

MAT Language Comprehension Sample Paper-20

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.

Economic forecasting has long been regarded as an essential instrument for policymakers and financial institutions. However, critics argue that many forecasting models rely excessively on historical trends and statistical regularities while underestimating the possibility of unprecedented disruptions. Financial crises often expose what economists describe as “structural fragility” — hidden weaknesses embedded within interconnected systems. Because modern economies are globally linked through trade, technology, and financial markets, disturbances originating in one sector can rapidly spread across nations. Although forecasting models have become increasingly sophisticated, their predictive limitations remain



significant, particularly during periods of geopolitical uncertainty or technological transformation. Consequently, some scholars contend that policymakers should place greater emphasis on resilience and adaptability rather than assuming that future conditions will mirror past patterns.

- Q1.** According to the passage, the author’s primary criticism of modern economic forecasting is that it
- (A) relies excessively on historical trends while underestimating unpredictable disruptions
 - (B) ignores technological development completely
 - (C) exaggerates the importance of financial institutions
 - (D) discourages governments from intervening in markets
- Q2.** The phrase “structural fragility” most nearly means
- (A) temporary political instability
 - (B) hidden weakness within a larger system
 - (C) rapid industrial expansion
 - (D) economic independence
- Q3.** Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?
- (A) Economic crises are entirely unpredictable.
 - (B) Policymakers often overlook interconnected risks.
 - (C) Technological innovation always stabilizes markets.
 - (D) Historical data is irrelevant to forecasting.
- Q4.** The tone of the passage is best described as
- (A) sarcastic



- (B) analytical and cautionary
- (C) celebratory
- (D) indifferent

Passage II

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

Scientific progress depends not only on discovery but also on skepticism. Throughout history, many theories once considered indisputable were later revised or abandoned when new evidence emerged. This self-correcting nature distinguishes science from dogmatic systems of thought. Yet scientific consensus is sometimes misunderstood as permanent truth rather than the best available explanation at a given moment. Critics of excessive certainty argue that unquestioning acceptance of prevailing theories may discourage intellectual curiosity and suppress alternative perspectives. At the same time, scientists caution that skepticism must be grounded in evidence rather than ideology. Productive inquiry therefore requires a delicate balance between openness to revision and commitment to rigorous standards of proof.

- Q5.** The author suggests that scientific consensus should
- (A) never be questioned
 - (B) be accepted only by governments
 - (C) remain open to revision in light of new evidence
 - (D) replace ethical considerations entirely

- Q6.** The passage implies that skepticism in science is valuable because it
- (A) delays innovation
 - (B) prevents all scientific errors



- (C) encourages continual verification of theories
- (D) weakens established discoveries

Q7. Which statement best captures the central idea of the passage?

- (A) Scientific truth is immutable.
- (B) Doubt and inquiry are essential to scientific progress.
- (C) Governments control scientific advancement completely.
- (D) Ethical concerns are obstacles to innovation.

Q8. The author’s attitude toward dogmatism is primarily one of

- (A) admiration
- (B) neutrality
- (C) skepticism
- (D) amusement

Passage III

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

Social media platforms increasingly rely on algorithms designed to maximize user engagement. These systems analyze user behavior and selectively present content most likely to attract attention, provoke emotional reactions, or encourage prolonged interaction. While such personalization enhances user experience in certain respects, critics argue that it can also create “echo chambers” in which individuals are repeatedly exposed to opinions similar to their own. As a result, ideological polarization may intensify because users encounter fewer perspectives that challenge their assumptions. Furthermore, misinformation can spread rapidly when sensational or emotionally charged content receives greater visibility than nuanced analysis. Although digital platforms claim to promote connectivity and democratic participation, concerns persist regarding



their broader social and political consequences.

- Q9.** The passage suggests that social media algorithms primarily function to
- (A) encourage balanced discourse
 - (B) maximize user engagement
 - (C) eliminate misinformation entirely
 - (D) strengthen academic debate
- Q10.** The phrase “echo chamber” refers to an environment where
- (A) diverse perspectives are encouraged
 - (B) only authoritative voices are permitted
 - (C) existing beliefs are repeatedly reinforced
 - (D) information is scientifically verified
- Q11.** Which of the following is most strongly supported by the passage?
- (A) Algorithms are politically neutral.
 - (B) Digital platforms can intensify ideological polarization.
 - (C) Social media has eliminated misinformation.
 - (D) Users always prefer objective content.
- Q12.** The author’s tone in the passage can best be described as
- (A) humorous
 - (B) dismissive
 - (C) reflective and critical
 - (D) optimistic



Verbal Ability & Vocabulary

- Q13.** Choose the synonym of “Recalcitrant”.
- (A) Obedient
 - (B) Defiant
 - (C) Timid
 - (D) Compassionate
- Q14.** Choose the antonym of “Ubiquitous”.
- (A) Omnipresent
 - (B) Rare
 - (C) Universal
 - (D) Common
- Q15.** The idiom “To bell the cat” means
- (A) to attempt an impossible task
 - (B) to undertake a risky responsibility
 - (C) to deceive someone cleverly
 - (D) to celebrate recklessly
- Q16.** Choose the correct one-word substitution for “A speech delivered without preparation.”
- (A) Monologue
 - (B) Extempore
 - (C) Soliloquy
 - (D) Rhetoric



