

MAT Language Comprehension Sample Paper-1

Duration: 24 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 30

Instructions

- This paper contains a total of **30** Multiple Choice Questions from the **Language Comprehension** section of MAT.
- Each correct answer carries **+1 mark**.
- Each incorrect answer carries **-0.25 mark** (negative marking).
- No negative marking for unattempted questions.
- All questions are compulsory. Choose the best option (A, B, C or D) for each question.

Passage I

Read the passage below carefully. The questions that follow (Questions 1 to 5) are based on the information provided in this text. Choose the one best answer for each question.

The contemporary digital landscape is no longer structured by passive repositories of information but by active, heuristic architectures that modulate human behavior. Algorithmic governance operates via predictive analytics that do not merely reflect societal preferences but structurally predetermine them. This creates an epistemological feedback loop: data scraped from historical human bias train the neural networks of tomorrow, cementing systemic inequities under the guise of mathematical neutrality. Critics argue that this technocratic optimization reduces the human condition to quantifiable data points, stripping individuals of their existential contingency.

By substituting statistical probability for moral agency, modern platforms operationalize a form of soft determinism. The danger here is not explicitly Orwellian coercion, but rather a subtle, pervasive modification of choice architecture. When algorithms curate news feeds, optimize labor schedules, and allocate credit risk, they bypass conscious deliberation. Consequently, the democratic ideal



of an informed public sphere is supplanted by fragmented, hyper-personalized echo chambers that are structurally incapable of collective consensus.

- Q1.** Which of the following best captures the central thesis of the passage?
- (A) Algorithmic optimization is a neutral tool that enhances democratic participation by accurately predicting consumer behavior.
 - (B) Neural networks are inherently flawed because they lack the computational power to process complex human emotions.
 - (C) Algorithmic governance stealthily erodes human agency and consensus by creating biased, deterministic choice architectures.
 - (D) Digital platforms are moving away from data collection toward explicit, authoritarian forms of psychological coercion.
- Q2.** According to the passage, the term “epistemological feedback loop” implies that:
- (A) Future machine learning outcomes are distorted by the historical biases present within their training data.
 - (B) Users deliberately feed false information to platforms to disrupt predictive analytical models.
 - (C) Systems become infinitely more transparent as more user interaction data is processed over time.
 - (D) Mathematical neutrality completely eliminates human subjectivity from algorithmic governance.
- Q3.** The author mentions “existential contingency” primarily to emphasize:
- (A) The unpredictable and unquantifiable nature of genuine human choice and behavior.
 - (B) The absolute necessity of tracking historical data to avoid economic market crashes.
 - (C) The structural stability that automated algorithms bring to chaotic socio-political systems.



(D) The inevitable evolution of human consciousness into a fully synchronized digital collective.

Q4. It can be inferred from the passage that “soft determinism” in digital platforms:

(A) Forces users to make choices through overt threats and sudden account suspensions.

(B) Functions by subtly altering the environment in which choices are presented, rendering deliberation obsolete.

(C) Allows users complete autonomy without tracking or logging their digital behavioral footprints.

(D) Is a theoretical construct that has no measurable impact on real-world political landscapes.

Q5. The author’s tone toward the current trajectory of technocratic optimization is best described as:

(A) Ambivalent and detached

(B) Highly laudatory and optimistic

(C) Critically analytical and apprehensive

(D) Dismissive and indifferent

Passage II

Read the passage below carefully. The questions that follow (Questions 6 to 11) are based on the information provided in this text. Choose the one best answer for each question.

For decades, classical historiography was dominated by the essentialist paradigm, which viewed ancient civilizations as discrete, self-contained units that developed along linear trajectories. This methodology auto-isolated cultures like Rome, Han China, and Aksum, attributing their cultural zenith exclusively to internal socio-political genius. However, recent archaeological excavations of sub-surface



maritime routes and epigraphic discoveries in remote trading outposts have fundamentally shattered this insular narrative.

It is now evident that the ancient world was bound by a hyper-dense, trans-continental network of material and intellectual exchange. The Silk Road was not a singular luxury conduit, but an expansive nexus of secondary markets where philosophical ideas, metallurgical techniques, and epidemiological pathogens mutated as they migrated. To study Han China without analyzing its deep economic dependency on Central Asian nomadic horse-brokers is to misunderstand its statecraft completely. Historiography must abandon its obsession with rigid imperial boundaries and embrace a fluid, polycentric model that prioritizes the spaces *between* civilizations rather than the nodes themselves.

