

# CLAT English Language

## Sample Paper – 9

Duration: 24 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 24

### Instructions

- This paper contains **24** Multiple Choice Questions (Single Correct Answer), modelled on the English Language section of **CLAT** (Common Law Admission Test).
- Each correct answer carries **+1 mark**. There is a **negative marking of 0.25 marks** for every incorrect answer; unattempted questions carry no penalty.
- The paper has **four passages**, each followed by **six** questions. Only **one** option is correct; choose the most appropriate answer based only on the passage.
- CLAT is an offline pen-and-paper (OMR) test with no sectional time limit; attempt this practice paper in one timed sitting of about **24 minutes**.
- Use of mobile phones, calculators, dictionaries, or electronic gadgets is strictly prohibited.

### Passage I

*Directions (Q1–Q6): Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. Base your answers only on what is stated or implied in the passage.*

For most of the twentieth century, the engineers who built the world's cities worked on a comforting assumption: that water would always be there for the taking, and that the only real task was to pipe enough of it from the nearest river or reservoir. That assumption is now cracking. From Cape Town, which in 2018 came within weeks of shutting off its municipal supply, to a string of Indian and Latin American metropolises that ration water for months each year, the spectre of a city running dry has moved from fiction to forecast. What alarms planners is not a single drought but a pattern: demand climbing steadily while the sources that once seemed limitless begin to falter. The reasons are tangled but familiar. Cities grow faster than the pipes that serve them,



so more people draw on the same supply. Much of what is pumped never reaches a tap at all, leaking away through decrepit mains that no one has the money to repair; in some cities nearly half the treated water is lost this way. Where rivers fall short, cities sink boreholes and pump groundwater far faster than the rains can replace it, lowering the water table year by year. And a warming climate makes the old rhythms of wet and dry seasons less reliable, so the reservoirs that planners once counted on no longer fill as they should.

It would be easy to conclude that thirsty cities are simply doomed to outgrow their water, but that fatalism is misplaced. The gap between supply and demand can be closed from either end, and the cheapest gains usually lie on the demand side. A city that fixes its leaks, prices water so that profligate use costs more than frugal use, and recycles the water it has already treated can stretch a fixed supply remarkably far. Singapore, with almost no rivers of its own, meets much of its need by cleaning and reusing wastewater that other cities pour into the sea.

None of this is glamorous, and that is part of the problem. Politicians prefer to open a grand new dam than to announce a programme of mending pipes and metering taps, even though the humbler work often delivers more water for less money. The lesson emerging from the cities that have pulled back from the brink is that scarcity is rarely a simple verdict of nature. More often it is the sum of choices, and choices can be made differently. The water is there to be saved; what is usually missing is the will to save it.

- Q1.** Which of the following best captures the central argument of the passage?
- (A) Growing cities are doomed by nature to outgrow whatever water they can find.
  - (B) Urban water scarcity is largely the result of human choices and can be managed, above all by curbing demand.
  - (C) Building grand new dams is the surest way for a city to escape water shortages.
  - (D) Cape Town's crisis proves that no city can ever recover once its taps run dry.
- Q2.** It can be inferred from the passage that "the cheapest gains usually lie on the demand side" because:
- (A) building new dams has become physically impossible for most cities.
  - (B) citizens will always refuse to pay any price for the water they use.



- (C) groundwater can be pumped indefinitely without any lasting cost.
- (D) saving water a city already has, by fixing leaks and cutting waste, tends to cost less than finding new sources.

**Q3.** The author’s overall attitude toward the problem of urban water scarcity is best described as:

- (A) resigned and fatalistic.
- (B) coldly indifferent.
- (C) concerned yet ultimately hopeful.
- (D) cheerfully triumphant.

**Q4.** As used in the passage, the word “profligate” (“so that *profligate* use costs more than frugal use”) most nearly means:

- (A) wastefully extravagant.
- (B) carefully sparing.
- (C) strictly forbidden.
- (D) pure and clean.

**Q5.** According to the passage, a large share of treated water in some cities is lost mainly because:

- (A) residents deliberately hoard it in private tanks.
- (B) it leaks away through decrepit mains that go unrepaired.
- (C) warmer weather causes it to evaporate before use.
- (D) boreholes pump it back into the ground.

