

MAT Language Comprehension Sample Paper-14

Duration: 24 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 30

Instructions

- This paper contains **30** Multiple Choice Questions from the **Language Comprehension** section of MAT.
- Each correct answer carries **+1 mark**. Incorrect answer: **-0.25** marks. Only **one** correct option.
- No negative marking for unattempted questions.
- Use of mobile phones, smartwatches, calculators, or any electronic gadgets is strictly prohibited.

Passage I

Read the passage below carefully. Question 1 to 4 are based on this passage. Choose the best answer for each question.

A growing body of research suggests that modern organizations often confuse efficiency with productivity. Efficiency concerns doing tasks quickly with minimal waste, whereas productivity concerns achieving meaningful outcomes. In many firms, employees are rewarded for responding instantly to emails, attending numerous meetings, and maintaining visible activity. However, such practices may create an illusion of effectiveness while reducing the time available for deep thinking and creative problem-solving. Psychologists argue that uninterrupted concentration enables individuals to produce higher-quality work, yet the contemporary workplace frequently fragments attention through constant notifications and



multitasking. Ironically, technologies designed to save time often end up consuming it by encouraging perpetual connectivity.

Furthermore, studies indicate that excessive multitasking weakens memory retention and increases cognitive fatigue. Employees switching repeatedly between tasks experience “attention residue,” where part of the mind remains occupied with the previous activity. As a result, decision-making quality deteriorates. Despite this evidence, organizations continue to valorize busyness because visible activity is easier to measure than intellectual contribution. Experts therefore recommend restructuring workplaces around focused work periods, limited meetings, and outcome-based evaluation rather than activity-based metrics.

- Q1.** The central idea of the passage is that
- (A) technology has completely destroyed workplace culture
 - (B) efficiency and productivity are fundamentally identical
 - (C) visible activity is often mistaken for meaningful productivity
 - (D) multitasking is essential for organizational success
- Q2.** The phrase “attention residue” refers to
- (A) inability to remember past tasks
 - (B) mental distraction carried from one task to another
 - (C) permanent cognitive damage caused by technology
 - (D) excessive emotional attachment to work
- Q3.** According to the passage, organizations value busyness because
- (A) employees demand it



- (B) productivity cannot be improved otherwise
- (C) visible activity is easier to quantify than intellectual contribution
- (D) meetings increase employee creativity

Q4. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?

- (A) Deep work environments may improve decision quality.
- (B) Technology should be banned in offices.
- (C) Multitasking improves long-term memory.
- (D) Employees dislike uninterrupted concentration.

Passage II

Read the passage below carefully. Question 5 to 8 are based on this passage. Choose the best answer for each question.

Historians once viewed empires primarily as political and military entities, but contemporary scholarship increasingly emphasizes their cultural dimensions. Empires did not merely conquer territories; they also reshaped identities, languages, cuisines, and systems of knowledge. Colonized societies were rarely passive recipients of imperial influence. Instead, they selectively adapted foreign practices while preserving local traditions. Consequently, imperial encounters often generated hybrid cultures rather than complete cultural domination.

This reinterpretation has complicated earlier narratives that portrayed history as a simple conflict between oppressors and victims. While exploitation and violence undeniably accompanied imperial expansion, cultural exchange also produced scientific innovations, architectural developments, and linguistic transformations. Critics caution, however, that celebrating such exchanges must not obscure the coercive foundations of empire. The challenge for historians lies in acknowledging both the brutality and the creativity that emerged from imperial interactions.



- Q5.** Contemporary historians differ from earlier historians mainly because they
- (A) deny the existence of empires
 - (B) focus more on cultural consequences of empire
 - (C) emphasize only military victories
 - (D) reject all political interpretations
- Q6.** The passage suggests that colonized societies
- (A) entirely abandoned local traditions
 - (B) remained unaffected by imperial rule
 - (C) passively imitated imperial cultures
 - (D) adapted foreign influences selectively
- Q7.** The author believes that historians should
- (A) glorify imperial achievements
 - (B) focus exclusively on oppression
 - (C) recognize both exploitation and cultural creativity
 - (D) avoid discussing imperialism altogether
- Q8.** Which word best describes the tone of the passage?
- (A) Fanatical
 - (B) Balanced
 - (C) Satirical
 - (D) Indifferent

Passage III

Read the passage below carefully. Question 9 to 12 are based on this passage. Choose the best answer for each question.



Artificial intelligence has transformed from a speculative concept into an integral component of economic and social systems. Algorithms now influence recruitment decisions, financial markets, healthcare diagnostics, and even criminal justice procedures. Advocates argue that such systems improve efficiency and reduce human error. Yet critics warn that algorithms may perpetuate existing biases because they are trained on historical data shaped by unequal social structures.

Another concern involves accountability. When an automated system makes a flawed decision, responsibility becomes difficult to assign. Companies often attribute errors to technical limitations, while developers claim that algorithms merely reflect patterns within data. This diffusion of responsibility raises ethical and legal questions regarding transparency. Some policymakers therefore advocate “explainable AI,” requiring systems to provide understandable reasons for their outputs. Others caution that excessive regulation could hinder innovation and international competitiveness.

- Q9.** The passage primarily discusses
- (A) the history of robotics
 - (B) ethical and practical concerns regarding AI
 - (C) the economic failure of AI systems
 - (D) why AI should replace humans completely
- Q10.** Critics argue that algorithms may reinforce bias because
- (A) machines intentionally discriminate
 - (B) algorithms dislike social equality
 - (C) historical data may contain inequalities
 - (D) AI systems reject human supervision
- Q11.** The phrase “diffusion of responsibility” implies
- (A) clear assignment of blame



- (B) shared and unclear accountability
- (C) government control over AI
- (D) removal of ethical concerns

Q12. Which of the following would the author most likely support?

- (A) Blind dependence on AI systems
- (B) Total prohibition of AI development
- (C) Greater transparency in algorithmic decisions
- (D) Elimination of human oversight

Verbal Ability & Vocabulary

Q13. Choose the synonym of “Obdurate”.