- Q6.** The author uses the phrase “essentialist paradigm” to refer to a historical viewpoint that:
- (A) Prioritizes environmental factors over human political dynamics when studying empires.
 - (B) Views ancient empires as independent entities whose growth was entirely self-generated.
 - (C) Focuses primarily on the artistic and literary accomplishments of a civilization’s golden age.
 - (D) Traces all global technological advancements back to a single, localized cradle of civilization.
- Q7.** Which of the following discovery types is explicitly credited by the author with challenging the older historical model?
- (A) Climate-modeling data showing prehistoric mega-droughts.
 - (B) Epigraphic evidence and maritime sub-surface archaeological excavations.
 - (C) Genomic analysis of modern royal lineages across Europe.
 - (D) Numerical calculations of ancient agricultural production quotas.
- Q8.** The author implies that studying Han China without considering Central Asian nomadic horse-brokers results in:



- (A) A flawed and incomplete comprehension of Han political strategy and statecraft.
- (B) An overestimation of the military superiority of neighboring European empires.
- (C) A realization that Han China was entirely submissive to external nomadic powers.
- (D) A clearer, less distracted interpretation of internal Confucian bureaucratic structures.

Q9. Based on the passage, the Silk Road is characterized by the author as:

- (A) A single, well-guarded highway dedicated exclusively to royal silk shipments.
- (B) A minor economic asset that had zero impact on global disease spread or religious ideas.
- (C) A complex network of dynamic markets fostering material, ideological, and biological mutations.
- (D) An ideological construct invented by modern historians with no basis in physical reality.

Q10. The author advocates for a historiographical model that is:

- (A) Polycentric and fluid, emphasizing the spaces and interactions between empires.
- (B) Eurocentric and centralized, focusing on standard classical Mediterranean texts.
- (C) Isolationist and chronological, preserving the traditional boundaries of imperial history.
- (D) Purely quantitative, relying on computational economics over cultural analysis.

Q11. What does the word “zenith” as used in the passage mean?

- (A) Early experimental phase



- (B) Highest point of power or success
- (C) Sudden economic collapse
- (D) Geographical borderland

Q12. Choose the word that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the given word:
RECONDITE

- (A) Esoteric
- (B) Obscure
- (C) Manifest
- (D) Arcane

Q13. Identify the option that provides the closest synonym for the word: PULCHRITUDE

- (A) Coarseness
- (B) Loveliness
- (C) Shrewdness
- (D) Vulnerability

Q14. Select the option that best explains the meaning of the underlined idiom: The geopolitical strategist was known to ride roughshod over the objections of his junior diplomatic staff.

- (A) To consider opposing viewpoints with profound care and humility.
- (B) To treat other people's feelings or opinions in an arrogant, dictatorial manner.
- (C) To carefully document administrative errors for legal review.
- (D) To experience sudden and severe financial losses during a campaign.

Q15. Find the word that best fits the given one-word substitution definition: "A person who shows an uncritical, fanatical, and aggressive patriotism or blind loyalty to a cause."

- (A) Iconoclast



- (B) Chauvinist
- (C) Apostate
- (D) Sybarite

Q16. Identify the option that is most nearly ****opposite**** in meaning to: ALACRITY

- (A) Zeal
- (B) Celerity
- (C) Heedlessness
- (D) Sluggishness

Q17. Choose the word that is closest in meaning to: PERNICIOUS

- (A) Deleterious
- (B) Salutary
- (C) Innocuous
- (D) Incipient

Q18. What is the meaning of the idiom: To throw down the gauntlet?

- (A) To surrender unconditionally to an invading army.
- (B) To issue a formal challenge or open invitation to fight or compete.
- (C) To expose internal financial fraud to external media outlets.
- (D) To recover from a chronic, debilitating physical illness.

Q19. Identify the part of the sentence that contains a grammatical error:

“The macro-economic data compiled by the reserve analysts (A) / indicate that not only inflation (B) / but also interest rate hikes is damaging consumer confidence (C) / No error (D).”

- (A) A
- (B) B
- (C) C



(D) D

Q20. Identify the part of the sentence that contains a grammatical error:

“Had the sovereign wealth fund balanced its portfolio (A) / more aggressively prior to the fiscal crash, (B) / its capital losses would be avoided entirely (C) / No error (D).”

(A) A

(B) B

(C) C

(D) D

Q21. Choose the grammatically correct alternative to replace the underlined portion:

The lead immunologist along with her entire laboratory staff have been working around the clock since six months to isolate the pathogen.

