

GRE 2025 Verbal Practice Test Set 1

Time Allowed : About 3 hrs 45 mins	Maximum Score : 340 (Verbal+Quant) + 6 (AWA)	Sections : 3 Main + 1 Unscored
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General Instructions

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:

1. The GRE General Test has a duration of about 3 hours 45 minutes, divided into six sections (including one unscored/experimental section).
2. The test consists of the following sections:
 - **Analytical Writing Assessment (AWA)** – 2 tasks, 30 minutes each.
 - **Verbal Reasoning** – 2 sections, 20 questions each, 30 minutes per section.
 - **Quantitative Reasoning** – 2 sections, 20 questions each, 35 minutes per section.
 - **Unscored/Research Section** – May appear anytime (not counted in score).
3. Scoring Pattern:
 - Verbal Reasoning: 130–170 (in 1-point increments).
 - Quantitative Reasoning: 130–170 (in 1-point increments).
 - Analytical Writing: 0–6 (in half-point increments).
4. No negative marking is applied in the GRE. Test-takers are advised to attempt all questions.
5. Only an on-screen calculator is allowed for Quantitative Reasoning. No physical calculators, mobile devices, or electronic gadgets are permitted.
6. Breaks: A 10-minute break is provided after the third section; one-minute breaks between other sections.

Verbal Practice

Directions: Questions 1 and 2 are based on the passage provided below.

Called by some the “island that time forgot,” Madagascar is home to a vast array of unique, exotic creatures. One such animal is the aye-aye. First described by western science in 1782, it was initially categorized as a member of the order Rodentia. Further research then revealed that it was more closely related to the lemur, a member of the primate order. Since the aye-aye is so different from its fellow primates, however, it was given its own family: Daubentoniidae. The aye-aye has been listed as an endangered species and, as a result, the government of Madagascar has designated an island off the northeastern coast of Madagascar as a protected reserve

for aye-ayes and other wildlife.

Long before Western science became enthralled with this nocturnal denizen of Madagascar's jungles, the aye-aye had its own reputation with the local people. The aye aye is perhaps best known for its large, round eyes and long, extremely thin middle finger. These adaptations are quite sensible, allowing the aye-aye to see well at night and retrieve grubs, which are one of its primary food sources, from deep within hollow branches. However, the aye-aye's striking appearance may end up causing its extinction. The people of Madagascar believe that the aye-aye is a type of spirit animal, and that its appearance is an omen of death. Whenever one is sighted, it is immediately killed. When combined with the loss of large swaths of jungle habitat, this practice may result in the loss of a superb .

Q1. Based on the information given in the passage, the intended audience would most likely be

- (A) visitors to a natural science museum
- (B) professors of evolutionary science
- (C) a third-grade science class
- (D) students of comparative religions
- (E) attendees at a world cultural symposium

Q2. Consider each of the choices separately and select all that apply. Which of the following statements can be logically inferred from the passage?

- (A) Taxonomic classifications are not always absolute.
- (B) The traditional religion of Madagascar involves augury.
- (C) There are no longer enough resources on the main island to support the aye-aye population.

Directions: Questions 3 to 5 are based on the passage provided below. Select only one answer choice.

“Reviving the practice of using elements of popular music in classical composition, an approach that had been in hibernation in the United States during the 1960s, composer Philip Glass (born 1937) embraced the ethos of popular music in his compositions. Glass based two symphonies on music by rock musicians David Bowie and Brian Eno, but the symphonies' sound is distinctively his. Popular elements do not appear out of place in Glass's classical music, which from its early days has shared certain harmonies and rhythms with rock music. Yet this use of popular elements has not made Glass a composer of popular music. His music is not a version of popular music packaged to attract classical listeners; it is high art for listeners steeped in rock rather than the classics.

Q3. The passage addresses which of the following issues related to Glass's use of popular elements in his classical compositions?

- (A) How it is regarded by listeners who prefer rock to the classics
 - (B) How it has affected the commercial success of Glass's music
 - (C) Whether it has contributed to a revival of interest among other composers in using popular elements in their compositions
 - (D) Whether it has had a detrimental effect on Glass's reputation as a composer of classical music
 - (E) Whether it has caused certain of Glass's works to be derivative in quality
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Q4. Consider each of the three choices separately and select all that apply from the passage above. Which of the following statements can be logically inferred from the passage?