- (A) Flexible
- (B) Stubborn
- (C) Generous
- (D) Optimistic

Q14. Choose the antonym of “Ephemeral”.

- (A) Temporary
- (B) Fleeting
- (C) Permanent
- (D) Fragile

Q15. The idiom “To throw in the towel” means

- (A) to surrender
- (B) to celebrate victory
- (C) to conceal evidence



(D) to criticize publicly

Q16. Choose the correct one-word substitution: “A person who doubts accepted beliefs.”

(A) Philanthropist

(B) Skeptic

(C) Tyrant

(D) Stoic

Q17. Choose the synonym of “Loquacious”.

(A) Silent

(B) Talkative

(C) Hostile

(D) Intelligent

Q18. Choose the antonym of “Magnanimous”.

(A) Noble

(B) Cruel

(C) Generous

(D) Compassionate

Q19. “A statement that appears contradictory but contains truth” is called

(A) Hyperbole

(B) Paradox

(C) Euphemism

(D) Allegory

Q20. Identify the grammatically correct sentence.

(A) Neither the manager nor the employees was aware of the policy.



- (B) Neither the manager nor the employees were aware of the policy.
- (C) Neither the manager or the employees were aware of the policy.
- (D) Neither the manager nor the employees are aware of the policy.

Q21. Choose the part containing the error: “Hardly had he reached the station than the train departed.”

- (A) Hardly had he
- (B) reached the station
- (C) than the train departed
- (D) No error

Q22. Select the correct sentence.

- (A) Each of the students have submitted their assignment.
- (B) Each of the students has submitted his or her assignment.
- (C) Each of the students were submitting their assignment.
- (D) Each of the students are submitting his assignment.

Q23. Choose the correct passive form: “People believe that the scientist discovered the cure.”

- (A) It is believed that the scientist discovered the cure.
- (B) The scientist is believed to discovered the cure.
- (C) The cure believed to be discovered by the scientist.
- (D) People are believed the scientist discovered the cure.

Q24. The committee’s decision was so _____ that even senior members struggled to interpret it.

- (A) lucid
- (B) ambiguous
- (C) coherent



(D) explicit

Q25. Despite severe criticism, the writer remained remarkably _____ and continued defending his ideas calmly.

(A) belligerent

(B) composed

(C) erratic

(D) vulnerable

Q26. Scientific advancement often depends on questioning long-held _____.

(A) conventions

(B) hostilities

(C) redundancies

(D) distractions

Q27. The negotiations collapsed because neither side was willing to _____ from its original demands.

(A) diverge

(B) persist

(C) retreat

(D) intensify

Q28. Rearrange the following sentences logically:

P. Consequently, many species lost their habitats.

Q. Industrial expansion accelerated rapidly during the twentieth century.

R. Environmental regulations were initially weak.

S. Forests were cleared on an unprecedented scale.

(A) QPRS

(B) QRSP

(C) RQSP



(D) QRPS

Q29. Rearrange the following sentences logically:

P. As a result, productivity declined sharply.

Q. Employees were forced to work excessively long hours.

R. The organization ignored repeated warnings from experts.

S. Stress and burnout became increasingly common.

(A) RQSP

(B) QRSP

(C) QPRS

(D) RSPQ

Q30. Rapid urbanization has increased pressure on public infrastructure. Traffic congestion, pollution, and inadequate housing have become major concerns in metropolitan areas. Experts argue that sustainable planning and investment in public transport are necessary for improving urban living conditions.

Which of the following best summarizes the passage?

(A) Urbanization has made cities completely unlivable.

(B) Public transport alone can solve all urban problems.

(C) Rapid urban growth requires sustainable infrastructure planning.

(D) Pollution is the only challenge faced by cities.



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

Concept: This question asks to identify the central idea of the passage. The central idea is the main point or message that the author wants to convey. To find it, we need to understand the overall argument being made.

Solution: Step 1: Read the passage and identify the main idea. The passage explains the difference between efficiency and productivity and how organizations often confuse the two.

Step 2: Analyze the key points.

Efficiency means doing tasks quickly with minimal waste, while productivity means achieving meaningful outcomes.

Organizations often reward "visible activity" such as quick email replies and frequent meetings, creating only an "illusion of effectiveness."

This reduces time for deep thinking and creative problem-solving. Excessive multitasking causes fatigue and weakens decision-making.

The passage suggests focusing on outcome-based evaluation instead of activity-based metrics.

Step 3: Evaluate the options.

(A) technology has completely destroyed workplace culture: Overstatement; the passage does not say this.

(B) efficiency and productivity are fundamentally identical: Incorrect; the passage clearly distinguishes them.

(C) visible activity is often mistaken for meaningful productivity: Correct; this is the central argument of the passage.

(D) multitasking is essential for organizational success: Incorrect; the passage criticizes multitasking.

Step 4: Therefore, option (C) best represents the central idea of the passage.

Final Answer:

Answer: (C)

[Go Back to Question 1](#)



Q2.

Solution

Concept: This question asks to identify the central idea of the passage. The passage contrasts the modern workplace's focus on efficiency (doing things quickly) with productivity (achieving meaningful outcomes). It highlights how practices that create an "illusion of effectiveness" through constant activity and multitasking can actually hinder deep thinking, problem-solving, and produce lower-quality work. The passage concludes by suggesting a shift towards outcome-based evaluation over activity-based metrics.

Solution: Step 1: Analyze the main points of the passage. The passage introduces the confusion between efficiency and productivity, provides examples of practices that promote efficiency over productivity (responding to emails instantly, attending many meetings, visible activity), explains the negative consequences of this focus (reduced deep thinking, fragmented attention, attention residue, cognitive fatigue), and offers a solution (restructuring workplaces around focused work and outcome-based evaluation).

Step 2: Evaluate each option against the main points.

(A) technology has completely destroyed workplace culture: The passage mentions technology can consume time, but it doesn't claim it has "completely destroyed" culture. This is too extreme.

(B) efficiency and productivity are fundamentally identical: The passage explicitly states they are often confused but are distinct concepts, with efficiency being about speed/waste and productivity about outcomes. This option directly contradicts the passage.