- Q17.** Choose the synonym of “Obfuscate”.
- (A) Clarify
 - (B) Complicate
 - (C) Simplify
 - (D) Reveal
- Q18.** Choose the antonym of “Pragmatic”.
- (A) Practical
 - (B) Realistic
 - (C) Idealistic
 - (D) Rational
- Q19.** “A person who deliberately sets fire to property” is called
- (A) Philanthropist
 - (B) Martinet
 - (C) Arsonist
 - (D) Mercenary
- Q20.** Identify the grammatically correct sentence.
- (A) No sooner had he entered the hall when the lights went out.
 - (B) No sooner had he entered the hall than the lights went out.
 - (C) No sooner he had entered the hall than the lights went out.
 - (D) No sooner did he entered the hall than the lights went out.
- Q21.** Choose the part containing the error: “Neither of the proposals were considered feasible by the committee.”
- (A) Neither of the proposals
 - (B) were considered
 - (C) feasible by the committee



(D) No error

Q22. Select the correct indirect narration of: “She said, ‘I have been waiting for hours.’”

(A) She said that she had been waiting for hours.

(B) She said that she has been waiting for hours.

(C) She said she is waiting for hours.

(D) She told that she had waited for hours.

Q23. Choose the correct sentence.

(A) The number of applicants are increasing rapidly.

(B) The number of applicants have increased rapidly.

(C) The number of applicants is increasing rapidly.

(D) The number of applicants were increasing rapidly.

Q24. The diplomat’s remarks were deliberately _____, allowing multiple interpretations.

(A) unequivocal

(B) ambiguous

(C) candid

(D) coherent

Q25. The scholar’s argument was so _____ that even critics acknowledged its intellectual depth.

(A) superficial

(B) incoherent

(C) cogent

(D) frivolous



- Q26.** The committee attempted to _____ the growing conflict before it escalated further.
- (A) exacerbate
 - (B) mitigate
 - (C) provoke
 - (D) disregard
- Q27.** Despite repeated setbacks, the scientist remained remarkably _____ in pursuing her research.
- (A) despondent
 - (B) resolute
 - (C) apathetic
 - (D) negligent
- Q28.** Rearrange the following sentences logically:
- P. Consequently, public trust in the institution declined sharply.
 - Q. Several financial irregularities were uncovered during the audit.
 - R. The management initially attempted to suppress the findings.
 - S. Media outlets soon began reporting the controversy extensively.
- (A) QRSP
 - (B) QRPS
 - (C) RQSP
 - (D) QSPR
- Q29.** Rearrange the following sentences logically:
- P. As a result, smaller firms struggled to survive in the market.
 - Q. Technological automation reduced production costs significantly.
 - R. Large corporations rapidly expanded their operations.
 - S. Competition within the industry intensified considerably.
- (A) QRSP



- (B) QSRP
- (C) RQSP
- (D) QRPS

Q30. Climate change has intensified extreme weather events across many regions of the world. Scientists warn that rising global temperatures could disrupt agricultural systems, increase water scarcity, and threaten biodiversity. Although governments have introduced environmental policies, experts argue that international cooperation and long-term sustainability measures remain insufficient. Which of the following best summarizes the passage?

- (A) Governments have completely failed to address climate change.
- (B) Climate change poses global risks requiring stronger collective action.
- (C) Agriculture is the only sector affected by climate change.
- (D) Environmental policies have already solved the climate crisis.



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

Concept: The passage discusses the limitations of economic forecasting, highlighting its reliance on historical data and its failure to account for unforeseen disruptions and the interconnectedness of modern economies. The core criticism is about the models' inability to predict or prepare for unprecedented events due to a focus on past patterns and an underestimation of systemic weaknesses.

Solution: Step 1: Analyze the first paragraph of the passage, focusing on the critique of economic forecasting. The passage states, "critics argue that many forecasting models rely excessively on historical trends and statistical regularities while underestimating the possibility of unprecedented disruptions."

Step 2: Evaluate the given options against this central criticism.

Option A: "relies excessively on historical trends while underestimating unpredictable disruptions" - This directly matches the criticism mentioned in the passage.

Option B: "ignores technological development completely" - The passage mentions "technological transformation" as a factor causing predictive limitations but does not state that models ignore technological development entirely.

Option C: "exaggerates the importance of financial institutions" - The passage mentions financial institutions as users of forecasting but does not claim they are exaggerated in importance by the models. Option D: "discourages governments from intervening in markets" - The passage does not discuss the effect of forecasting on government intervention.

Step 3: Conclude that Option A is the most accurate representation of the author's primary criticism.

Final Answer:

relies excessively on historical trends while
underestimating unpredictable disruptions

Answer: (A)

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Q2.

Solution

Concept: The phrase "structural fragility" is introduced in the context of financial crises and hidden weaknesses within interconnected systems. Understanding the context in which a phrase is used is crucial to interpreting its meaning.

Solution: Step 1: Locate the phrase "structural fragility" in the passage. It appears in the sentence: "Financial crises often expose what economists describe as “structural fragility” — hidden weaknesses embedded within interconnected systems."

Step 2: Analyze the surrounding words and the broader context. The phrase is defined immediately after its introduction with "hidden weaknesses embedded within interconnected systems."