**Q6.** Which of the following would make the most suitable title for the passage?

- (A) “Running Dry by Choice: Why Cities Can Still Save Their Water”
- (B) “The Inevitable End of the Modern City”
- (C) “Dams: The Only Answer to Urban Thirst”



## (D) "The Vanishing Rivers of a Warming World"

## Passage II

*Directions (Q7–Q12): Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. Base your answers only on what is stated or implied in the passage.*

A free press is one of those institutions that everyone praises in the abstract and many resent in the particular. In principle the idea is simple: a society governs itself well only when its citizens can find out what those in power are actually doing, and journalists are the people whose job is to find out and to tell. A reporter who exposes a corrupt contract or a covered-up scandal does work that no official watchdog, however well designed, can fully replace, because the press answers to the public rather than to the government it scrutinises.

Yet the freedom of the press has always been a fragile thing, and today it is under strain from several directions at once. The bluntest threat is the old one: governments that jail reporters, shut down newspapers, or bully editors into silence. In much of the world such coercion is open and unapologetic. But subtler pressures can be just as corrosive. When a handful of wealthy owners control most of a country's outlets, the range of questions that get asked quietly narrows, not because anyone issues an order but because certain stories are simply never commissioned in the first place.

The economics of the trade have made matters worse. For a century, newspapers were paid for largely by advertising, and that money has now drained away to online platforms that produce no journalism of their own. Newsrooms have shrunk, local papers have closed by the thousand, and the patient, expensive work of investigation, the kind that takes months and may yield nothing, is the first casualty when budgets are cut. A press that cannot afford to dig loses much of the power that made it worth protecting. There is a temptation, faced with all this, to romanticise journalists as fearless heroes and to imagine that the answer is simply more courage. But courage cannot pay a salary or fund a lawsuit, and the deeper repairs are institutional. Readers who have grown used to news as something free must relearn the habit of paying for it. Laws that protect a reporter's sources and punish the frivolous suits designed to silence critics matter more than any single person's bravery. A free press, in the end, is not a gift that a society receives once and keeps forever. It is a standing achievement, maintained only by people willing to defend it long after the first enthusiasm has faded.

**Q7.** Which of the following best states the main idea of the passage?

- (A) A free press is universally loved and faces no serious danger today.
- (B) Journalism matters only insofar as it exposes individual acts of corruption.
- (C) The passage is chiefly a technical account of newspaper advertising.



(D) A free press is vital to self-government but is now threatened from several sides, and must be actively defended.

**Q8.** The passage implies that concentrated ownership can harm the press even without any direct order because:

(A) certain stories are simply never commissioned, so the range of coverage quietly narrows.

(B) owners personally write every article that appears in their outlets.

(C) the government secretly instructs each editor on what to print.

(D) readers refuse to buy newspapers owned by wealthy proprietors.

**Q9.** According to the author, investigative journalism is “the first casualty when budgets are cut” because it:

(A) is disliked by almost every reader.

(B) is against the law in most countries.

(C) is slow and expensive and may in the end yield nothing.

(D) is banned outright by nervous governments.

**Q10.** The author’s overall attitude toward the state of press freedom is best described as:

(A) gleefully optimistic.

(B) concerned and soberly realistic.

(C) wholly indifferent.

(D) bitterly hopeless.

**Q11.** As used in the passage, the word “corrosive” (“subtler pressures can be just as *corrosive*”) most nearly means:

(A) strengthening and protective.

(B) brightly shining.

(C) openly lawful.



(D) gradually damaging or eating away.

**Q12.** The primary purpose of the passage is to:

- (A) celebrate individual journalists as fearless heroes.
- (B) trace the history of newspaper advertising over a century.
- (C) argue that a free press is valuable yet fragile and needs active, institutional defence.
- (D) prove that governments always succeed in silencing the press.

### Passage III

*Directions (Q13–Q18): Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. Base your answers only on what is stated or implied in the passage.*

Almost everyone has done it: put off the important report to tidy a desk, or promised to start the diet tomorrow while reaching for a second slice of cake tonight. Procrastination is so common that we treat it as a mild character flaw, a matter of laziness or poor time management. Psychologists who study it tell a more interesting story. Delay, they argue, is less a failure of scheduling than a failure of feeling, a small victory of the present self over the future self in a quarrel the two are always having.