(A) has been working around the clock for six months to isolate

(B) have been working around the clock since six months to isolate

(C) were working around the clock for six months to isolate

(D) has been working around the clock since six months for isolating

Q22. Choose the option that represents the most grammatically accurate and syntactically elegant structure:

(A) Being a chaotic socioeconomic landscape, the newly appointed minister found it difficult to execute reforms.

(B) The landscape being a chaotic socioeconomic one, it was difficult for the newly appointed minister to execute reforms.

(C) Because the socioeconomic landscape was chaotic, the newly appointed minister found it difficult to execute reforms.

(D) Having a chaotic socioeconomic landscape, reforms were difficult to execute by the newly appointed minister.



- Q23.** The fiscal review committee noted that the state's budget deficit was not a temporary _____ anomaly but rather the predictable consequence of structural, _____ economic mismanagement.
- (A) transient ... entrenched
 - (B) systemic ... fleeting
 - (C) superficial ... minor
 - (D) chronological ... simulated
- Q24.** Far from being an advocate of isolationist policies, the prime minister proved to be a highly _____ diplomat who skillfully _____ multi-lateral alliances across ideological divides.
- (A) inept ... dissolved
 - (B) astute ... forged
 - (C) parochial ... alienated
 - (D) dogmatic ... abandoned
- Q25.** Despite the _____ nature of the evidence presented by the prosecution, the defense team managed to exploit minor procedural discrepancies to secure an unexpected _____ for their corporate client.
- (A) flaccid ... indictment
 - (B) overwhelming ... acquittal
 - (C) ambiguous ... conviction
 - (D) microscopic ... incarceration
- Q26.** The board of directors remained completely _____ by the whistle-blower's explosive revelations, displaying a serene indifference that shocked the company's minority _____.
- (A) perturbed ... executives
 - (B) unperturbed ... shareholders
 - (C) incapacitated ... creditors



(D) galvanized ... competitors

Q27. Rearrange the following sentences (1, 2, 3, 4) in the most logical sequence to form a coherent paragraph:

1. Consequently, these metrics fail to capture the underground barter systems that dominate rural trade networks.
2. Quantitative economic assessments typically rely on formalized transaction parameters such as banking ledgers and tax invoices.
3. This omission leads to heavily skewed development policies that misallocate capital to already saturated urban centers.
4. However, a significant proportion of global economic activity takes place entirely outside these official, state-sanctioned channels.

(A) 2, 4, 1, 3

(B) 4, 1, 3, 2

(C) 2, 1, 4, 3

(D) 4, 2, 1, 3

Q28. Rearrange the sentences below into a logically sound structure:

1. Biologists have long puzzled over how this extreme evolutionary specialization is sustained across changing ecosystems.
2. The complex symbiotic architecture of coral reefs relies on a precarious metabolic equilibrium between polyps and zooxanthellae.
3. Even a fractional rise in mean maritime temperatures can permanently disrupt this vital nutrient pipeline.
4. This delicate harmony ensures rapid calcification rates, which are fundamental to structural reef expansion.

(A) 1, 3, 4, 2

(B) 2, 4, 1, 3

(C) 2, 1, 4, 3

(D) 3, 2, 4, 1

Q29. Read the text and choose the best summary statement:



The widespread introduction of automation across high-volume manufacturing sectors has systematically displaced semi-skilled physical labor. While techno-optimist frameworks argue that this displacement is offset by a surge in demand for elite software engineers and data analysts, empirical labor market reports demonstrate a widening wage gap. The displaced workforce lacks the structural access to rapid, high-level reskilling options required to seamlessly step into these complex cognitive roles.

- (A) Industrial automation creates an egalitarian labor market by elevating the average intellectual capacity of all industrial workers.
- (B) Technological displacement causes economic stratification because lower-skilled workers cannot easily transition into highly complex technical positions.
- (C) Software engineering positions are currently expanding at a rate that will instantly absorb all physically displaced factory workers.
- (D) Re-skilling manufacturing workers is a trivial task that can be successfully executed through basic, short-term corporate seminars.

Q30. Identify the statement that logically concludes the argument in the passage:

Neuroscientific research indicates that extensive exposure to short-form, high-frequency digital media actively restructures the human prefrontal cortex. This neuroplastic alteration diminishes a subject's capacity for sustained deep reading and complex narrative synthesis. As academic institutions increasingly convert standard text curricula into hyper-interactive, modular visual media to maintain student engagement metrics, they risk validating the very cognitive deficits they are charged with correcting. Therefore, _____.