(C) visible activity is often mistaken for meaningful productivity: This aligns perfectly with the passage's core argument. The passage describes how organizations reward "visible activity" and "busyness," creating an "illusion of effectiveness" while neglecting "meaningful outcomes" or "intellectual contribution."

(D) multitasking is essential for organizational success: The passage criticizes multitasking, stating it weakens memory and increases cognitive fatigue, leading to "attention residue." This is the opposite of what the passage suggests.

Step 3: Conclude that option (C) best summarizes the central idea presented in the passage.

Final Answer: visible activity is often mistaken for meaningful productivity

Answer: (C)

[Go Back to Question 2](#)



Q3.

Solution

Concept: The question asks for the meaning of the phrase "attention residue" as used in the passage. The passage defines this term in the context of multitasking.

Solution: Step 1: Locate the phrase "attention residue" in the passage. The passage states: "Employees switching repeatedly between tasks experience 'attention residue,' where part of the mind remains occupied with the previous activity."

Step 2: Analyze the definition provided. The key elements are "switching repeatedly between tasks" and "part of the mind remains occupied with the previous activity." This implies a lingering mental focus on what was just done, even when trying to do something else.

Step 3: Evaluate the given options based on this understanding.

(A) inability to remember past tasks: This is incorrect. Attention residue is about the *lingering presence* of a past task's thoughts, not an inability to remember it.

(B) mental distraction carried from one task to another: This accurately captures the essence of the definition. The mind is "occupied with the previous activity" while trying to engage in the new one, causing a distraction.

(C) permanent cognitive damage caused by technology: The passage discusses negative effects but doesn't use the term "permanent cognitive damage." Attention residue is presented as a consequence of multitasking, not necessarily permanent damage.

(D) excessive emotional attachment to work: While emotional attachment might affect focus, "attention residue" is specifically described as a cognitive phenomenon related to task switching, not emotional attachment.

Step 4: Conclude that option (B) is the best fit for the meaning of "attention residue" as described in the passage.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

[Go Back to Question 3](#)



Q4.

Solution

Concept: This question asks for the reason why organizations value "busyness" according to the passage. The passage discusses the modern workplace's tendency to confuse efficiency with productivity and how this leads to certain practices.

Solution: Step 1: Scan the passage for mentions of "busyness" or related concepts like "visible activity." The passage states: "Despite this evidence, organizations continue to valorize busyness because visible activity is easier to measure than intellectual contribution."

Step 2: Directly extract the reason provided in the passage. The reason given is the measurability of visible activity compared to intellectual contribution.

Step 3: Compare this reason with the given options.

(A) employees demand it: The passage does not mention employee demand as the reason organizations value busyness.

(B) productivity cannot be improved otherwise: The passage suggests productivity *can* be improved by focusing on outcomes and deep work, implying this option is incorrect.

(C) visible activity is easier to quantify than intellectual contribution: This directly matches the statement found in the passage. Organizations value busyness because they can easily see and measure activity, whereas it's harder to quantify intellectual contributions.

(D) meetings increase employee creativity: The passage implies that constant meetings can be a distraction and an example of "visible activity" that might hinder deep thinking, not that they increase creativity.

Step 4: Conclude that option (C) is the correct answer as it directly reflects the explanation given in the passage for why organizations value busyness.

Final Answer: visible activity is easier to quantify than intellectual contribution

Answer: (C)

[Go Back to Question 4](#)



Q5.

Solution

Concept: This question asks what can be inferred from the passage. Inference involves drawing conclusions based on the information provided, even if not explicitly stated. The passage discusses the negative impacts of constant notifications, multitasking, and a focus on efficiency over productivity.

Solution: Step 1: Re-examine the passage for clues about the benefits of focused work or the drawbacks of the current work environment. The passage states: "Psychologists argue that uninterrupted concentration enables individuals to produce higher-quality work..." and "Such practices may create an illusion of effectiveness while reducing the time available for deep thinking and creative problem-solving." It also mentions that multitasking "weakens memory retention and increases cognitive fatigue," leading to "decision-making quality deteriorates."

Step 2: Analyze each option for inferential validity.

(A) Deep work environments may improve decision quality: The passage links reduced time for deep thinking and problem-solving to current practices, and states that multitasking deteriorates decision quality. It also suggests that uninterrupted concentration leads to higher-quality work. Therefore, it's reasonable to infer that environments supporting "deep work" (uninterrupted concentration, focused periods) would likely improve decision quality by counteracting the negative effects of fragmentation and multitasking.

(B) Technology should be banned in offices: The passage critiques how technology is used (perpetual connectivity) but doesn't call for a ban. It suggests rethinking *how* it's used.

(C) Multitasking improves long-term memory: The passage explicitly states that excessive multitasking "weakens memory retention." This option is directly contradicted.

(D) Employees dislike uninterrupted concentration: The passage states psychologists argue that "uninterrupted concentration enables individuals to produce higher-quality work," implying it is beneficial, not disliked. It's the workplace *practices* that fragment attention, not necessarily that employees inherently dislike concentration.

Step 3: Conclude that option (A) is the most logical inference based on the passage's discussion of deep thinking, concentration, multitasking, and decision quality.

Final Answer: Deep work environments may improve decision quality.

Answer: (A)

[Go Back to Question 5](#)



Q6.

Solution

Concept: This question asks how contemporary historians differ from earlier historians regarding their view of empires. The passage outlines a shift in historical scholarship.

Solution: Step 1: Identify the sentence that directly addresses the difference in historical perspectives. The first sentence states: "Historians once viewed empires primarily as political and military entities, but contemporary scholarship increasingly emphasizes their cultural dimensions."

Step 2: Analyze this statement to understand the core difference. Earlier historians focused on political/military aspects, while contemporary historians focus more on cultural aspects.

Step 3: Evaluate the given options against this identified difference.

(A) deny the existence of empires: The passage discusses how empires are *viewed*, not whether they existed. This option is not supported.

(B) focus more on cultural consequences of empire: This directly aligns with the statement that contemporary scholarship "increasingly emphasizes their cultural dimensions."