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

Option A: "temporary political instability" - This is not directly related to the embedded weaknesses of a system.

Option B: "hidden weakness within a larger system" - This directly matches the definition provided in the passage.

Option C: "rapid industrial expansion" - This is a process, not a hidden weakness.

Option D: "economic independence" - This is the opposite of being interconnected and fragile.

Step 4: Conclude that Option B is the most accurate interpretation of "structural fragility" as used in the passage.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

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Q3.

Solution

Concept: Inference involves drawing conclusions based on the information provided in the text, even if not explicitly stated. The passage discusses how global interconnectedness allows disturbances to spread rapidly and how modern economies are vulnerable.

Solution: Step 1: Re-read the passage, paying attention to statements about interconnectedness and the spread of disturbances. The passage states: "Because modern economies are globally linked through trade, technology, and financial markets, disturbances originating in one sector can rapidly spread across nations."

Step 2: Consider what can be logically inferred from this statement. The rapid spread of disturbances implies that issues in one area can have widespread consequences, which suggests a degree of interconnected risk.

Step 3: Evaluate the given options:

Option A: "Economic crises are entirely unpredictable." - The passage discusses predictive limitations, not that crises are entirely unpredictable.

Option B: "Policymakers often overlook interconnected risks." - The passage implies that these interconnected risks are a problem, and the focus on historical trends suggests a potential overlooking of these systemic vulnerabilities. The call for resilience and adaptability further supports this.

Option C: "Technological innovation always stabilizes markets." - The passage mentions technological transformation as a source of disruption, not stabilization.

Option D: "Historical data is irrelevant to forecasting." - The passage criticizes *over-reliance* on historical data, not its irrelevance.

Step 4: Identify Option B as the most plausible inference. The passage highlights how disturbances spread due to interconnectedness, implying that policymakers, who are tasked with managing these economies, might not be adequately considering these interconnected risks if they are overly focused on past patterns.

Final Answer: Policymakers often overlook interconnected risks

Answer: (B)

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Q4.

Solution

Concept: The tone of a passage is the author's attitude towards the subject matter, conveyed through word choice, sentence structure, and overall emphasis.

Solution: Step 1: Read the passage and identify keywords and phrases that reveal the author's attitude. Examples include: "critics argue," "underestimating the possibility of unprecedented disruptions," "structural fragility," "predictive limitations remain significant," "contend that policymakers should place greater emphasis on resilience and adaptability."

Step 2: Analyze the overall message. The author presents a critique of current economic forecasting practices, pointing out their flaws and suggesting a need for a different approach (resilience and adaptability).

Step 3: Evaluate the given tone options:

Option A: "sarcastic" - There is no indication of mockery or irony.

Option B: "analytical and cautionary" - The author analyzes the problems with forecasting (analytical) and warns about the consequences of these limitations (cautionary). This aligns well with the critical yet objective presentation.

Option C: "celebratory" - The passage is critical, not celebratory.

Option D: "indifferent" - The author clearly has an opinion and presents arguments, showing they are not indifferent.

Step 4: Conclude that the tone is best described as analytical, as it breaks down the issues with forecasting, and cautionary, as it highlights the risks and suggests a need for a more prudent approach.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

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Q5.

Solution

Concept: The passage discusses the relationship between scientific consensus and new evidence, emphasizing the dynamic and self-correcting nature of science. It highlights the importance of not treating consensus as immutable truth.

Solution: Step 1: Locate the sentence in the passage that directly addresses scientific consensus. It states: "Yet scientific consensus is sometimes misunderstood as permanent truth rather than the best available explanation at a given moment."

Step 2: Analyze the implication of this statement for how consensus should be treated. If it's "the best available explanation at a given moment" and science progresses through new evidence, then consensus must be subject to change.

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

Option A: "never be questioned" - This contradicts the passage's emphasis on skepticism and new evidence.

Option B: "be accepted only by governments" - The passage does not discuss who should accept scientific consensus.

Option C: "remain open to revision in light of new evidence" - This aligns directly with the idea that consensus is the "best available explanation at a given moment" and that science involves revising theories when new evidence emerges.

Option D: "replace ethical considerations entirely" - The passage does not mention ethical considerations in relation to scientific consensus.

Step 4: Conclude that Option C best reflects the author's suggestion about scientific consensus.

Final Answer:

Answer: (C)

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Q6.

Solution

Concept: The passage links scientific progress to skepticism and highlights how this skepticism is a driving force for verification and potential revision of theories.

Solution: Step 1: Identify the sentences that discuss the role of skepticism in science. The passage states:

"Scientific progress depends not only on discovery but also on skepticism. Throughout history, many theories once considered indisputable were later revised or abandoned when new evidence emerged."

Step 2: Understand how skepticism contributes to scientific progress. The passage explains that skepticism leads to the revision or abandonment of theories when new evidence appears, implying a process of ongoing validation.

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

Option A: "delays innovation" - The passage suggests skepticism is essential for progress, not that it delays it.

Option B: "prevents all scientific errors" - The passage implies that errors can be corrected, but not necessarily that all errors are prevented.

Option C: "encourages continual verification of theories" - This aligns perfectly with the idea that skepticism leads to new evidence challenging existing theories, thus requiring their verification or revision.