- (A) educational institutions must phase out all printed books to accelerate this inevitable cognitive evolution
- (B) pedagogical accommodation of reduced attention spans may inadvertently entrench and worsen the cognitive decline
- (C) digital media exposure has been proven to significantly enhance advanced abstract mathematical calculations



(D) student engagement metrics are the only reliable indicator of genuine, long-term academic excellence



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

Concept: The central thesis of a passage represents the author's primary argument. To identify it correctly, one must focus on the broader concern rather than isolated details. Passages discussing algorithmic governance, predictive systems, and human agency usually examine how technology influences freedom, decision-making, and democratic behavior through hidden structures of control and manipulation.

Solution:

The passage argues that algorithmic governance silently shapes human choices and weakens independent deliberation. The author views predictive digital systems as mechanisms of subtle control rather than neutral technological tools.

Option (A) is incorrect because the passage does not praise algorithmic optimization as democratic or beneficial.

Option (B) is also incorrect because the discussion is philosophical and political, not about computational weakness.

Option (D) fails because the author emphasizes indirect influence rather than open authoritarianism.

Option (C) correctly captures the passage's warning that deterministic systems gradually erode human agency and democratic consensus through invisible behavioral structures.

Thus, the passage critiques the hidden reduction of autonomy within technologically optimized environments.

Final Answer: Algorithms reduce human agency through bias

Answer: (C)

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Q2.

Solution

Concept: An epistemological feedback loop describes a cycle in which knowledge systems reinforce their own assumptions. In algorithmic systems, historical data shapes predictions, and those predictions influence future outcomes. Such loops often reproduce earlier social or institutional biases, causing systems to appear objective while continuously validating previously embedded distortions and inequalities.

Solution:

The passage explains that predictive systems rely on historical data to generate future outcomes. The phrase “epistemological feedback loop” therefore refers to the repeated reinforcement of existing assumptions and biases.

Option (A) is correct because it states that machine learning outcomes become distorted by biases already present in training data. This directly reflects the passage’s argument.

Option (B) is incorrect because the passage never discusses deliberate sabotage through false information.

Option (C) is also incorrect since the author suggests systems become more opaque rather than transparent.

Option (D) contradicts the passage because the author rejects the idea that algorithms eliminate human subjectivity.

Thus, the phrase primarily refers to algorithmic systems reproducing and validating historical biases through repeated predictive processes.

Final Answer: Machine learning models inherit biases from training data

Answer: (A)

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Q3.

Solution

Concept: Existential contingency refers to the uncertain and unpredictable nature of human existence. Philosophically, it suggests that human decisions cannot be reduced entirely to fixed systems or deterministic calculations. In technological discussions, the term highlights the tension between algorithmic prediction and authentic human freedom, spontaneity, and individuality beyond computational measurement.

Solution:

The passage contrasts algorithmic prediction with genuine human freedom. The phrase “existential contingency” emphasizes that human choices remain uncertain and cannot be perfectly predicted by data-driven systems.

Option (A) is correct because it recognizes the unpredictable and unquantifiable nature of authentic human behavior.

Option (B) is incorrect because the passage does not connect the term with economic crashes.

Option (C) also fails because the author criticizes excessive optimization rather than praising it.

Option (D) extends beyond the passage by introducing collective digital consciousness.

Thus, the term is used to defend human unpredictability against systems attempting to transform behavior into measurable patterns.

Final Answer: The unpredictability of human choice and behavior

Answer: (A)

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Q4.

Solution

Concept: Soft determinism in digital systems refers to subtle behavioral influence rather than direct coercion. Platforms shape choices indirectly through recommendations, ranking systems, and personalized interfaces. Such mechanisms influence perceptions and decisions while preserving the illusion of freedom. The concept highlights how environments can quietly structure human behavior without visible force or authoritarian control.

Solution:

The passage explains that digital systems influence users indirectly through predictive environments rather than open coercion. This hidden behavioral shaping is described as “soft determinism.”

Option (B) is correct because it explains that platforms manipulate the environment in which choices are presented, thereby reducing genuine deliberation.

Option (A) is incorrect because overt punishment is not the primary mechanism discussed.

Option (C) is also wrong since the passage clearly implies continuous behavioral tracking.

Option (D) fails because the author treats soft determinism as a real social phenomenon.

Thus, the passage suggests that digital platforms exercise power by subtly structuring how individuals perceive and select available options.

Final Answer: Alters the environment of choice, limiting deliberation

Answer: (B)

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Q5.

Solution

Concept: Authorial tone reflects the writer's attitude toward a subject. It is identified through diction, argument structure, and thematic emphasis. Passages discussing hidden dangers, erosion of freedom, or technological risks usually adopt a critical and apprehensive tone. Such writing combines careful analysis with concern regarding broader political, social, or philosophical consequences.