The heart of the problem is that human beings value the present far more than the future, a bias so reliable that economists have given it a name: hyperbolic discounting. A reward available now feels vivid and urgent, while the same reward promised for next month feels faint and abstract. When a task is dull or difficult, its costs are paid now, in tedium and effort, but its benefits arrive later, when the essay is graded or the savings have grown. The mind, weighing a certain discomfort today against a hazy advantage tomorrow, quietly chooses to wait. Procrastination, on this view, is not so much irrational as short-sighted.

Emotion plays a larger part than we like to admit. Studies suggest that we often delay a task not because we are lazy but because it makes us anxious, and putting it off brings instant relief. That relief is the trap: by escaping the bad feeling now, we train ourselves to flee it again next time, and the task grows more dreadful with every postponement. Procrastination, in this light, is a way of managing one's mood at the expense of getting things done, a bargain that feels good in the moment and worse in the end.

If the problem lies in the tug between present and future selves, the remedies work by tilting that contest. People who break a daunting task into small, concrete steps make the first move less frightening and the reward less distant. Those who set their own early deadlines, or promise the work to someone who will notice if it is late, borrow willpower from the outside world. The most effective trick may be the gentlest: to forgive oneself for yesterday's delay, since the guilt that procrastination breeds is itself



a spur to procrastinate again. Self-control, it turns out, grows less from harsh discipline than from understanding the odd, impatient creature one is trying to govern.

- Q13.** The central idea of the passage is that:
- (A) procrastination is best understood not as mere laziness but as a conflict between present and future selves, driven by feeling, an understanding that also points to how it can be eased.
  - (B) procrastination is simply a matter of laziness and weak time management.
  - (C) economics has nothing useful to teach us about why people delay.
  - (D) nothing whatever can be done to reduce a person's tendency to procrastinate.
- Q14.** As used in the passage, the word "tedium" ("its costs are paid now, in *tedium* and effort") most nearly means:
- (A) sharp physical pain.
  - (B) great excitement.
  - (C) weariness caused by dullness.
  - (D) sudden fear.
- Q15.** According to the passage, we often postpone a task not out of laziness but because:
- (A) we lack any information about how to begin it.
  - (B) the task is, in most cases, actually forbidden.
  - (C) other people insist that we wait before starting.
  - (D) the task makes us anxious, and putting it off brings instant relief.
- Q16.** "Hyperbolic discounting," as the passage describes it, best explains why:
- (A) people always complete unpleasant tasks well ahead of time.
  - (B) a reward available now feels far more compelling than the same reward promised later, so we choose to wait.



- (C) money loses its value more slowly than most people believe.
- (D) difficult tasks are usually more enjoyable than easy ones.

**Q17.** The author's attitude toward people who procrastinate is best described as:

- (A) understanding and sympathetic.
- (B) harshly condemning.
- (C) wholly indifferent.
- (D) mocking and scornful.

**Q18.** Which of the following would make the most suitable title for the passage?

- (A) "The Lazy Mind: A Case Against Weak Wills"
- (B) "The Economics of Modern Advertising"
- (C) "Why Harsh Discipline Always Fails"
- (D) "The Present Self and the Future Self: Understanding Why We Delay"

### Passage IV

*Directions (Q19–Q24): Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. Base your answers only on what is stated or implied in the passage.*

Walk through the crafts section of any large market and you will find, tucked between the machine-made goods, the work of hands: a clay pot thrown on a wheel, a length of block-printed cloth, a carved wooden toy painted in colours a factory would never risk. These objects are usually more expensive and less uniform than their mass-produced neighbours, and by the cold logic of efficiency they ought to have disappeared long ago. That they survive at all, in a world that can stamp out a thousand identical cups before breakfast, is worth pausing over.

The obvious explanation is nostalgia, a wish to own a piece of a vanishing past. But that is too thin an account. What the handmade object offers is not only sentiment but a kind of information that the machine strips away. A hand-woven rug carries the small irregularities of the person who made it, the slight variation in tension, the pattern that shifts as the weaver's mood or eyesight changed across the months of work. To buy such a thing is to buy a trace of another human being, and of a place and a tradition that



shaped how the work was done. The uniform cup tells you nothing of who made it; the crooked one tells a story.