Option D: "weakens established discoveries" - While it might lead to revisions, the purpose is to ensure accuracy and progress, not just to weaken discoveries.

Step 4: Conclude that Option C best describes the value of skepticism in science as presented in the passage.

Final Answer: encourages continual verification of theories

Answer: (C)

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Q7.

Solution

Concept: The central idea of a passage is its main point or overarching message. This often involves synthesizing the various arguments and examples presented.

Solution: Step 1: Review the key points made in the passage: science relies on skepticism for progress, scientific consensus is not permanent truth but the best current explanation, and productive inquiry requires balancing openness with rigorous proof.

Step 2: Identify the recurring theme. The passage consistently emphasizes the importance of questioning, doubt, and the ongoing process of scientific inquiry.

Step 3: Evaluate the given options against this synthesized understanding.

Option A: "Scientific truth is immutable." - This is directly contradicted by the passage's emphasis on revision based on new evidence.

Option B: "Doubt and inquiry are essential to scientific progress." - This statement encapsulates the core message that skepticism and questioning lead to advancements.

Option C: "Governments control scientific advancement completely." - The passage does not mention the role of governments.

Option D: "Ethical concerns are obstacles to innovation." - The passage does not discuss ethical concerns.

Step 4: Conclude that Option B best captures the central idea of the passage.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

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Q8.

Solution

Concept: The author's attitude towards a concept is revealed by the language used to describe it and the arguments presented. Dogmatism is contrasted with the healthy skepticism advocated in the passage.

Solution: Step 1: Locate where the passage mentions or contrasts with dogmatism. The passage states: "This self-correcting nature distinguishes science from dogmatic systems of thought."

Step 2: Analyze the implications of this contrast. Science's strength is its self-correction, which is presented as a positive attribute, while dogmatic systems are implicitly characterized by a lack of this self-correction.

Step 3: Evaluate the author's attitude towards dogmatism based on this contrast. The author highlights science's superiority by contrasting it with dogmatism, suggesting a negative view of dogmatism.

Step 4: Evaluate the given options:

Option A: "admiration" - The passage clearly does not admire dogmatism.

Option B: "neutrality" - The contrast implies a definite stance, not neutrality.

Option C: "skepticism" - The passage advocates for skepticism in science and implicitly views dogmatism as its opposite, something to be wary of. This skepticism towards dogmatic systems aligns with the author's overall theme.

Option D: "amusement" - There is no indication of humor or amusement.

Step 5: Conclude that the author's attitude is one of skepticism towards dogmatism, viewing it as a system that lacks the progressive and self-correcting qualities of science.

Final Answer:

Answer: (C)

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Q9.

Solution

Concept: The passage explains the primary goal of algorithms used by social media platforms. Understanding the stated purpose of these algorithms is key to answering the question.

Solution: Step 1: Identify the sentence in the passage that describes the function of social media algorithms. It states: "Social media platforms increasingly rely on algorithms designed to maximize user engagement."

Step 2: Analyze the subsequent sentences to understand how this maximization is achieved. The passage explains that these algorithms analyze user behavior and present content likely to attract attention, provoke emotions, or encourage prolonged interaction.

Step 3: Evaluate the given options against this primary function. Option A: "encourage balanced discourse" - The passage suggests algorithms can lead to polarization, the opposite of balanced discourse.

Option B: "maximize user engagement" - This is explicitly stated as the primary design goal of the algorithms.

Option C: "eliminate misinformation entirely" - The passage notes that misinformation can spread rapidly, implying the algorithms do not eliminate it.

Option D: "strengthen academic debate" - The passage does not mention academic debate in relation to algorithms.

Step 4: Conclude that Option B accurately reflects the primary function of social media algorithms as described in the passage.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

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Q10.

Solution

Concept: The passage introduces the term "echo chamber" and explains its effect within the context of social media. The definition provided in the text is crucial for understanding the phrase.

Solution: Step 1: Locate the phrase "echo chamber" in the passage. It appears in the sentence: "As a result, ideological polarization may intensify because users encounter fewer perspectives that challenge their assumptions." The passage earlier states that algorithms can create "echo chambers" in which individuals are repeatedly exposed to opinions similar to their own."

Step 2: Synthesize the description provided. An echo chamber is an environment where individuals are primarily exposed to their own opinions, leading to reinforcement of existing beliefs and a lack of challenging perspectives.

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

Option A: "diverse perspectives are encouraged" - This is the opposite of an echo chamber.

Option B: "only authoritative voices are permitted" - The passage does not specify the type of voices, only that they are similar to the user's own.

Option C: "existing beliefs are repeatedly reinforced" - This directly aligns with the description of being repeatedly exposed to similar opinions and encountering fewer challenging perspectives.

Option D: "information is scientifically verified" - The passage does not link echo chambers to scientific verification.

Step 4: Conclude that Option C best defines the concept of an "echo chamber" as presented in the passage.

Final Answer: existing beliefs are repeatedly reinforced

Answer: (C)

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Q11.

Solution

Concept: To infer what is strongly supported by the passage, one must identify the claims made and the evidence or reasoning provided. The passage discusses the consequences of algorithms designed to maximize engagement.