(C) emphasize only military victories: This describes the earlier view (political and military entities), not the difference in contemporary views. Contemporary views also include cultural aspects, not only military.

(D) reject all political interpretations: The passage states earlier views were "primarily political and military," implying these were important. Contemporary views add cultural dimensions, not necessarily reject political ones entirely. The emphasis has shifted, but political aspects likely remain relevant.

Step 4: Conclude that option (B) accurately describes the main difference in focus between contemporary and earlier historians as presented in the passage.

Final Answer: focus more on cultural consequences of empire

Answer: (B)

[Go Back to Question 6](#)



Q7.

Solution

Concept: This question asks about the behavior of colonized societies as described in the passage. The passage discusses how these societies interacted with imperial influence.

Solution: Step 1: Locate the part of the passage that discusses colonized societies. The passage states: "Colonized societies were rarely passive recipients of imperial influence. Instead, they selectively adapted foreign practices while preserving local traditions. Consequently, imperial encounters often generated hybrid cultures rather than complete cultural domination."

Step 2: Extract the key description of their actions: "selectively adapted foreign practices while preserving local traditions."

Step 3: Compare this description with the given options.

(A) entirely abandoned local traditions: This contradicts "preserving local traditions."

(B) remained unaffected by imperial rule: This contradicts "selectively adapted foreign practices."

(C) passively imitated imperial cultures: This contradicts "selectively adapted" and "preserving local traditions." Passivity and imitation are not highlighted; selectivity and adaptation are.

(D) adapted foreign influences selectively: This directly matches the statement "selectively adapted foreign practices."

Step 4: Conclude that option (D) is the correct answer, as it accurately reflects how the passage describes the interaction of colonized societies with imperial influence.

Final Answer:

Answer: (D)

[Go Back to Question 7](#)



Q8.

Solution

Concept: This question asks to identify the word that best describes the tone of the passage. Tone refers to the author's attitude towards the subject matter.

Solution: Step 1: Read the passage carefully and consider the author's approach to the topic of empires and their cultural impact. The passage presents a nuanced view:

- It acknowledges the shift in historical scholarship towards cultural dimensions.
- It states that colonized societies were not passive and created hybrid cultures.
- It mentions that cultural exchange produced innovations.
- Crucially, it also includes a caution: "Critics caution, however, that celebrating such exchanges must not obscure the coercive foundations of empire."
- It concludes by stating the challenge for historians: "acknowledging both the brutality and the creativity that emerged from imperial interactions."

Step 2: Analyze the characteristics of the author's writing. The author presents different perspectives (older vs. contemporary historians, benefits of exchange vs. coercive foundations) and attempts to synthesize them into a balanced understanding. The author doesn't take an extreme stance but weighs different aspects.

Step 3: Evaluate the given tone options:

(A) Fanatical: This implies extreme, uncritical devotion to a cause. The passage is analytical and nuanced, not fanatical.

(B) Balanced: This implies presenting different sides of an issue fairly and without bias, considering various factors. This fits the author's approach of acknowledging both positive (cultural exchange, innovation) and negative (exploitation, violence, coercive foundations) aspects of empires and the challenge of historical interpretation.

(C) Satirical: This implies the use of humor, irony, or exaggeration to criticize. The passage is serious and academic, not satirical.

(D) Indifferent: This implies a lack of interest or concern. The author is clearly engaged with the topic, presenting arguments and challenges, which is the opposite of indifference.

Step 4: Conclude that "Balanced" best describes the tone of the passage, as it demonstrates a thoughtful consideration of multiple facets of a complex historical subject.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

[Go Back to Question 8](#)



Q9.

Solution

Concept: The question asks for the primary topic discussed in the passage. The passage introduces artificial intelligence and then delves into its implications.

Solution: Step 1: Read the passage to identify the main subject matter. The passage begins by stating that AI has "transformed from a speculative concept into an integral component of economic and social systems." It then lists several areas where algorithms influence decisions (recruitment, finance, healthcare, justice). Following this, it presents arguments from advocates and critics.

Step 2: Identify the key themes and concerns raised. The passage discusses:

- The integration of AI into various systems.
- Arguments from advocates (efficiency, reduced error).
- Concerns from critics (perpetuating biases, accountability issues).
- The need for "explainable AI."
- Debates about regulation hindering innovation.

Step 3: Evaluate each option to see which best encompasses these themes.

(A) the history of robotics: The passage mentions AI as a concept becoming integral but doesn't focus on its historical development or robotics specifically.

(B) ethical and practical concerns regarding AI: This option covers the core of the passage. The passage details issues like bias (ethical concern) and accountability (practical and ethical concern), the need for transparency (ethical/practical), and the debate on regulation (practical/economic concern).

(C) the economic failure of AI systems: The passage doesn't suggest AI systems are failing economically; rather, it discusses their integration and the debates surrounding their implementation.

(D) why AI should replace humans completely: The passage presents arguments for AI's benefits (efficiency) but doesn't advocate for complete replacement. It focuses on the challenges and debates, not a directive for total human replacement.

Step 4: Conclude that option (B) is the most comprehensive and accurate description of the passage's primary discussion.

Final Answer: ethical and practical concerns regarding AI

Answer: (B)

[Go Back to Question 9](#)



Q10.

Solution

Concept: This question asks for the reason critics believe algorithms may reinforce bias, as explained in the passage.

Solution: Step 1: Locate the section of the passage that discusses bias in algorithms. The passage states: "Yet critics warn that algorithms may perpetuate existing biases because they are trained on historical data shaped by unequal social structures."

Step 2: Identify the direct cause mentioned for the perpetuation of bias. The cause is that the algorithms are "trained on historical data shaped by unequal social structures."

Step 3: Compare this cause with the given options.

(A) machines intentionally discriminate: The passage implies bias is a consequence of data, not intentional malice by the machines themselves.

(B) algorithms dislike social equality: This is anthropomorphizing algorithms and is not stated in the passage. The issue is with the data they learn from.

(C) historical data may contain inequalities: This directly aligns with the passage's explanation that algorithms are trained on "historical data shaped by unequal social structures," meaning the data itself contains these inequalities.