There is an economic argument too, though it is often overlooked. Craft traditions are reservoirs of skill, passed down by apprenticeship rather than written in any manual, and once a chain of transmission is broken it is extraordinarily hard to rebuild. A village that loses its last potters loses not just a livelihood but a body of knowledge accumulated over generations, knowledge that no museum display can restore. When we support living craft, we are not merely being sentimental; we are keeping a form of collective memory in working order.

None of this means that every handmade thing deserves to survive, or that craft should be frozen in amber and forbidden to change. The traditions that endure are usually those that adapt, finding new customers, new uses, and sometimes new materials, without surrendering the human touch that gave them their value in the first place. The threat to folk art is not machinery as such but indifference: the quiet assumption that the cheapest version of a thing is the only one that matters. To choose the handmade, now and then, is to cast a small vote for a world in which not everything is identical, and in which the skill of the human hand still counts for something.

- Q19.** Which of the following best states the main idea of the passage?
- (A) Handmade craft survives only out of a foolish and sentimental nostalgia.
  - (B) Handmade craft survives, and deserves support, because it carries human and cultural value, and a living body of skill, that mass production cannot replace.
  - (C) Craft traditions should be frozen exactly as they are and never allowed to change.
  - (D) Machines are wholly to blame for the decline of folk art and ought to be banned.
- Q20.** As used in the passage, the word “reservoirs” (“Craft traditions are *reservoirs* of skill”) most nearly means:
- (A) rich stores or reserves.
  - (B) narrow channels.
  - (C) empty containers.
  - (D) fast-flowing streams.



- Q21.** The statement that “the uniform cup tells you nothing of who made it; the crooked one tells a story” most nearly implies that:
- (A) crooked cups are always better made than straight ones.
  - (B) factories deliberately conceal the identities of their workers.
  - (C) the small imperfections of a handmade object record the presence and individuality of its maker.
  - (D) stories ought literally to be printed on the sides of cups.
- Q22.** According to the passage, the chief loss when a village loses its last potters is that:
- (A) the potters were being paid far too much for their work.
  - (B) local museums become uncomfortably crowded with pots.
  - (C) machine-made goods immediately grow cheaper for buyers.
  - (D) an irreplaceable body of skill, handed down by apprenticeship, is broken and very hard to rebuild.
- Q23.** The author’s attitude toward handmade craft is best described as:
- (A) dismissive and impatient.
  - (B) warmly appreciative yet clear-eyed.
  - (C) strictly neutral and detached.
  - (D) mournful and hopeless.
- Q24.** The primary purpose of the passage is to:
- (A) prove that buying handmade goods is a poor economic choice.
  - (B) trace the history of pottery and weaving techniques.
  - (C) argue that handmade craft holds human and cultural value worth actively supporting.
  - (D) insist that craft traditions must never adapt or change in any way.



**Detailed Solutions**

Q1.

**Solution**

**Concept — Main idea:** The central argument is the single claim the whole passage is built to support, not one striking detail within it.

**Passage support:** The essay rejects “fatalism,” says the supply-demand gap “can be closed,” with “the cheapest gains” on “the demand side,” and ends that scarcity “is the sum of choices, and choices can be made differently.” So water shortage is a manageable problem of human choice, above all through curbing demand.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: “Doomed by nature” is exactly the fatalism the author calls misplaced.
- Option C: Dams are contrasted unfavourably with the humbler demand-side work.
- Option D: The passage cites Cape Town pulling back, not proof of no recovery.

**Final Answer:** Scarcity results from human choices and is managed mainly by curbing demand ⇒ **B**

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

Q2.

**Solution**

**Concept — Inference:** Read the surrounding reasoning and restate why the demand side is cheapest.

**Passage support:** A city that “fixes its leaks,” prices water, and “recycles the water it has already treated can stretch a fixed supply remarkably far,” and this “humbler work often delivers more water for less money” than a new dam. So saving existing water costs less than sourcing new water.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: New dams are called costlier, not physically impossible.
- Option B: The passage assumes water can be priced, not that citizens never pay.
- Option C: Over-pumping groundwater is described as a lasting harm, not costless.