Solution: Step 1: Re-examine the passage's discussion of algorithms, echo chambers, and polarization. The passage states that algorithms create "echo chambers" where users are exposed to similar opinions, which can lead to "ideological polarization" intensifying.

Step 2: Evaluate each option for the strongest support within the passage.

Option A: "Algorithms are politically neutral." - The passage does not claim algorithms are neutral; it discusses their effects on polarization, implying they have political consequences.

Option B: "Digital platforms can intensify ideological polarization." - This is directly supported by the passage's explanation of how echo chambers formed by algorithms lead to intensified polarization.

Option C: "Social media has eliminated misinformation." - The passage states that misinformation can spread rapidly, the opposite of elimination.

Option D: "Users always prefer objective content." - The passage suggests algorithms promote content likely to provoke emotional reactions or gain attention, implying users may not always prefer objective content, but it doesn't state they *always* prefer objective content.

Step 3: Conclude that Option B is the statement most strongly and directly supported by the text.

Final Answer: Digital platforms can intensify ideological polarization

Answer: (B)

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Q12.

Solution

Concept: The tone of a passage reflects the author's attitude towards the subject matter. This is conveyed through word choice, emphasis, and the way arguments are presented.

Solution: Step 1: Read the passage carefully, noting the author's language and the points being made. The author explains how algorithms work, discusses the concept of "echo chambers," and points out potential negative consequences like intensified polarization and the spread of misinformation.

Step 2: Identify the author's perspective. The author presents the mechanisms of social media algorithms and their effects in a way that raises concerns about their broader social and political impact. Words like "critics argue," "may also create," "may intensify," and "concerns persist" suggest a critical but objective examination.

Step 3: Evaluate the given tone options.

Option A: "humorous" - There is no humor in the passage.

Option B: "dismissive" - The author takes the issues seriously and analyzes them, not dismisses them.

Option C: "reflective and critical" - The author reflects on the functioning of social media platforms and their algorithms and critically analyzes their potential negative consequences. This fits the overall presentation.

Option D: "optimistic" - The passage highlights concerns and potential negative impacts, which is not optimistic.

Step 4: Conclude that the author's tone is best described as reflective, as they consider the implications of the technology, and critical, as they point out potential problems and societal concerns.

Final Answer:

Answer: (C)

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Q13.

Solution

Concept: This question asks for a synonym of the word "recalcitrant." A synonym is a word that has a similar meaning. "Recalcitrant" describes someone who is stubbornly disobedient or resistant to authority or control.

Solution: Step 1: Understand the meaning of "recalcitrant." It means resistant to control or authority; stubborn.

Step 2: Analyze the given options:

(A) Obedient: This is an antonym, meaning willing to obey.

(B) Defiant: This means showing open resistance or bold disobedience. This is a close synonym.

(C) Timid: This means showing a lack of courage or confidence; easily frightened. This is unrelated.

(D) Compassionate: This means feeling or showing sympathy and concern for others. This is unrelated.

Step 3: Identify the word that best matches the meaning of "recalcitrant." "Defiant" shares the core meaning of resistance and disobedience.

Final Answer:

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Q14.

Solution

Concept: This question asks for an antonym of the word "ubiquitous." An antonym is a word that has the opposite meaning. "Ubiquitous" means present, appearing, or found everywhere.

Solution: Step 1: Understand the meaning of "ubiquitous." It means present everywhere or seeming to be everywhere at the same time.

Step 2: Analyze the given options:

(A) Omnipresent: This is a synonym of ubiquitous, meaning present everywhere.

(B) Rare: This means not common or frequent; occurring infrequently. This is the opposite of being found everywhere.

(C) Universal: This means applicable to all cases or circumstances. While related to being widespread, it's not a direct opposite of being everywhere.

(D) Common: This means occurring, found, or done often; prevalent. This is related to being widespread but not necessarily everywhere.

Step 3: Identify the word that represents the opposite meaning of "ubiquitous." If something is found everywhere, its opposite would be something that is not found often or is infrequent. "Rare" fits this description.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

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Q15.

Solution

Concept: This question requires understanding the meaning of the idiom "to bell the cat." Idioms are phrases whose meaning cannot be deduced from the literal meaning of the words.

Solution: Step 1: Recall or research the meaning of the idiom "to bell the cat." This idiom originates from a fable where mice decide to put a bell on a cat to warn themselves of its approach, but no mouse is brave enough to undertake the dangerous task.

Step 2: Analyze the origin and common usage of the idiom. It refers to performing a dangerous or difficult task that others are afraid to do, often for the benefit of a group.

Step 3: Evaluate the given options:

(A) to attempt an impossible task: While the task might be difficult, the idiom doesn't necessarily imply it's impossible, but rather very risky or dangerous.

(B) to undertake a risky responsibility: This accurately captures the essence of the idiom – taking on a dangerous or challenging task for a group.

(C) to deceive someone cleverly: This is not related to the idiom.

(D) to celebrate recklessly: This is also unrelated.

Step 4: Choose the option that best represents the meaning of "to bell the cat." Undertaking a risky responsibility that others shy away from is the core meaning.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

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Q16.

Solution

Concept: This question asks for a one-word substitution for the phrase "A speech delivered without preparation." This involves finding a single word that accurately defines this action.

Solution: Step 1: Understand the phrase "A speech delivered without preparation." This implies spontaneity and improvisation in speaking.