(D) AI systems reject human supervision: The passage mentions accountability and developers claiming algorithms reflect patterns in data, but it doesn't state AI systems reject human supervision as the cause of bias.

Step 4: Conclude that option (C) accurately reflects the reason provided in the passage for why algorithms may reinforce bias.

Final Answer:

Answer: (C)

[Go Back to Question 10](#)



Q11.

Solution

Concept: The question asks for the meaning of the phrase "diffusion of responsibility" in the context of AI errors, as presented in the passage.

Solution: Step 1: Find the phrase "diffusion of responsibility" in the passage. The passage states: "When an automated system makes a flawed decision, responsibility becomes difficult to assign. Companies often attribute errors to technical limitations, while developers claim that algorithms merely reflect patterns within data. This diffusion of responsibility raises ethical and legal questions regarding transparency."

Step 2: Analyze the context surrounding the phrase. The passage describes a situation where an error occurs, and different parties (companies, developers) deflect blame. This means accountability is spread out and not clearly assigned to one entity.

Step 3: Evaluate the given options based on this understanding.

(A) clear assignment of blame: This is the opposite of diffusion of responsibility.

(B) shared and unclear accountability: This accurately describes the situation. Responsibility is not clearly assigned to one party but is instead spread among them, making it unclear who is ultimately responsible.

(C) government control over AI: While government regulation is discussed later in the passage, "diffusion of responsibility" specifically refers to the assignment of blame for errors, not government oversight in general.

(D) removal of ethical concerns: Diffusion of responsibility *raises* ethical questions, it doesn't remove them.

Step 4: Conclude that option (B) best explains the meaning of "diffusion of responsibility" as used in the passage.

Final Answer: shared and unclear accountability

Answer: (B)

[Go Back to Question 11](#)



Q12.

Solution

Concept: This question asks what the author would most likely support, based on the information and arguments presented in the passage about AI.

Solution: Step 1: Identify the author's perspective and the issues discussed. The author presents both the benefits and the significant ethical and practical concerns associated with AI. The passage highlights problems like bias and accountability issues, and it mentions proposed solutions like "explainable AI." It also notes the tension between regulation and innovation.

Step 2: Analyze the author's stance on transparency and regulation. The author mentions "Some policymakers therefore advocate 'explainable AI,' requiring systems to provide understandable reasons for their outputs." This is presented as a way to address the accountability and transparency issues caused by the "diffusion of responsibility." While the author also notes caution against "excessive regulation" hindering innovation, the emphasis on "explainable AI" suggests a leaning towards measures that increase understanding and accountability.

Step 3: Evaluate each option in light of the passage's content.

(A) Blind dependence on AI systems: The passage details significant risks (bias, accountability) which suggests a critical rather than blind approach is needed.

(B) Total prohibition of AI development: The passage discusses the integration and benefits of AI, and the debate around regulation suggests a desire to manage AI, not eliminate it entirely.

(C) Greater transparency in algorithmic decisions: This aligns with the author's mention of "explainable AI" as a way to address accountability issues arising from the "diffusion of responsibility." Transparency is a key concern raised by the problems discussed.

(D) Elimination of human oversight: The passage discusses assigning responsibility and the challenges therein, implying that human oversight and decision-making remain critical in the context of AI's impact and potential errors. Eliminating it would likely exacerbate the problems of accountability.

Step 4: Conclude that the author would most likely support greater transparency in algorithmic decisions, as this is presented as a solution to the identified problems of bias and accountability in AI systems.

Final Answer: Greater transparency in algorithmic decisions

Answer: (C)

[Go Back to Question 12](#)



Q13.

Solution

Concept: This question asks for a synonym of the word "obdurate." A synonym is a word that has a similar meaning to another word.

Solution: Step 1: Understand the meaning of "obdurate." "Obdurate" means stubbornly refusing to change one's opinion or course of action. It implies being hard-hearted and resistant to persuasion.

Step 2: Evaluate the meaning of each option:

- (A) Flexible: Means willing to change or compromise. This is the opposite of obdurate.
- (B) Stubborn: Means determined not to change one's attitude or position on something, in spite of good arguments or reasons to do so. This is a very close meaning to obdurate.
- (C) Generous: Means showing a readiness to give more of something, especially money, than is strictly necessary or expected. This is unrelated to obdurate.
- (D) Optimistic: Means hopeful and confident about the future. This is unrelated to obdurate.

Step 3: Identify the word that is most similar in meaning to "obdurate." "Stubborn" is the best synonym.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

[Go Back to Question 13](#)



Q14.

Solution

Concept: This question asks for an antonym of the word "ephemeral." An antonym is a word that has the opposite meaning of another word.

Solution: Step 1: Understand the meaning of "ephemeral." "Ephemeral" means lasting for a very short time; short-lived.

Step 2: Evaluate the meaning of each option:

- (A) Temporary: Means lasting for only a limited period of time. This is a synonym of ephemeral, not an antonym.
- (B) Fleeting: Means lasting for a very short time. This is a synonym of ephemeral, not an antonym.
- (C) Permanent: Means lasting or intended to last indefinitely or for a long time. This is the opposite of ephemeral.
- (D) Fragile: Means easily broken or damaged. This is unrelated to the duration of existence.

Step 3: Identify the word that is the opposite in meaning to "ephemeral." "Permanent" is the correct antonym.

Final Answer: Permanent

Answer: (C)

[Go Back to Question 14](#)



Q15.

Solution

Concept: This question asks for the meaning of the idiom "To throw in the towel." Idioms are phrases whose meaning cannot be deduced from the literal meaning of their individual words.

Solution: Step 1: Consider the literal image of "throwing in the towel." This action originates from boxing, where a fighter's corner throws a towel into the ring to signal that their fighter can no longer continue, effectively admitting defeat.

Step 2: Evaluate the meaning of each option in relation to this origin:

(A) to surrender: This means to stop trying to fight or resist because you know you cannot win. This aligns perfectly with the origin and common usage of the idiom.

(B) to celebrate victory: This is the opposite of surrendering.