**Final Answer:** Saving water a city already has is cheaper than finding new sources

⇒  D

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

Q3.

### Solution

**Concept — Tone / attitude:** Judge whether the author leans toward despair, detachment, or hope.

**Passage support:** The author grants the alarming “pattern” yet insists “that fatalism is misplaced” and that “the water is there to be saved.” Acknowledging the danger while trusting a solution is concern mixed with hope.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: “Fatalistic” is the outlook the author explicitly rejects.
- Option B: The engaged, solution-seeking tone is not indifferent.
- Option D: “Triumphant” overstates a still-unsolved problem.

**Final Answer:** Concerned yet ultimately hopeful ⇒  C

**Answer: (C)** [Go Back to Q3](#)

Q4.

### Solution

**Concept — Vocabulary in context:** Substitute each meaning into the sentence and keep the one that fits.

**Passage support:** Water should be priced “so that profligate use costs more than frugal use.” Set directly against “frugal” (sparing), “profligate” must mean its opposite, wasteful and extravagant.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option B: “Sparing” is what “frugal,” the contrast word, means.
- Option C: “Forbidden” does not fit a scale of pricing use.
- Option D: “Pure and clean” describes the water, not the manner of use.

**Final Answer:** Wastefully extravagant ⇒  A

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



Q5.

**Solution**

**Concept — Detail:** Locate the stated reason so much treated water is lost.

**Passage support:** “Much of what is pumped never reaches a tap at all, leaking away through decrepit mains that no one has the money to repair; in some cities nearly half the treated water is lost this way.” So aging, unrepaired pipes are the cause.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: No hoarding in private tanks is mentioned.
- Option C: Climate affects reservoirs, not the loss of already-treated water.
- Option D: Boreholes pump groundwater up; they do not consume treated water.

**Final Answer:** It leaks away through decrepit, unrepaired mains ⇒

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

Q6.

**Solution**

**Concept — Best title:** A good title names the passage’s whole thesis, not a single image.

**Passage support:** The closing claim is that scarcity “is the sum of choices, and choices can be made differently,” and that “the water is there to be saved.” A title about running dry by choice, and still being able to save the water, captures exactly this.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option B: “Inevitable end” contradicts the hopeful, solvable thesis.
- Option C: Dams are the very approach the author downplays.
- Option D: Vanishing rivers is one cause, not the passage’s main point.

**Final Answer:** “Running Dry by Choice: Why Cities Can Still Save Their Water” ⇒

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



Q7.

**Solution**

**Concept — Main idea:** Choose the option that spans the whole arc of the passage.

**Passage support:** The essay opens on the press as vital to self-government, lists strains from “several directions at once” (state coercion, concentrated ownership, collapsing economics), and closes that a free press “is a standing achievement, maintained only by people willing to defend it.” Option D captures that full arc.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: The passage stresses danger, not universal safety.
- Option B: Exposing corruption is one example, not the whole claim.
- Option C: Advertising is a detail within the wider argument.

**Final Answer:** A vital but threatened press that must be actively defended ⇒

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

Q8.

**Solution**

**Concept — Inference:** Unpack how ownership harms coverage even with no order given.

**Passage support:** When a few owners control most outlets, “the range of questions that get asked quietly narrows, not because anyone issues an order but because certain stories are simply never commissioned in the first place.” So coverage shrinks silently through what is never assigned.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option B: Owners writing every article is not stated and misreads the point.
- Option C: The passage stresses the absence of any explicit order.
- Option D: Reader boycotts are never mentioned.

**Final Answer:** Certain stories go uncommissioned, so coverage quietly narrows ⇒

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



Q9.

**Solution**

**Concept — Argument / detail:** Read the clause that explains why investigation is cut first.

**Passage support:** Investigation is “the kind that takes months and may yield nothing,” and so “is the first casualty when budgets are cut.” Its slow, costly, uncertain nature is precisely why it is dropped.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: Reader dislike is not the stated reason.
- Option B: The passage never calls investigation illegal.
- Option D: An outright ban is a different threat, not the budget point here.

**Final Answer:** It is slow, expensive, and may yield nothing ⇒ **C**

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

Q10.