Step 2: Analyze the given options:

(A) Monologue: A long speech by one actor in a play or movie, or as part of a theatrical or broadcast program. It is not necessarily unprepared.

(B) Extempore: Spoken or done without preparation. This directly matches the definition.

(C) Soliloquy: An act of speaking one's thoughts aloud when by oneself or regardless of any hearers, especially by a character in a play. It is a form of monologue, but not necessarily unprepared.

(D) Rhetoric: The art of effective or persuasive speaking or writing, especially the use of figures of speech and other compositional techniques. This is a broader concept and not specific to unprepared speeches.

Step 3: Select the word that precisely means "a speech delivered without preparation." "Extempore" fits this definition perfectly.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

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Q17.

Solution

Concept: This question asks for a synonym of "obfuscate." A synonym is a word with a similar meaning. "Obfuscate" means to make something unclear, obscure, or unintelligible.

Solution: Step 1: Understand the meaning of "obfuscate." It means to make something unclear, obscure, or unintelligible, often deliberately.

Step 2: Analyze the given options:

(A) Clarify: This is an antonym, meaning to make something clear.

(B) Complicate: This means to make something more complex or difficult to understand. This is very close in meaning to obfuscate, as making something complicated can lead to it being obscure.

(C) Simplify: This is an antonym, meaning to make something simpler.

(D) Reveal: This means to make something known or visible, the opposite of making something obscure.

Step 3: Identify the word that best shares a similar meaning with "obfuscate." While obfuscate is about making unclear, complicate often leads to that result. However, "complicate" does not fully capture the deliberateness of "obfuscate." A more direct synonym would be "confuse" or "obscure." Among the given options, "complicate" is the closest if interpreted as making something hard to understand. Looking at standard synonyms for obfuscate, they include confuse, bewilder, perplex, obscure, cloud, muddy, muddle, mystify, complicate, etc. "Complicate" is the best fit among the choices provided, as it implies making something more difficult to understand, which is a key aspect of obfuscation.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

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Q18.

Solution

Concept: This question asks for an antonym of "pragmatic." An antonym is a word with the opposite meaning. "Pragmatic" means dealing with things sensibly and realistically in a way that is based on practical rather than theoretical considerations.

Solution: Step 1: Understand the meaning of "pragmatic." It refers to a practical, realistic approach, focusing on what works and is achievable.

Step 2: Analyze the given options:

(A) Practical: This is a synonym of pragmatic, not an antonym.

(B) Realistic: This is also a synonym, emphasizing dealing with things as they are.

(C) Idealistic: This refers to a person who is guided by ideals rather than by practical considerations. This is the opposite of being pragmatic.

(D) Rational: This means based on or in accordance with reason or logic. While pragmatism is often rational, "idealistic" is a more direct opposite of focusing on practical realities.

Step 3: Identify the word that represents the opposite of a pragmatic approach. An idealistic approach prioritizes abstract principles or ideals over practical realities, which is the antithesis of pragmatism.

Final Answer:

Answer:

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Q19.

Solution

Concept: This question asks for a one-word substitution for "A person who deliberately sets fire to property." This is a definition that corresponds to a specific term.

Solution: Step 1: Understand the definition: "A person who deliberately sets fire to property." This action is known as arson.

Step 2: Analyze the given options to find the word that describes such a person:

(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.

(B) Martinet: A person who demands strict adherence to rules and discipline. This is unrelated.

(C) Arsonist: A person who commits arson. This directly matches the definition.

(D) Mercenary: A soldier hired to serve in a foreign army; a person who works only for money. This is unrelated.

Step 3: Select the word that correctly identifies a person who deliberately sets fire to property. "Arsonist" is the correct term.

Final Answer: Arsonist

Answer: (C)

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Q20.

Solution

Concept: This question tests knowledge of grammatical structure, specifically the correct conjunction to use with the phrase "No sooner had..."

Solution: Step 1: Identify the introductory phrase "No sooner had he entered the hall." This construction requires a specific conjunction to follow it.

Step 2: Recall the grammatical rule for "No sooner...": When "no sooner" is used at the beginning of a sentence, it is followed by "had" and then the past participle, and it must be followed by "than" to connect the two clauses. The structure is "No sooner had + subject + past participle + than + subject + past tense verb."

Step 3: Analyze the given options based on this rule:

(A) No sooner had he entered the hall when the lights went out. - "When" is incorrect with "no sooner had."

(B) No sooner had he entered the hall than the lights went out. - This follows the correct structure: "No sooner had" + subject + past participle ("entered") + "than" + subject + past tense verb ("went").

(C) No sooner he had entered the hall than the lights went out. - The auxiliary verb "had" should precede the subject "he" after "No sooner." The structure should be "No sooner had he..." not "No sooner he had..."

(D) No sooner did he entered the hall than the lights went out. - "Did" should be followed by the base form of the verb ("enter"), not the past participle ("entered"). Also, "No sooner had" is the correct structure for past perfect, not "No sooner did" when referring to a completed action in the past.

Step 4: Select the sentence that correctly applies the "no sooner... than" construction.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

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Q21.

Solution

Concept: This question asks to identify the grammatical error in the given sentence. It involves subject-verb agreement.

Solution: Step 1: Examine the sentence: "Neither of the proposals were considered feasible by the committee."