- (A) The passage suggests that Glass's work displays which of the following qualities?
 - (B) A return to the use of popular music in classical compositions
 - (C) An attempt to elevate rock music to an artistic status more closely approximating that of classical music
 - (D) A long-standing tendency to incorporate elements from two apparently disparate musical styles
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Q5. From the passage above, select the sentence that distinguishes two ways of integrating rock and classical music from the passage provided above.

Q6. Complete the paragraph from the given words.

It is refreshing to read a book about our planet by an author who does not allow facts to be (i) _____ by politics: well aware of the political disputes about the effects of human activities on climate and biodiversity, this author does not permit them to (ii) _____ his comprehensive description of what we know about our biosphere. He emphasizes the enormous gaps in our knowledge, the sparseness of our observations, and the (iii) _____, calling attention to the many aspects of planetary evolution that must be better understood before we can accurately diagnose the condition of our planet.

Fill in the blanks from the following:

- (A) overshadowed
- (B) invalidated
- (C) illuminated

- (D) enhance
- (E) obscure
- (F) underscore

- (G) plausibility of our hypotheses
- (H) certainty of our entitlement
- (I) superficiality of our theories

Directions: Questions 7 to 9 are based on the passage provided below.

Should we really care for the greatest actors of the past could we have them before us? Should we find them too different from our accent of thought, of feeling, of speech, in a thousand minute particulars which are of the essence of all three? Dr. Doran's long and interesting records of the triumphs of Garrick, and other less familiar, but in their day hardly less astonishing, players, do not relieve one of the doubt. Garrick himself, as sometimes happens with people who have been the subject of much anecdote and other conversation, here as elsewhere, bears no very distinct figure. One hardly sees the wood for the trees. On the other hand, the account of Betterton, "perhaps the greatest of English actors," is delightfully fresh. That intimate friend of Dryden, Tillatson, Pope, who executed a copy of the actor's portrait by Kneller which is still extant, was worthy of their friendship; his career brings out the best elements in stage life. The stage in these volumes presents itself indeed not merely as a mirror of life, but as an illustration of the utmost intensity of life, in the fortunes and characters of the players. Ups and downs, generosity, dark fates, the most delicate goodness, have nowhere been more prominent than in the private existence of those devoted to the public mimicry of men and women. Contact with the stage, almost throughout its history, presents itself as a kind of touchstone, to bring out the bizarrerie, the theatrical tricks and contrasts, of the actual world.

7. In the expression 'One hardly sees the wood for the trees', the author apparently intends the word 'trees' to be analogous to:

- (A) Features of Doran's language style
- (B) Details learned from oral sources
- (C) Personality of a famous actor
- (D) Details of Garrick's life
- (E) Stage triumphs of an astonishing player

8. The doubt referred to concerns whether:

- (A) the stage personalities of the past would appeal on a personal level to people like the author
- (B) their contemporaries would have understood famous actors
- (C) the acting of famous stage personalities would appeal to us today

- (D) Garrick was as great as he is portrayed
 - (E) historical records can reveal personality
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9. Information supplied in the passage is sufficient to answer which of the following questions? (Select ALL answer choices that apply):

- (A) the stage personalities of the past would appeal on a personal level to people like the author
 - (B) their contemporaries would have understood famous actors
 - (C) the acting of famous stage personalities would appeal to us today
 - (D) Garrick was as great as he is portrayed
 - (E) historical records can reveal personality
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Answer this question based on the information in the paragraph below.

10. It has been suggested that long-term prisoners, on release from jail, be given a reasonable state pension to reduce the likelihood of their resorting to crime. Most people instinctively reject the suggestion as they feel it would be like rewarding criminal activity. The supporters of the prisoners' pension scheme have criticized those who reject this possibility, by claiming that for the critics...

Which of the following is the most logical completion of the sentence above?

- (A) emotion is more important than justice
 - (B) punishment for criminals is more important than crime prevention
 - (C) crime prevention is not an important issue
 - (D) money has too high a value
 - (E) the law should not be concerned with what happens after jail
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Directions: For questions 11 and 12, complete the sentences with the appropriate word(s)

11 Melvin's little sister was so_____ that she would believe anything he told her, and his burgeoning sense of maturity rendered him increasingly loath to gull her.

- (A) dogged
- (B) tenable
- (C) fractious
- (D) frivolous
- (E) credulous

12 Jean Valjean, the protagonist in Victor Hugo's novel Les Misérables, spends the bulk of his lengthy____plotting a very clever set of revenge schemes, which he executes upon his escape.

- (A) ruination
 - (B) peregrination
 - (C) immolation
 - (D) rumination
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