**Solution**

**Concept — Tone:** Weigh the author’s worry against the constructive close.

**Passage support:** The essay catalogues real threats yet ends with practical repairs, readers “paying for” news and laws that “protect a reporter’s sources.” Clear-eyed about danger but proposing remedies is concerned, sober realism.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: Nothing here is “gleefully optimistic.”
- Option C: The urgent argument is far from indifferent.
- Option D: Offering repairs rules out “bitterly hopeless.”

**Final Answer:** Concerned and soberly realistic ⇒ **B**

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



Q11.

**Solution**

**Concept — Vocabulary in context:** Fit the meaning to “subtler pressures can be just as corrosive.”

**Passage support:** These pressures are set beside the “bluntest threat” of jailing reporters as another way the press is worn down. “Corrosive” therefore means slowly damaging or eating away.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: “Strengthening” is the opposite of a threat.
- Option B: “Shining” plays on an unrelated sense.
- Option C: “Lawful” does not describe the harm being done.

**Final Answer:** Gradually damaging or eating away ⇒  D

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

Q12.

**Solution**

**Concept — Purpose:** Ask what the passage as a whole is trying to do.

**Passage support:** It argues the press is essential yet “fragile,” warns against merely praising “fearless heroes,” and urges that “the deeper repairs are institutional.” The purpose is to argue for defending a valuable but fragile press through institutions.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: The author warns against romanticising heroes, not celebrating them.
- Option B: Advertising history is one supporting point, not the aim.
- Option D: The essay proposes defences, not that the press always loses.

**Final Answer:** To argue the press is valuable yet fragile and needs institutional defence ⇒  C

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



Q13.

**Solution**

**Concept — Main idea:** Find the claim the passage keeps returning to.

**Passage support:** Delay is “less a failure of scheduling than a failure of feeling, a small victory of the present self over the future self,” and the remedies “work by tilting that contest.” So procrastination is a present-versus-future conflict driven by feeling, which also shows how to ease it.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option B: Mere laziness is the shallow view the passage sets out to correct.
- Option C: Economics supplies “hyperbolic discounting,” so it does teach us something.
- Option D: The final paragraph offers workable remedies.

**Final Answer:** A feeling-driven present-versus-future conflict that can be eased ⇒

A

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

Q14.

**Solution**

**Concept — Vocabulary in context:** Read “its costs are paid now, in tedium and effort.”

**Passage support:** The word describes the cost of a task that is “dull or difficult,” paired with “effort.” Dullness that wearies the mind is exactly what “tedium” names.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: “Physical pain” is not implied by a dull task.
- Option B: “Excitement” is the opposite of tedium.
- Option D: “Fear” belongs to anxiety, discussed later, not to tedium.

**Final Answer:** Weariness caused by dullness ⇒  C

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



Q15.

**Solution**

**Concept — Argument / detail:** Locate the stated emotional cause of delay.

**Passage support:** “We often delay a task not because we are lazy but because it makes us anxious, and putting it off brings instant relief.” So anxiety, soothed by the relief of postponing, is the driver.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: Lack of information is never given as the cause.
- Option B: The task being “forbidden” is not mentioned.
- Option C: No outside insistence to wait is described.

**Final Answer:** The task makes us anxious, and delaying brings instant relief ⇒

**D**

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

Q16.

**Solution**

**Concept — Inference:** Apply the named bias to the choice it explains.

**Passage support:** Under hyperbolic discounting, “a reward available now feels vivid and urgent, while the same reward promised for next month feels faint,” so the mind “quietly chooses to wait.” That is precisely why a present reward outweighs a later one.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: The bias explains delay, not early completion.
- Option C: The passage is about valuing time, not the pace of inflation.
- Option D: It never claims hard tasks are more enjoyable.

**Final Answer:** A present reward feels more compelling than a later one, so we wait ⇒ **B**

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



Q17.

**Solution**

**Concept — Tone / attitude:** Gauge how warmly or harshly the author treats procrastinators.

**Passage support:** The author calls delay “not so much irrational as short-sighted,” urges people “to forgive oneself,” and speaks kindly of “the odd, impatient creature one is trying to govern.” That gentle, explaining stance is understanding and sympathetic.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option B: The counsel to forgive rules out “harshly condemning.”
- Option C: The engaged, helpful tone is not indifferent.
- Option D: There is no mockery in the sympathetic close.