Step 2: Identify the subject of the verb "were considered." The phrase "Neither of the proposals" is the subject.

Step 3: Apply the rule for subject-verb agreement with "neither." When "neither" is used as a pronoun or introduces a phrase like "neither of...", the verb should agree with "neither" itself, which is singular. Therefore, the verb should be singular.

Step 4: Check the verb used. The sentence uses "were considered," which is plural. The singular form should be "was considered."

Step 5: Determine which part of the sentence contains the error. The error is in the verb "were considered" because it does not agree with the singular subject "Neither."

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

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Q22.

Solution

Concept: This question requires converting a direct speech sentence into indirect speech. This involves changes in tense, pronouns, and time/place references.

Solution: Step 1: Analyze the direct speech sentence: "She said, 'I have been waiting for hours.'"

Step 2: Identify the reporting verb: "said." Since it is in the past tense, the tense of the verb in the reported clause will shift back.

Step 3: Identify the pronoun: "I." This needs to be changed to match the speaker, which is "She," so "I" becomes "she."

Step 4: Identify the tense of the verb in the reported clause: "have been waiting." This is the present perfect continuous tense. When the reporting verb is in the past tense, the present perfect continuous tense shifts to the past perfect continuous tense. So, "have been waiting" becomes "had been waiting."

Step 5: Combine these changes. The sentence becomes: "She said that she had been waiting for hours."

Step 6: Evaluate the given options:

(A) She said that she had been waiting for hours. - This correctly applies all the rules: pronoun change, tense shift (present perfect continuous to past perfect continuous), and the use of "that" to introduce the reported speech.

(B) She said that she has been waiting for hours. - The tense remains present perfect continuous, which is incorrect when the reporting verb is in the past.

(C) She said she is waiting for hours. - The tense is incorrect (present continuous), and the pronoun is correct, but the tense shift is missing.

(D) She told that she had waited for hours. - The reporting verb "told" requires an object (e.g., "She told me that..."). Also, the tense shift from "have been waiting" (continuous) to "had waited" (simple past) is not the correct conversion; it should be past perfect continuous.

Step 7: Choose the option that correctly converts the direct speech to indirect speech.

Final Answer: She said that she had been waiting for hours

Answer: (A)

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Q23.

Solution

Concept: This question tests subject-verb agreement. The key to this sentence is understanding what the subject of the verb is.

Solution: Step 1: Identify the phrase in the sentence that determines the subject. The sentence begins with "The number of applicants..."

Step 2: Determine the actual subject. When a sentence starts with "The number of + plural noun," the subject is "number," which is singular. The phrase "of applicants" is a prepositional phrase modifying "number."

Step 3: Apply the rule for subject-verb agreement. Since the subject ("number") is singular, the verb must also be singular.

Step 4: Examine the options for a singular verb:

- (A) The number of applicants are increasing rapidly. - "are" is plural. Incorrect.
- (B) The number of applicants have increased rapidly. - "have" is plural. Incorrect.
- (C) The number of applicants is increasing rapidly. - "is" is singular. Correct.
- (D) The number of applicants were increasing rapidly. - "were" is plural. Incorrect.

Step 5: Select the sentence with the singular verb that agrees with the singular subject "number."

Final Answer: The number of applicants is increasing rapidly.

Answer: (C)

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Q24.

Solution

Concept: This question requires filling in the blank with a word that fits the context of the sentence. The sentence describes remarks that allow for multiple interpretations, suggesting they were not clear.

Solution: Step 1: Read the sentence: "The diplomat's remarks were deliberately _____, allowing multiple interpretations."

Step 2: Analyze the key phrase "allowing multiple interpretations." This implies that the remarks were not clear, precise, or definite.

Step 3: Evaluate the given options:

(A) unequivocal: This means leaving no doubt; clear, absolute. This is the opposite of what the sentence describes.

(B) ambiguous: This means open to more than one interpretation; not having one obvious meaning. This perfectly fits the context of remarks allowing multiple interpretations.

(C) candid: This means truthful and straightforward; frank. This implies clarity, not multiple interpretations.

(D) coherent: This means logical and consistent. While remarks should be coherent, coherence does not necessarily mean they are open to multiple interpretations; they could be logically consistent and still clear.

Step 4: Choose the word that best describes remarks that are open to multiple interpretations. "Ambiguous" is the most fitting word.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

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Q25.

Solution

Concept: This question requires filling in the blank with a word that describes an argument that impressed critics due to its intellectual depth.

Solution: Step 1: Read the sentence: "The scholar's argument was so _____ that even critics acknowledged its intellectual depth."

Step 2: Analyze the context provided by "even critics acknowledged its intellectual depth." This implies the argument was strong, convincing, and well-reasoned.

Step 3: Evaluate the given options:

(A) superficial: This means appearing to be true or real only until examined more closely; having or showing a very shallow understanding. This is the opposite of an argument with intellectual depth.

(B) incoherent: This means expressed in an incomprehensible or confusing way; illogical. This would not impress critics with intellectual depth.

(C) cogent: This means (of an argument or case) clear, logical, and convincing. This aligns perfectly with an argument that has intellectual depth and impresses critics.

(D) frivolous: This means not having any serious purpose or value. This is the opposite of an intellectually deep argument.