Solution:

The passage critiques algorithmic governance and technocratic optimization. The author warns that such systems gradually weaken autonomy and democratic deliberation.

Option (A) is incorrect because the tone is not neutral or detached.

Option (B) is also incorrect because the passage is not optimistic or celebratory.

Option (D) fails because the discussion is highly engaged rather than dismissive.

Option (C) correctly identifies the tone as critically analytical and apprehensive. The author carefully examines technological systems while expressing concern regarding their long-term effects on freedom and consensus.

Thus, the passage combines intellectual critique with strong caution about the growing influence of algorithmic power.

Final Answer: Critically analytical and apprehensive

Answer: (C)

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Q6.

Solution

Concept: An essentialist paradigm in historiography treats civilizations as isolated and self-sufficient entities. Such interpretations explain cultural growth mainly through internal strengths while ignoring external exchanges. Modern historians criticize this model because archaeological and trade evidence reveals that ancient societies developed through interconnected political, economic, and intellectual relationships rather than through complete civilizational independence.

Solution:

The passage explains that older historians viewed civilizations like Rome and Han China as self-contained societies whose achievements emerged entirely from internal development.

Option (B) is correct because it reflects the idea that ancient empires grew independently through their own socio-political genius.

Option (A) is incorrect because environmental determinism is never discussed.

Option (C) is also wrong because the passage critiques civilizational isolation rather than artistic interpretation.

Option (D) fails because the issue is not a single technological origin.

Thus, the “essentialist paradigm” refers to the belief that civilizations developed independently without meaningful external influence or interconnected exchange.

Final Answer: Sees empires as self-contained and independently evolving

Answer: (B)

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Q7.

Solution

Concept: Historical interpretations frequently change because of archaeological and documentary discoveries. Evidence such as inscriptions, maritime remains, and trading settlements can reveal patterns of interaction previously ignored. These discoveries challenge older assumptions by showing that ancient civilizations were connected through trade, migration, diplomacy, and cultural exchange rather than existing in complete isolation.

Solution:

The passage states that the older insular historical model was challenged by maritime excavations and epigraphic discoveries found in distant trading centers.

Option (B) is correct because it directly identifies the forms of evidence mentioned in the passage.

Option (A) is incorrect because climate data is never discussed.

Option (C) is also incorrect because genomic studies are not mentioned.

Option (D) fails because agricultural calculations are unrelated to the author’s argument.

Thus, archaeological and epigraphic discoveries reshaped historical understanding by revealing extensive interaction between ancient civilizations.

Final Answer: Epigraphy and underwater archaeology

Answer: (B)

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Q8.

Solution

Concept: Interconnected historical models emphasize that empires depended upon external trade systems, migration, and cultural interaction. Political structures cannot be understood in isolation because military resources, economic stability, and diplomatic relations often relied upon neighboring societies. Ignoring these relationships produces incomplete interpretations of governance, strategy, and statecraft within ancient civilizations.

Solution:

The author argues that studying Han China without considering Central Asian horse-brokers would distort understanding of Han statecraft.

Option (A) is correct because it explains that ignoring these external relationships creates an incomplete interpretation of Han political strategy.

Option (B) is incorrect because European empires are never discussed.

Option (C) also fails because the passage emphasizes interdependence, not domination.

Option (D) contradicts the passage since the author opposes isolated interpretations.

Thus, the passage highlights that Han political development depended significantly upon wider regional networks and external economic relationships.

Final Answer: A limited understanding of Han political strategy

Answer: (A)

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Q9.

Solution

Concept: The Silk Road functioned as more than a luxury trade route. It connected civilizations through commerce, migration, religion, technology, and cultural exchange. Modern historiography interprets it as a dynamic network through which goods, ideas, and even diseases moved across regions, transforming societies collectively through continuous interaction and exchange.

Solution:

The passage rejects the idea that the Silk Road merely transported luxury goods. Instead, it describes a broad network through which philosophies, technologies, and pathogens spread across civilizations.

Option (C) is correct because it reflects the Silk Road as a system enabling material, ideological, and biological exchange.

Option (A) is incorrect because the author rejects the idea of a single luxury conduit.

Option (B) also fails because the passage clearly discusses intellectual and biological transmission.

Option (D) is inaccurate because the author treats the Silk Road as historically significant and well-supported.

Thus, the Silk Road is presented as a dynamic interconnected system shaping civilizations through constant interaction.

Final Answer: A network of markets driving exchange and change

Answer: (C)

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Q10.