**Final Answer:** Understanding and sympathetic ⇒

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

Q18.

**Solution**

**Concept — Best title:** Pick the title that names the passage’s core explanation.

**Passage support:** The organising idea is the “quarrel” between “the present self” and “the future self,” offered to explain “why we delay.” A title built on those two selves and why we delay fits the whole essay.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: “Weak wills” is the lazy view the passage rejects.
- Option B: Advertising is not the subject at all.
- Option C: The author favours gentleness, not the claim that discipline always fails.

**Final Answer:** “The Present Self and the Future Self: Understanding Why We Delay” ⇒

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



Q19.

**Solution**

**Concept — Main idea:** Select the option that unites the passage's central claim.

**Passage support:** The handmade object offers “not only sentiment but a kind of information,” craft traditions are “reservoirs of skill” and “collective memory,” and to choose the handmade is to keep such value alive. Option B states exactly that human, cultural, and skill-based worth.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: The essay calls nostalgia “too thin an account.”
- Option C: It explicitly rejects freezing craft “in amber.”
- Option D: The threat is called “indifference,” not machinery as such.

**Final Answer:** Craft carries human, cultural, and skill value worth supporting ⇒

**B**

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

Q20.

**Solution**

**Concept — Vocabulary in context:** Read “Craft traditions are reservoirs of skill.”

**Passage support:** The skill is “passed down by apprenticeship” and “accumulated over generations,” a stored-up wealth of ability. A reservoir here is a rich store or reserve of that skill.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option B: “Narrow channels” misses the sense of a large store.
- Option C: “Empty containers” contradicts an accumulated body of skill.
- Option D: “Fast-flowing streams” stresses motion, not stored reserves.

**Final Answer:** Rich stores or reserves ⇒ **A**

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



Q21.

**Solution**

**Concept — Inference:** Unpack the contrast between the uniform cup and the crooked one.

**Passage support:** A handmade rug “carries the small irregularities of the person who made it,” so to buy it “is to buy a trace of another human being.” The crooked cup’s imperfections thus record its maker’s presence and individuality.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: The point is human trace, not that crooked cups are better made.
- Option B: No deliberate concealment by factories is claimed.
- Option D: “Tells a story” is figurative, not a call to print words on cups.

**Final Answer:** Imperfections record the maker’s presence and individuality ⇒  C

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

Q22.

**Solution**

**Concept — Argument / detail:** Read the stated economic loss when potters vanish.

**Passage support:** A village that loses its last potters “loses not just a livelihood but a body of knowledge accumulated over generations,” and “once a chain of transmission is broken it is extraordinarily hard to rebuild.” So the chief loss is an irreplaceable, hard-to-rebuild store of skill.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: Overpayment of potters is never suggested.
- Option B: Crowded museums are not the concern; museums cannot restore the skill.
- Option C: Cheaper machine goods are not named as the loss here.

**Final Answer:** An irreplaceable body of apprenticed skill is broken ⇒  D

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



Q23.

**Solution**

**Concept — Tone / attitude:** Weigh the author’s admiration against a note of realism.

**Passage support:** The author clearly values the “human touch” and “collective memory” yet concedes not “every handmade thing deserves to survive” and that craft must “adapt.” Warm regard tempered by honesty is appreciative yet clear-eyed.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: The affectionate defence is not dismissive.
- Option C: The strong advocacy is more than strictly neutral.
- Option D: The hopeful case for adaptation rules out “hopeless.”

**Final Answer:** Warmly appreciative yet clear-eyed ⇒  B

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

Q24.

**Solution**

**Concept — Purpose:** Ask what the passage as a whole sets out to do.

**Passage support:** It answers why handmade craft “survives at all,” finds human and economic value the machine “strips away,” and urges us to “cast a small vote” for the handmade. The purpose is to argue that craft holds real value worth actively supporting.

**Why other options are wrong:**

- Option A: The author defends, rather than disparages, buying handmade goods.
- Option B: Technique history is not the essay’s aim.
- Option D: It insists enduring traditions “adapt,” the opposite of never changing.

**Final Answer:** To argue handmade craft holds value worth actively supporting ⇒

C

**Answer: (C)** [Go Back to Q24](#)



## Answer Key

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