(C) to conceal evidence: This idiom has no relation to hiding facts.

(D) to criticize publicly: This idiom does not relate to expressing disapproval.

Step 3: Identify the correct meaning of the idiom. "To throw in the towel" means to give up or surrender.

Final Answer:

Answer: (A)

[Go Back to Question 15](#)



Q16.

Solution

Concept: This question asks for a one-word substitution for the definition "A person who doubts accepted beliefs."

Solution: Step 1: Analyze the definition: "A person who doubts accepted beliefs." This describes someone who questions or is not convinced by widely held ideas or doctrines.

Step 2: Evaluate each option:

(A) Philanthropist: A person who seeks to promote the welfare of others, especially by the generous donation of money to good causes. This is unrelated to doubting beliefs.

(B) Skeptic: A person inclined to question or doubt all accepted opinions and beliefs. This definition perfectly matches the given phrase.

(C) Tyrant: A cruel and oppressive ruler. This is unrelated to doubting beliefs.

(D) Stoic: A person who can endure pain or hardship without showing their feelings or complaining. This is unrelated to doubting beliefs.

Step 3: Identify the word that fits the definition. "Skeptic" is the correct one-word substitution.

Final Answer:

Answer:

[Go Back to Question 16](#)



Q17.

Solution

Concept: This question asks for a synonym of the word "loquacious." A synonym is a word that has a similar meaning.

Solution: Step 1: Understand the meaning of "loquacious." "Loquacious" means tending to talk a great deal; talkative.

Step 2: Evaluate the meaning of each option:

(A) Silent: Means not speaking. This is the opposite of loquacious.

(B) Talkative: Means fond of or given to talking. This is a direct synonym of loquacious.

(C) Hostile: Means showing or feeling opposition or dislike; unfriendly. This is unrelated to the amount of talking.

(D) Intelligent: Means having or showing intelligence, especially of a high level. This is unrelated to the amount of talking.

Step 3: Identify the word that is most similar in meaning to "loquacious." "Talkative" is the correct synonym.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

[Go Back to Question 17](#)



Q18.

Solution

Concept: This question asks for an antonym of "magnanimous." An antonym is a word with the opposite meaning.

Solution: Step 1: Understand the meaning of "magnanimous." "Magnanimous" means generous or forgiving, especially toward a rival or less powerful person. It implies nobility of spirit.

Step 2: Evaluate the meaning of each option:

(A) Noble: Means having or showing fine personal qualities or high moral principles. This is related to magnanimous but is not its direct opposite.

(B) Cruel: Means willfully causing pain or suffering to others, or feeling no sympathy for them. This describes a lack of generosity and forgiveness, especially towards those less powerful, and is the opposite of magnanimous.

(C) Generous: Means showing a readiness to give more of something, especially money, than is strictly necessary or expected. This is a synonym for one aspect of magnanimous.

(D) Compassionate: Means feeling or showing sympathy and concern for others. This is related to magnanimous but not its direct opposite.

Step 3: Identify the word that is the opposite in meaning to "magnanimous." "Cruel" best represents the opposite of being generous and forgiving.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

[Go Back to Question 18](#)



Q19.

Solution

Concept: This question asks for the term that describes "A statement that appears contradictory but contains truth."

Solution: Step 1: Analyze the definition: "A statement that appears contradictory but contains truth." This describes a statement that seems illogical or self-contradictory on the surface but actually holds a deeper meaning or truth.

Step 2: Evaluate each option:

(A) Hyperbole: Exaggerated statements or claims not meant to be taken literally. This is about exaggeration, not contradiction with underlying truth.

(B) Paradox: A statement or proposition that, despite sound (or apparently sound) reasoning from acceptable premises, leads to a conclusion that seems senseless, logically unacceptable, or self-contradictory. This definition perfectly matches the given description.

(C) Euphemism: A mild or indirect word or expression substituted for one considered to be too harsh or blunt when referring to something unpleasant or embarrassing. This is about softening language, not contradiction.

(D) Allegory: A story, poem, or picture that can be interpreted to reveal a hidden meaning, typically a moral or political one. This is about symbolic representation in a narrative, not a single contradictory statement.

Step 3: Identify the term that fits the definition. "Paradox" is the correct term.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

[Go Back to Question 19](#)



Q20.

Solution

Concept: This question asks to identify the grammatically correct sentence. It concerns subject-verb agreement with correlative conjunctions, specifically "neither...nor."

Solution: Step 1: Recall the rule for subject-verb agreement with "neither...nor." The verb agrees with the subject closer to it.

Step 2: Analyze the options.

(A) "Neither the manager nor the employees was aware of the policy." "Employees" is plural, so the verb should be "were," not "was." Incorrect.

(B) "Neither the manager nor the employees were aware of the policy." "Employees" is plural and closer to the verb, so the plural verb "were" is correct.

(C) "Neither the manager or the employees were aware of the policy." The correct correlative conjunction is "neither...nor," not "neither...or." Incorrect.

(D) "Neither the manager nor the employees are aware of the policy." The number agreement is correct, but in standard grammar exercises, "were aware" is more appropriate for a completed or past situation.

Step 3: Therefore, sentence (B) is grammatically correct because the verb "were" agrees with the nearer plural subject "employees."

Final Answer: Neither the manager nor the employees were aware of the policy.

Answer: (B)

[Go Back to Question 20](#)



Q21.

Solution

Concept: This question asks to identify the grammatical error in the given sentence. The sentence uses the structure "Hardly...than."

Solution: Step 1: Examine the sentence structure. The sentence begins with "Hardly had he reached the station than the train departed."

The structure "Hardly...than" is an uncommon and often considered grammatically incorrect construction. The standard correlative conjunction used with "hardly" is "when" or "before."

Step 2: Recall the correct correlative conjunctions used with "hardly." The correct pairings are "hardly...when" or "hardly...before." For example: "Hardly had he reached the station when the train departed."

Step 3: Identify the part of the sentence that contains the error. The conjunction "than" in the phrase "than the train departed" is incorrect when used with "hardly."

Step 4: Evaluate the options:

(A) Hardly had he: This part is grammatically correct.