Solution

Concept: A polycentric historiographical model studies history through multiple interconnected centers rather than isolated empires. Such approaches emphasize exchanges, border zones, migration, and interaction between societies. Historians using this framework focus on how civilizations collectively shaped political, economic, and cultural development through networks of continuous regional and trans-continental exchange.

Solution:

The passage argues that historians should abandon rigid imperial boundaries and adopt a fluid, interconnected model of analysis.

Option (A) is correct because it directly reflects the author's support for a polycentric framework emphasizing interactions between civilizations.

Option (B) is incorrect because the passage does not support Eurocentrism.

Option (C) also fails because the author rejects isolated civilizational analysis.

Option (D) is inaccurate because computational economics is never proposed as a replacement for historical interpretation.

Thus, the author advocates a historiographical approach centered on exchange, interaction, and interconnected historical development.

Final Answer: Polycentric and fluid, focusing on inter-imperial interactions

Answer: (A)

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Q11.

Solution

Concept: Contextual vocabulary questions test how words function within a passage. "Zenith" commonly refers to the highest point of success, achievement, or influence. In historical discussions, it usually describes the peak stage of a civilization's power, prosperity, or cultural advancement rather than decline, experimentation, or territorial division.

Solution:

The passage refers to the "cultural zenith" of civilizations such as Rome and Han China. The word clearly indicates their greatest stage of success and influence.

Option (A) is incorrect because "zenith" does not mean an early stage.

Option (C) is also incorrect because the word is unrelated to decline.

Option (D) fails because "zenith" is not a geographical term.

Option (B) is correct because it means the highest point of achievement or power.

Thus, "zenith" refers to the peak period of civilizational greatness and influence.

Final Answer: Highest point of power or success

Answer: (B)

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Q12.

Solution

Concept: Antonym questions test understanding of semantic opposites. “Recondite” refers to something obscure, abstract, difficult to understand, or known only to specialists. To identify its opposite, one must choose a word conveying clarity, openness, or obviousness rather than obscurity or exclusiveness.

Solution:

The word “recondite” describes something highly difficult to understand or accessible only to a small group of experts.

Option (A), “Esoteric,” is incorrect because it is similar in meaning to “recondite,” referring to specialized or exclusive knowledge.

Option (B), “Obscure,” is also incorrect because it means unclear or difficult to understand.

Option (D), “Arcane,” is incorrect because it likewise refers to mysterious or highly specialized knowledge.

Option (C), “Manifest,” is correct because it means clear, obvious, evident, or easily understood, which is the direct opposite of “recondite.”

Thus, the correct antonym of “recondite” is “manifest.”

Final Answer:

Answer: (C)

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Q13.

Solution

Concept: Synonym questions evaluate understanding of semantic similarity. “Pulchritude” is a formal literary word meaning beauty or physical attractiveness. The correct synonym must therefore express grace, charm, or loveliness.

Solution:

The word “pulchritude” refers to beauty, attractiveness, or aesthetic charm.

Option (A), “Coarseness,” is incorrect because it refers to roughness or lack of refinement.

Option (C), “Shrewdness,” is incorrect because it relates to intelligence or practical wisdom.

Option (D), “Vulnerability,” is incorrect because it refers to weakness or susceptibility to harm.

Option (B), “Loveliness,” is correct because it directly expresses beauty and attractiveness.

Thus, the closest synonym of “pulchritude” is “loveliness.”

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

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Q14.

Solution

Concept: Idioms are figurative expressions whose meanings differ from their literal interpretation. “Ride roughshod over” means behaving in an arrogant and domineering manner while ignoring the feelings, rights, or objections of others.

Solution:

The sentence states that the strategist would “ride roughshod over” the objections of junior staff members.

This suggests that he ignored opposing opinions in an authoritarian and dismissive manner.

Option (A) is incorrect because the idiom does not imply humility or careful consideration.

Option (C) is incorrect because the phrase has no connection with legal documentation or administration.

Option (D) is also incorrect because the idiom is unrelated to financial losses.

Option (B) is correct because the expression means treating others’ opinions arrogantly and dictatorially.

Thus, the idiom conveys dominance and disregard for opposing viewpoints.

Final Answer: To treat others arrogantly or disrespectfully

Answer: (B)

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Q15.

Solution

Concept: One-word substitution questions test vocabulary precision. A “chauvinist” refers to a person displaying excessive, aggressive, and unquestioning loyalty toward a nation, ideology, gender, or cause.

Solution:

The definition describes a person showing fanatical patriotism and blind devotion.

Option (A), “Iconoclast,” is incorrect because it refers to someone who attacks traditional beliefs.

