free at the same time.
- (D) The free gallery drew far more visitors, who then paid for other exhibits and spent in the café and shop.

Q21. Fill in the blank with the most appropriate word: “The old translation, though admired for a century, now seemed hopelessly _____; words that had once sounded natural had drifted into quaintness, and readers stumbled over phrasing their grandparents would have found ordinary.”

- (A) accurate
- (B) dated
- (C) concise
- (D) controversial

Q22. A commentator writes: “Either we translate a poem with perfect fidelity to its words, or we abandon translation altogether. Since perfect fidelity is impossible, we must abandon translation.” The reasoning is flawed because it:

- (A) relies on a survey that was in fact never conducted.
- (B) assumes, without saying so, that poems are worthless.
- (C) openly contradicts itself between its first and second sentences.
- (D) offers only two extreme choices while ignoring the workable options that lie between them.

Q23. Choose the pair that best expresses a relationship similar to that in **TRANSLATOR : TEXT**.

- (A) author : text
- (B) interpreter : speech
- (C) reader : text



(D) printer : text

- Q24.** Which sentence, inserted at the start, best fits the paragraph? “_____ A word in one language rarely maps onto a single word in another; each drags behind it a train of associations the other tongue does not share. To translate is thus never merely to swap labels, but to weigh what each word quietly carries.”
- (A) The hardest thing in translation is not the rare word but the common one.
- (B) Machine translation has by now made human translators quite unnecessary.
- (C) Most people never bother to learn a foreign language at all.
- (D) Dictionaries list the meanings of words in strict alphabetical order.
- Q25.** Which conclusion is best supported by the following? “Every student who passed the oral exam was fluent in French. Meera was not fluent in French.”
- (A) Meera chose, for her own reasons, not to sit the oral exam.
- (B) Meera passed the oral exam in spite of her weak French.
- (C) No student at all passed the oral exam that year.
- (D) Meera did not pass the oral exam.
- Q26.** Which of the following sentences is grammatically **correct**?
- (A) The number of translated novels have grown steadily each year.
- (B) Neither the poem nor its translations were included in the anthology.
- (C) Each of the translators have their own distinctive style.
- (D) She is one of those editors who works late every single night.



Detailed Solutions

Q1.

Solution

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

Reasoning: The passage argues that translation always sacrifices something, yet also uncovers new meaning, and that a work's meaning is remade in each reading rather than carried across whole. Option B states exactly this double movement of loss and discovery.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: The author calls the merely faithful version “faithful and dead,” not superior.
- Option C: The passage defends translation; it never says works should not be translated.
- Option D: Serving only the reader is called “graceful and false,” not the translator's chief duty.

Final Answer: Translation both loses and finds, remaking a work's meaning ⇒ **B**

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

Q2.

Solution

What is asked: how the author views the “meaning” of a work.

Reasoning: The final lines say meaning “was never a fixed object” but “something made anew each time the words were read.” So the author sees meaning as remade with each reading. Option C captures this.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: The passage explicitly denies that meaning is a fixed object carried across intact.
- Option B: It ties meaning to the act of reading, not to the author alone.
- Option D: It says translation makes the remaking visible, not that meaning is destroyed.

Final Answer: Meaning is remade in each reading, not fixed in advance ⇒ **C**

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



Q3.

Solution

What is asked: the author's attitude to the "translator is a traitor" saying.

Reasoning: The author says the sneer "misses its mark" and reframes the translator as one who negotiates, not betrays. That is a rejection of the charge as a misunderstanding. So the attitude is dismissive.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: The author denies that the translator betrays the text.
- Option B: There is no anxiety that the charge is true; it is set aside.
- Option C: The author is not neutral; a clear counter-view is argued.

Final Answer: Dismissive, treating the charge as a misunderstanding ⇒

[Go Back to Q3](#)

Q4.

Solution

What is asked: the meaning of "a poem seen from two sides."