(B) reached the station: This part is grammatically correct.

(C) than the train departed: This part contains the incorrect conjunction "than" used with "hardly."

(D) No error: There is an error.

Step 5: Conclude that option (C) contains the grammatical error.

Final Answer:

Answer: (C)

[Go Back to Question 21](#)



Q22.

Solution

Concept: This question asks to select the correct sentence. It concerns subject-verb agreement and pronoun agreement with the indefinite pronoun "each."

Solution: Step 1: Understand the rule for subject-verb and pronoun agreement with "each." When "each" is the subject, it is singular. Therefore, the verb must be singular, and any accompanying possessive pronoun should also be singular and agree with "each."

Step 2: Analyze each sentence:

(A) "Each of the students have submitted their assignment."

- "Each" is the subject, which is singular.
- The verb "have" is plural. This is incorrect.
- The possessive pronoun "their" is plural. This is incorrect as it should agree with the singular subject "each."

(B) "Each of the students has submitted his or her assignment."

- "Each" is the subject, which is singular.
- The verb "has" is singular. This is correct.
- The possessive pronoun "his or her" is singular and gender-inclusive. This correctly agrees with the singular subject "each."

(C) "Each of the students were submitting their assignment."

- "Each" is the subject, which is singular.
- The verb "were" is plural. This is incorrect.
- The possessive pronoun "their" is plural. This is incorrect.

(D) "Each of the students are submitting his assignment."

- "Each" is the subject, which is singular.
- The verb "are" is plural. This is incorrect.
- The possessive pronoun "his" is singular, but it assumes the student is male, which might not be the case for all students. While "his or her" is more inclusive, the primary error here is the plural verb "are" with the singular subject "each."

Step 3: Identify the sentence that correctly follows the rules of subject-verb and pronoun agreement. Sentence (B) is the only one that uses a singular verb ("has") and singular possessive pronouns ("his or her") with the singular subject "each."

Final Answer: Each of the students has submitted his or her assignment.

Answer: (B)

[Go Back to Question 22](#)



Q23.

Solution

Concept: This question requires converting an active sentence with an introductory clause ("People believe that...") into its correct passive form. The structure of the passive sentence is crucial.

Solution: Step 1: Analyze the active sentence: "People believe that the scientist discovered the cure." It contains a main clause and a subordinate clause.

Step 2: Recall the passive structure used with verbs like "believe," "think," and "say":

It is believed that + clause

or

Subject + is believed to + infinitive

Step 3: Apply the first passive structure. Changing "People believe that..." into passive gives: "It is believed that the scientist discovered the cure."

Step 4: Evaluate the options.

(A) "It is believed that the scientist discovered the cure." Correct passive structure.

(B) "The scientist is believed to discovered the cure." Incorrect because "to discovered" should be "to discover" or "to have discovered."

(C) "The cure believed to be discovered by the scientist." Incomplete sentence; missing "is."

(D) "People are believed the scientist discovered the cure." Grammatically incorrect structure.

Step 5: Therefore, option (A) is the correct passive form of the sentence.

Final Answer: It is believed that the scientist discovered the cure.

Answer: (A)

[Go Back to Question 23](#)



Q24.

Solution

Concept: This question requires filling in the blank with a word that describes a decision that is difficult to interpret.

Solution: Step 1: Read the sentence and identify the context. "The committee's decision was so _____ that even senior members struggled to interpret it." The key phrase is "struggled to interpret it," which implies difficulty in understanding the meaning.

Step 2: Evaluate the meaning of each option:

(A) lucid: Means expressed clearly; easy to understand. This is the opposite of what is needed.

(B) ambiguous: Means open to more than one interpretation; having a double meaning. This perfectly describes something that is difficult to interpret.

(C) coherent: Means logical and consistent. A coherent decision would be easy to understand, not difficult.

(D) explicit: Means stated clearly and in detail, leaving no room for confusion or doubt. This is also the opposite of what is needed.

Step 3: Choose the word that best fits the context of difficulty in interpretation. "Ambiguous" is the most appropriate word.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

[Go Back to Question 24](#)



Q25.

Solution

Concept: This question requires filling in the blank with a word that describes the writer's state of mind when facing criticism calmly and continuing to defend their ideas.

Solution: Step 1: Read the sentence and identify the context. "Despite severe criticism, the writer remained remarkably _____ and continued defending his ideas calmly." The contrast is between "severe criticism" and the writer's calm response while defending their ideas. This suggests a state of inner calm and self-control.

Step 2: Evaluate the meaning of each option:

(A) belligerent: Means hostile and aggressive. This would be an inappropriate response to criticism and would not involve calm defense.

(B) composed: Means calm and in control of oneself. This perfectly describes someone who can remain calm and defend their ideas calmly despite criticism.

(C) erratic: Means not even or regular in pattern or movement; unpredictable. This suggests a chaotic and uncontrolled response, not a calm defense.

(D) vulnerable: Means susceptible to physical or emotional harm. While criticism can make one feel vulnerable, remaining "remarkably" so and calmly defending ideas suggests the opposite of being vulnerable.

Step 3: Choose the word that best fits the context of remaining calm and in control during criticism. "Composed" is the most suitable word.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

[Go Back to Question 25](#)



Q26.

Solution

Concept: This question requires filling in the blank with a word that represents what scientific advancement often challenges. The sentence suggests that questioning existing ideas leads to progress.

Solution: Step 1: Read the sentence and identify the context. "Scientific advancement often depends on questioning long-held _____. " The phrase "questioning long-held" implies challenging established norms or beliefs.

Step 2: Evaluate the meaning of each option:

(A) conventions: Means the way in which something is usually done, especially according to traditional, socially approved methods or customs. Scientific advancement often involves challenging these established ways of thinking.

(B) hostilities: Means the action of attacking or being aggressive. This does not fit the context of questioning established ideas for progress.

(C) redundancies: Means the state of being not or no longer needed or useful. While science might eliminate redundancies, questioning is more about challenging fundamental ideas.

(D) distractions: Means something that prevents someone from giving full attention to something else. Questioning is not about avoiding distractions; it's about challenging what is accepted.