Option (C), “Apostate,” is incorrect because it refers to someone who abandons a belief system.

Option (D), “Sybarite,” is incorrect because it refers to a person devoted to luxury and pleasure.

Option (B), “Chauvinist,” is correct because it describes a person with excessive and aggressive loyalty to a cause or nation.

Thus, the correct one-word substitution is “chauvinist.”

Final Answer: Chauvinist

Answer: (B)

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Q16.

Solution

Concept: “Alacrity” means cheerful readiness, eagerness, and energetic willingness to act. Its antonym must therefore express slowness, laziness, or lack of enthusiasm.

Solution:

The word “alacrity” refers to energetic promptness and enthusiasm.

Option (A), “Zeal,” is incorrect because it also means enthusiasm.

Option (B), “Celerity,” is incorrect because it means swiftness or speed.

Option (C), “Heedlessness,” is incorrect because it refers to carelessness rather than slowness.

Option (D), “Sluggishness,” is correct because it means laziness and lack of energy, which directly contrasts with “alacrity.”

Thus, the correct antonym is “sluggishness.”

Final Answer:

Answer: (D)

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Q17.

Solution

Concept: “Pernicious” is used to describe something highly harmful or destructive, especially in a gradual or subtle manner. Synonym questions require identifying the word with the closest negative meaning.

Solution:

The word “pernicious” means harmful, damaging, or destructive.

Option (A), “Deleterious,” is correct because it also means harmful or injurious.

Option (B), “Salutary,” is incorrect because it means beneficial.

Option (C), “Innocuous,” is incorrect because it means harmless.

Option (D), “Incipient,” is incorrect because it means beginning to develop.

Thus, the closest synonym of “pernicious” is “deleterious.”

Final Answer:

Answer: (A)

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Q18.

Solution

Concept: The idiom “to throw down the gauntlet” originated from medieval combat traditions in which a knight threw down a glove as a formal challenge. Figuratively, it means issuing a direct challenge or invitation to compete.

Solution:

The expression historically symbolized a formal challenge to combat.

Option (A) is incorrect because the idiom does not refer to surrender.

Option (C) is incorrect because it has no connection with exposing fraud.

Option (D) is incorrect because it is unrelated to illness or recovery.

Option (B) is correct because the idiom means openly challenging someone to fight or compete.

Thus, the idiom signifies issuing a bold challenge or invitation to confrontation.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

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Q19.

Solution

Concept: Subject-verb agreement rules require that the verb agree with the subject nearest to it when correlative conjunctions such as “not only ... but also” are used.

Solution:

The sentence states:

“The macro-economic data compiled by the reserve analysts indicate that not only inflation but also interest rate hikes is damaging consumer confidence.”

The grammatical error lies in Part (C).

The subject nearest to the verb is “interest rate hikes,” which is plural.

Therefore, the verb should also be plural:

“interest rate hikes are damaging consumer confidence”

Part (A) is grammatically correct because “data” is correctly treated as plural.

Part (B) is also correct.

Thus, Part (C) contains the grammatical error.

Final Answer:

Answer: (C)

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Q20.

Solution

Concept: Third conditional sentences describe unreal past situations. The result clause must use “would have” followed by the past participle to indicate a hypothetical past consequence.

Solution:

The sentence reads:

“Had the sovereign wealth fund balanced its portfolio more aggressively prior to the fiscal crash, its capital losses would be avoided entirely.”

The error lies in Part (C).

The sentence refers to a hypothetical past condition, so the result clause must also express an unreal past consequence.

The correct construction should be:

“its capital losses would have been avoided entirely”

The phrase “would be avoided” incorrectly shifts the tense.

Part (A) and Part (B) are grammatically correct.

Thus, the grammatical error occurs in Part (C).

Final Answer: C

Answer: (C)

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Q21.

Solution

Concept: When phrases such as “along with,” “together with,” or “as well as” follow a subject, the verb agrees with the main subject rather than the accompanying phrase. Additionally, “for” is used with durations, while “since” is used with specific points in time.

Solution:

The sentence states:

“The lead immunologist along with her entire laboratory staff have been working around the clock since six months to isolate the pathogen.”

The main subject is “The lead immunologist,” which is singular.

Therefore, the correct verb should be:

“has been working”

The phrase “since six months” is also incorrect because “since” refers to a starting point in time, whereas “for” is used with durations.

Hence, the correct expression is:

“for six months”

Option (A) correctly fixes both errors:

“has been working around the clock for six months to isolate”

Thus, Option (A) is the grammatically correct alternative.