Reasoning: "Not halved but seen from two sides" says the second language adds a viewpoint rather than subtracting. So reading a work in both languages can deepen understanding. Option A states this.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option B: The passage does not require every poem to be read in two languages.
- Option C: "Not halved" directly rejects the idea of losing exactly half.
- Option D: Two sides of one thing complement each other; they need not contradict.

Final Answer: Reading in both languages can deepen understanding ⇒

[Go Back to Q4](#)



Q5.

Solution

What is asked: the central theme of the poem.

Reasoning: The moon shines with light “never was its own,” shows a changing face yet is called “constant,” and though far off still steers the tides. Borrowed light, constancy through change, and distant influence together make the theme. Option C gathers all three.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: The moon owns none of its light; it is not self-sufficient.
- Option B: The poem is calm and admiring, not a picture of a hostile sky.
- Option D: Nothing in the poem urges reaching or settling the moon; it stresses its distance.

Final Answer: Borrowed light, constancy through change, distant influence ⇒

[Go Back to Q5](#)

Q6.

Solution

What is asked: the meaning of “the tides obey a stone they cannot know.”

Reasoning: The tides are near and moving; the “stone” is the far-off moon they cannot reach or “know.” Yet they obey it, so distance is no barrier to influence. Option B states this.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: “Stone” is figurative; the line is not a claim about lunar geology.
- Option C: The tides plainly do obey the moon in the line, not act independently.
- Option D: The point is the opposite: influence works though the tides cannot “know” the moon.

Final Answer: The distant can steadily influence the near ⇒

[Go Back to Q6](#)



Q7.

Solution

What is asked: the tone of the poem.

Reasoning: The speaker dwells thoughtfully on the moon's borrowed light and quiet power, with gratitude and wonder. The mood is meditative and gently admiring. So the tone is contemplative and quietly reverent.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: There is no grief or despair in the voice.
- Option C: The poem is hushed, not jubilant or boastful.
- Option D: Nothing in it mocks; the wonder is sincere.

Final Answer: Contemplative and quietly reverent ⇒

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

Q8.

Solution

What is asked: the implication of calling the changing moon “constant.”

Reasoning: The face changes nightly, yet it is “one moon behind the many we have known.” So an underlying identity holds firm while the outward form shifts. Option D states this.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: The poem grants the change of face; it does not deny it.
- Option B: It affirms constancy, not its impossibility.
- Option C: It admires the moon precisely as changing, so “only unchanging things” is wrong.

Final Answer: Something can stay constant while its outward form changes ⇒

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



Q9.

Solution

What is asked: the central argument of the passage.

Reasoning: The passage rejects the simple “habit versus freedom” view, shows that skilled habits enable freedom, and concludes the real question is which habits to build or break. Option A states this directly.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option B: The passage says we cannot avoid habit and that good habits help, not that all are bondage.
- Option C: It denies that freedom means a fresh choice at every moment.
- Option D: The pianist shows skill *supports* freedom, the opposite of D.

Final Answer: The right habits enable freedom; the issue is which to keep ⇒ **A**

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

Q10.

Solution

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

Reasoning: The passage says “a habit chosen and periodically re-examined is an instrument of freedom.” That is exactly option C.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: An unquestioned inherited habit “may quietly govern a life,” the reverse of freeing.
- Option B: The author denies that fewer routines mean more freedom; freedom is ownership of routine.
- Option D: The pianist shows automatic skill can *increase* freedom.

Final Answer: A chosen, re-examined habit can serve freedom ⇒ **C**

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



Q11.

Solution

What is asked: the purpose of the pianist example.

Reasoning: The pianist's drilled fingers move on their own, which "releases her attention for the music." The example illustrates that automatic habit frees the mind for what matters. Option A captures this.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option B: The example is general; it does not restrict freedom to musicians.
- Option C: The passage does not comment on whether practice is pleasant.
- Option D: The pianist shows automatism helping, not harming.