Step 3: Choose the word that best fits the idea of challenging established norms or beliefs for scientific progress. "Conventions" best fits this context, as scientific advancement frequently involves overturning traditional assumptions or accepted practices.

Final Answer:

Answer: (A)

[Go Back to Question 26](#)



Q27.

Solution

Concept: This question requires filling in the blank with a word that describes the action taken by sides in negotiations when they refuse to change their demands, leading to a collapse.

Solution: Step 1: Read the sentence and identify the context. "The negotiations collapsed because neither side was willing to _____ from its original demands." The phrases "negotiations collapsed" and "neither side was willing" indicate a failure to compromise.

Step 2: Evaluate the meaning of each option:

(A) diverge: Means to separate and go in different directions. This could imply moving away from demands, but it doesn't specifically mean giving up demands.

(B) persist: Means to continue firmly or obstinately in an opinion or course of action in spite of difficulty, opposition, or failure. If neither side was willing to persist *from* its demands, it implies they were willing to persist *in* their demands, which fits the context of collapse. However, the phrasing "persist from" is unusual. Let's consider other options.

(C) retreat: Means to move back or withdraw. In negotiations, retreating from demands means giving them up or compromising. If neither side was willing to retreat, it means they held firm, leading to the collapse. This fits perfectly.

(D) intensify: Means to become or make more intense. If they intensified their demands, they would move further apart, leading to collapse, but "retreat" is the direct opposite of holding firm to demands.

Step 3: Re-examine option (B) with the preposition. "Persist from" is not a standard phrase in this context. "Persist in" is common. Option (C) "retreat" means to move back or withdraw from a position. If neither side was willing to retreat (from their demands), it means they held their ground, causing the negotiations to fail. This is the most logical interpretation.

Step 4: Confirm the best fit. The idea is that the failure to compromise (giving ground) caused the collapse. "Retreat from" precisely captures this idea of giving up or moving back from their initial positions.

Final Answer:

Answer: (C)

[Go Back to Question 27](#)



Q28.

Solution

Concept: This question requires rearranging sentences to form a logical paragraph. We need to find the correct sequence of cause and effect or chronological order.

Solution: Step 1: Read all the sentences and identify the central idea. The sentences discuss industrial expansion, weak environmental regulations, deforestation, and habitat loss.

Step 2: Identify the opening sentence. Sentence Q, “Industrial expansion accelerated rapidly during the twentieth century,” introduces the main topic and provides the background.

Step 3: Find the logical flow.

- R explains the condition during that period: “Environmental regulations were initially weak.”
- S describes the result: “Forests were cleared on an unprecedented scale.”
- P gives the final consequence: “Consequently, many species lost their habitats.”

Step 4: Arrange the sentences logically.

$$Q \rightarrow R \rightarrow S \rightarrow P$$

This sequence shows:

- Industrial expansion increased.
- Regulations were weak.
- Forests were heavily cleared.
- Species lost their habitats.

Step 5: Therefore, the correct sequence is

Final Answer:

Answer:

[Go Back to Question 28](#)



Q29.

Solution

Concept: This question requires rearranging sentences to form a logical paragraph. We need to identify the cause-and-effect relationships and the most logical starting point.

Solution: Step 1: Read all the sentences and identify the topic. The sentences discuss ignored warnings, employee overwork, burnout, and declining productivity.

Step 2: Identify the opening sentence. Sentence R, “The organization ignored repeated warnings from experts,” introduces the main problem and serves as the starting point.

Step 3: Find the logical sequence.

- Q follows logically because ignoring warnings led to employees working excessively long hours.
- S comes next since long working hours caused stress and burnout.
- P is the final consequence, as productivity declined due to burnout and stress.

Step 4: Arrange the sentences logically.

$$R \rightarrow Q \rightarrow S \rightarrow P$$

This sequence shows:

- Warnings were ignored.
- Employees were overworked.
- Burnout increased.
- Productivity declined.

Step 5: Therefore, the correct sequence is.

Final Answer: RQSP

Answer: (A)

[Go Back to Question 29](#)



Q30.

Solution

Concept: This question asks for the best summary of the given passage. A summary should capture the main idea and the key points.

Solution: Step 1: Read the passage and identify the main topic and supporting details.

- Main topic: Rapid urbanization and its impact.

- Key issues mentioned: Pressure on public infrastructure, traffic congestion, pollution, inadequate housing. - Proposed solutions/expert opinions: Sustainable planning, investment in public transport, improving urban living conditions.

Step 2: Evaluate each option to see which best encapsulates these points.

(A) Urbanization has made cities completely unlivable: The passage states these are "major concerns" and discusses "improving urban living conditions," suggesting cities are not "completely unlivable" but are facing severe problems that need solutions. This option is too extreme.

(B) Public transport alone can solve all urban problems: The passage mentions investment in public transport as one necessary measure alongside "sustainable planning," implying it's not the *sole* solution for all problems. This option is too narrow and absolute.

(C) Rapid urban growth requires sustainable infrastructure planning: This option directly reflects the main points. The passage discusses the pressure of urbanization ("rapid urbanization"), the resulting problems (infrastructure, traffic, housing), and the proposed solution which includes "sustainable planning" and investment in infrastructure (public transport). This option is comprehensive and accurate.

(D) Pollution is the only challenge faced by cities: The passage lists traffic congestion, pollution, and inadequate housing as major concerns. Pollution is not presented as the sole challenge.

Step 3: Choose the option that best synthesizes the passage's core message. Option (C) effectively summarizes the problem (pressure from rapid urban growth) and the proposed solution (sustainable infrastructure planning).

Final Answer: Rapid urban growth requires sustainable infrastructure planning.

Answer: (C)

[Go Back to Question 30](#)



Answer Key

Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans
1	C	2	C	3	B	4	C	5	A
6	B	7	D	8	B	9	B	10	C
11	B	12	C	13	B	14	C	15	A
16	B	17	B	18	B	19	B	20	B
21	C	22	B	23	A	24	B	25	B
26	A	27	C	28	B	29	A	30	C