Final Answer: has been working continuously for six months

Answer: (A)

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Q22.

Solution

Concept: Grammatical correctness depends on proper sentence structure and logical modification.

Solution:

Option (A) creates a dangling modifier because it incorrectly suggests that the minister is the “chaotic socioeconomic landscape.”

Option (D) also produces awkward and unclear syntax.

Option (B) is grammatically correct but stylistically heavy.

Option (C) is the clearest and most natural sentence:

“Because the socioeconomic landscape was chaotic, the newly appointed minister found it difficult to execute reforms.”

Thus, Option (C) is correct.

Final Answer:

Answer: (C)

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Q23.

Solution

Concept: Sentence completion questions require contextually suitable vocabulary choices.

Solution:

The sentence contrasts a temporary issue with deep-rooted economic problems.

“Transient” means temporary, while “entrenched” means firmly established.

Thus, the sentence becomes:

“not a temporary transient anomaly but rather the predictable consequence of structural, entrenched economic mismanagement.”

Therefore, Option (A) is correct.

Final Answer:

Answer: (A)

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Q24.

Solution

Concept: Contextual vocabulary questions require words that preserve logical meaning and tone.

Solution:

The sentence describes a prime minister who promoted cooperation and alliances.

“Astute” means politically intelligent and skillful, while “forged” means successfully built or established.

Thus, the correct sentence is:

“a highly astute diplomat who skillfully forged multi-lateral alliances.”

Therefore, Option (B) is correct.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

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Q25.

Solution

Concept: Sentence completion questions require selecting words that logically fit both context and tone. Legal contexts especially demand semantically precise vocabulary.

Solution:

The phrase “Despite the” signals contrast. Therefore, the first blank should describe very strong evidence, while the second should indicate a surprisingly favorable legal outcome.

“Overwhelming” correctly describes powerful evidence, and “acquittal” means a declaration of innocence.

Thus, the correct sentence is:

“Despite the overwhelming nature of the evidence ... secure an unexpected acquittal.”

Therefore, Option (B) is correct.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

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Q26.

Solution

Concept: Contextual vocabulary questions require maintaining logical tone and semantic consistency.

Solution:

The phrase “serene indifference” suggests calmness and lack of disturbance. Hence, the first blank should mean unaffected.

“Unperturbed” correctly fits this meaning.

The second blank refers to company stakeholders affected by corporate misconduct. “Shareholders” is therefore the most logical choice.

Thus, the correct sentence becomes:

“remained completely unperturbed shocked the company’s minority shareholders.”

Therefore, Option (B) is correct.

Final Answer: unperturbed ... shareholders

Answer: (B)

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Q27.

Solution

Concept: Paragraph rearrangement questions test logical sequencing using connectors, transitions, and referential continuity.

Solution:

Sentence (2) introduces the topic of formal economic records.

Sentence (4) contrasts this with informal economic activity using “However.”

Sentence (1) follows logically because “Consequently” refers to the omission discussed earlier.

Sentence (3) concludes by explaining the policy impact of “This omission.”

Thus, the correct order is:

$$2 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 3$$

Therefore, Option (A) is correct.

Final Answer: 2, 4, 1, 3

Answer: (A)

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Q28.

Solution

Concept: Logical sequencing questions require maintaining conceptual and referential continuity.

Solution:

Sentence (2) introduces coral symbiosis.

Sentence (4) follows because “This delicate harmony” refers to the balance described in Sentence (2).

Sentence (1) broadens the discussion to scientific inquiry.

Sentence (3) concludes with environmental threats to the system.

Hence, the correct order is:

$$2 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 3$$

Therefore, Option (B) is correct.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

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Q29.

Solution

Concept: Summary questions require identifying the central argument while avoiding extreme or unsupported interpretations.

Solution:

The passage explains that automation replaces semi-skilled labor while increasing demand for highly specialized technical workers. However, displaced workers often lack the education needed to transition into such roles.

As a result, economic inequality widens.

Therefore, Option (B) best summarizes the passage.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

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Q30.

Solution

Concept: Conclusion-based reasoning questions require selecting the statement that logically follows from the passage.

Solution:

The passage argues that excessive exposure to short-form digital media weakens deep reading and complex reasoning abilities.

It further suggests that educational systems adapting to reduced attention spans may reinforce the problem instead of solving it.

Thus, the logical conclusion is:

“pedagogical accommodation of reduced attention spans may inadvertently entrench and worsen the cognitive decline.”

Therefore, Option (B) is correct.

Final Answer: Accommodation may worsen declining attention spans

Answer: (B)

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Answer Key

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