Final Answer: Automatic skill frees the mind for what matters ⇒

[Go Back to Q11](#)

Q12.

Solution

What is asked: what marks a freeing habit off from an enslaving one.

Reasoning: The passage contrasts a habit "chosen and periodically re-examined" with one "merely inherited and never questioned." So the dividing line is conscious choice plus openness to review. Option D states this.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: Physical difficulty is never mentioned as the criterion.
- Option B: Duration is not what the passage uses to tell the two apart.
- Option C: Being taught by another is not itself the test; unexamined inheritance is.

Final Answer: Whether it is consciously chosen and open to re-examination ⇒

[Go Back to Q12](#)



Q13.

Solution

What is asked: the assumption behind generalising from the surgical ward to the others.

Reasoning: The hospital saw stations cut infections in one ward and concludes they will do so elsewhere. That step holds only if the other wards share the same infection causes the stations addressed. Option C states this needed assumption.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: Relative patient numbers are not what the inference depends on.
- Option B: The cost ranking of infections is irrelevant to whether stations work.
- Option D: The argument needs no promise about hiring staff.

Final Answer: The other wards share the same infection causes \Rightarrow C

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 already had low cholesterol. Option C removes it: the same group had been at the national average before the diet, so the drop followed the diet. That supports the causal claim.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: The designer’s reputation does not show the diet worked.
- Option B: Popularity elsewhere does not prove an effect.
- Option D: Less exercise would, if anything, undercut the diet’s credit.

Final Answer: The same group had earlier been only average \Rightarrow C

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



Q15.

Solution

What is asked: the option that most weakens the “app raised ridership” conclusion.

Reasoning: The company credits the app for the rise in ridership. Option A supplies a rival cause: a petrol-price spike that would push commuters onto buses anyway. That undercuts the claim the app did it.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option B: Ease of use says nothing about what drove ridership.
- Option C: A simultaneous rollout does not challenge the cause.
- Option D: Advertising the app would, if anything, support the claim.

Final Answer: A petrol-price spike 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 2 opens the theme (every language carries assumptions). Sentence 4 develops it (to a native speaker they seem plain facts). Sentence 1 turns with “But” (the deeper buried, the harder to see). Sentence 3 gives the consequence (learning a second language feels like stepping outside one’s mind). Order: 2-4-1-3.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: Putting 1 before 4 leaves “such assumptions” before they are described as facts.
- Option C: Starting with 4 leaves “these assumptions” with no antecedent.
- Option D: Starting with the consequence (3) is illogical.

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

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



Q17.

Solution

What is asked: the best final sentence for the “word learned from a dictionary” paragraph.

Reasoning: The paragraph says a word’s full sense comes from the many sentences that use it, not the definition. A fitting close generalises this: meaning is taught by the company a word keeps. Option A does exactly that.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option B: The history of dictionaries is off-topic.
- Option C: The age at which children read is irrelevant.
- Option D: Vocabulary size as a mark of education does not follow from the point about usage.

Final Answer: Meaning is taught by the company a word keeps ⇒ **A**

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

Q18.

Solution

What is asked: what must follow from the two statements.

Reasoning: Every reference-room book is a first edition; no first edition may be borrowed overnight. Chaining these, no reference-room book may be borrowed overnight. Option C is the valid conclusion.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: This directly contradicts the chain.
- Option B: The statements do not place all non-borrowable books in the reference room.
- Option D: First editions need not all be kept in the reference room.

Final Answer: No reference-room book may be borrowed overnight ⇒ **C**

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



Q19.

Solution

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

Reasoning: The paragraph says the bilingual mind is not two minds added together but one mind reshaped by the traffic between two languages. Option A states precisely this.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A is correct; the rest miss the point.
- Option B: The paragraph is about the nature of bilingualism, not about who deserves praise.
- Option C: It stresses the “thing sayable in one and not the other,” the opposite of C.
- Option D: It is about a mind reshaped, not about memorising words.