Step 4: Choose the word that describes a convincing and intellectually deep argument. "Cogent" is the best fit.

Final Answer:

Answer: (C)

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Q26.

Solution

Concept: This question requires filling in the blank with a word that describes the committee's action to reduce or lessen a conflict.

Solution: Step 1: Read the sentence: "The committee attempted to _____ the growing conflict before it escalated further."

Step 2: Analyze the context provided by "before it escalated further." This implies the committee's goal was to reduce the intensity or severity of the conflict.

Step 3: Evaluate the given options:

(A) exacerbate: This means to make a problem, bad situation, or negative feeling worse. This is the opposite of the committee's intention.

(B) mitigate: This means to make something bad less severe, serious, or painful. This fits the context of reducing a growing conflict.

(C) provoke: This means to stimulate or incite (someone) to do or feel something, especially by arousing anger in them. This would worsen the conflict.

(D) disregard: This means to pay no attention to; ignore. While sometimes an option, "mitigate" suggests active intervention to lessen the problem.

Step 4: Choose the word that means to lessen or reduce the severity of something. "Mitigate" is the correct choice.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

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Q27.

Solution

Concept: This question requires filling in the blank with a word that describes the scientist's attitude in the face of setbacks, given that she remained committed to her research.

Solution: Step 1: Read the sentence: "Despite repeated setbacks, the scientist remained remarkably _____ in pursuing her research."

Step 2: Analyze the context provided by "Despite repeated setbacks" and "in pursuing her research." This implies that the scientist did not give up and continued her work with determination.

Step 3: Evaluate the given options:

(A) despondent: This means in low spirits from loss of hope or courage. This is the opposite of continuing research despite setbacks.

(B) resolute: This means admirably purposeful, determined, and unwavering. This perfectly describes someone who continues despite setbacks.

(C) apathetic: This means showing or feeling no interest, enthusiasm, or concern. This would lead to abandoning research, not pursuing it.

(D) negligent: This means failing to take proper care over something. This implies a lack of dedication, not remarkable commitment.

Step 4: Choose the word that means determined and unwavering in the face of difficulty. "Resolute" is the best fit.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

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Q28.

Solution

Concept: This is a para-jumble question, which requires rearranging a set of sentences to form a coherent paragraph. Logical flow, cause-and-effect relationships, and pronoun references are key indicators.

Solution: Step 1: Identify the introductory sentence.

Sentence Q introduces the main event — financial irregularities were uncovered during the audit. Hence, Q should come first.

Step 2: Find the logical continuation.

After the irregularities were discovered, the management attempted to suppress the findings. Therefore, R follows Q.

Step 3: Determine the next development.

Since the issue could not remain hidden, media outlets began reporting the controversy extensively. Hence, S follows R.

Step 4: Identify the final consequence.

Due to the widespread media coverage, public trust in the institution declined sharply. Thus, P comes at the end.

Therefore, the correct sequence is:

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

Final Answer:

Answer: (A)

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Q29.

Solution

Concept: This is a para-jumble question requiring rearrangement of sentences into a logical paragraph. Look for introductory statements, cause-and-effect relationships, and transitional phrases.

Solution: Step 1: Read all the sentences carefully.

Q introduces the main cause — technological automation reduced production costs significantly. This provides the starting point of the sequence.

Step 2: Identify the immediate effect of automation.

Due to lower production costs, large corporations gained an advantage and rapidly expanded their operations. Hence, R follows Q.

Step 3: Determine the next development.

As large corporations expanded, rivalry within the industry increased. Therefore, competition in the market intensified considerably. Thus, S follows R.

Step 4: Identify the final consequence.

Because competition became very intense, smaller firms found it difficult to survive in the market. The phrase “As a result” in P also indicates that it should come at the end.

Thus, the correct logical order is:

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

Final Answer:

Answer: (A)

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Q30.

Solution

Concept: This question asks for the best summary of a given passage. A good summary captures the main idea and the most important supporting points without adding new information or misrepresenting the original text.

Solution: Step 1: Read the passage carefully to identify the main points:

Climate change intensifies extreme weather.

Rising temperatures threaten agriculture, water, and biodiversity.

Governments have introduced policies, but they are insufficient.

International cooperation and long-term sustainability measures are needed.

Step 2: Evaluate each summary option against these main points.

(A) Governments have completely failed to address climate change. - The passage states policies have been introduced, but are insufficient, not that they have completely failed. This is too absolute and misrepresents the passage.

(B) Climate change poses global risks requiring stronger collective action. - This option captures the intensification of extreme weather and threats to various systems (global risks) and the inadequacy of current measures, implying a need for more comprehensive action (stronger collective action). This aligns well with the passage's core message.

(C) Agriculture is the only sector affected by climate change. - The passage mentions agriculture, but also water scarcity and biodiversity, indicating multiple affected sectors, not just agriculture.

(D) Environmental policies have already solved the climate crisis. - The passage explicitly states that policies are "insufficient," which contradicts the idea that they have solved the crisis.

Step 3: Choose the option that best synthesizes the key information and overall message of the passage. Option B accurately reflects the global nature of the risks and the call for more effective, collective solutions.

Final Answer: Climate change poses global risks requiring stronger collective action

Answer: (B)

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Answer Key

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