Final Answer: One mind reshaped by the traffic between two tongues ⇒

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

Q20.

Solution

What is asked: the explanation of the revenue-rose-though-fee-dropped paradox.

Reasoning: Earning nothing at that door yet higher total revenue means the free gallery drew people who spent elsewhere. Option D supplies it: more visitors who paid for other exhibits and spent in the café and shop. That raises total revenue.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: Closing the gallery would not explain revenue rising after making it free.
- Option B: If they bought nothing else, revenue would not rise.
- Option C: Making every gallery free would tend to lower, not raise, total revenue.

Final Answer: More visitors who paid and spent elsewhere ⇒

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



Q21.

Solution

What is asked: the word that fits the blank.

Reasoning: The translation was once admired but its words have “drifted into quaintness” and now feel old-fashioned. “Hopelessly dated” fits: out of date in style. Option B is correct.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: “Accurate” does not fit a translation criticised for sounding quaint.
- Option C: “Concise” has nothing to do with old-fashioned phrasing.
- Option D: “Controversial” is unrelated to words drifting into quaintness.

Final Answer: dated ⇒

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

Q22.

Solution

What is asked: the flaw in the “abandon translation” argument.

Reasoning: The commentator allows only two options, perfect fidelity or no translation, then rules out the first. But useful, imperfect translation lies between them, and that middle ground is ignored. This is a false dilemma, which option D names.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: No survey is involved in the argument.
- Option B: It does not assume poems are worthless; it discusses how to render them.
- Option C: The two sentences are consistent, not self-contradictory.

Final Answer: It offers only two extremes, ignoring the middle ground ⇒

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



Q23.

Solution

What is asked: the pair matching TRANSLATOR : TEXT.

Reasoning: A translator renders a written text from one language into another. An interpreter does the same for spoken speech, rendering it between languages. Same relation of language-rendering; option B matches.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: An author creates the text; a translator does not create the source.
- Option C: A reader receives the text but does not render it into another language.
- Option D: A printer merely reproduces a text physically, without rendering its language.

Final Answer: interpreter : speech \Rightarrow

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

Q24.

Solution

What is asked: the best opening sentence for the paragraph on words and associations.

Reasoning: The paragraph explains that ordinary words carry associations that do not cross between languages, so translation is more than swapping labels. A fitting opener flags that the hard cases are the common words, not the rare ones. Option A sets this up and leads into “A word in one language rarely maps onto a single word in another.”

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option B: Machine translation is off-topic and contradicts the paragraph’s stress on subtlety.
- Option C: Whether people learn languages is unrelated to the point about associations.
- Option D: Dictionary ordering has nothing to do with words carrying associations.

Final Answer: The hardest word is the common one \Rightarrow

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



Q25.

Solution

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

Reasoning: “Everyone who passed was fluent” means: not fluent implies did not pass (the contrapositive). Meera was not fluent, so Meera did not pass the oral exam. Option D is the valid conclusion.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: Her choice to sit the exam is not addressed by the statements.
- Option B: Had she passed she would be fluent, so this cannot hold.
- Option C: Nothing rules out other students passing.

Final Answer: Meera did not pass the oral exam \Rightarrow **D**

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

Q26.

Solution

What is asked: the grammatically correct sentence.

Reasoning: In option B, with “neither... nor,” the verb agrees with the nearer subject “translations,” which is plural, so “were included” is correct. That sentence is sound.

Why the other options are wrong:

- Option A: “The number of...” takes a singular verb, so it should be “has grown,” not “have.”
- Option C: “Each” is singular and needs “has,” not “have.”
- Option D: “One of those editors who” takes a plural verb “work,” not “works.”

Final Answer: Neither the poem nor its translations were included... \Rightarrow **B**

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



Answer Key

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

