

MAT Language Comprehension Sample Paper-6

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

Directions for Questions 1 to 4: Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow based on the content and implied meanings within the text.

"The financialization of the global economic architecture has fundamentally decoupled asset valuations from empirical macroeconomic indicators. Historically, equity markets functioned as a forward-looking barometer of industrial productivity and consumer demand. However, the contemporary paradigm relies heavily on liquidity injections from central banking institutions, transforming systemic markets into feedback loops driven by monetary policy expectations rather than fundamental enterprise performance. This structural mutation introduces what economists call a "perverse incentive matrix," where corporate entities prioritize short-term stock buybacks over long-term capital expenditure or research and development. Consequently, the ostensible health of capital indices masks an underlying fragility characterized by stagnant wage growth and compressed real manufacturing output. Critics argue that this divergence compromises the very integrity of market-driven resource allocation, transforming capitalism into an administrative exercise in risk socialization."



- Q1.** According to the passage, the primary driver behind the decoupling of asset valuations from empirical macroeconomic indicators is:
- (A) The dramatic increase in corporate research and development investments.
 - (B) Systemic liquidity injections from central banks that shift focus to monetary policy expectations.
 - (C) An unprecedented surge in global consumer demand and industrial productivity.
 - (D) The regulatory elimination of capital indices and administrative risk metrics.
- Q2.** The author uses the phrase “administrative exercise in risk socialization” most likely to imply that:
- (A) Corporations have become highly democratic institutions that share profits equally with workers.
 - (B) Private entities reap the benefits of market gains while the systemic risks are buffered by public monetary interventions.
 - (C) Government regulatory bodies have successfully eradicated all financial risks from modern capital markets.
 - (D) Stagnant wage growth is a direct consequence of decentralized, non-administrative resource allocation.
- Q3.** Based on the text, what is a direct consequence of the “perverse incentive matrix”?
- (A) A major shift toward sustainable long-term capital expenditure by corporate firms.
 - (B) The stabilization of the relationship between industrial productivity and real wages.
 - (C) Corporate prioritization of short-term stock buybacks over durable enterprise innovation.
 - (D) Increased vigilance by market barometers to monitor empirical macroeconomic data.



- Q4.** Which of the following statements, if true, would most directly weaken the main thesis of the passage?
- (A) Data showing that corporate stock buybacks have reached historic highs over the last decade.
 - (B) A study proving that periods of central bank tightening immediately lead to contractions in equity markets.
 - (C) Empirical evidence demonstrating that current stock market peaks match record-high levels of real industrial output and manufacturing productivity.
 - (D) Reports indicating that consumer demand indices have remained entirely flat despite aggressive fiscal stimuli.

Passage II

Directions for Questions 5 to 8: Read the passage below and answer the subsequent questions.

"The democratization of information through digital architectures promised a utopian decentralization of epistemic authority. Instead, it has precipitated a crisis of algorithmic polarization. Digital platforms, governed by the optimization metrics of user engagement, systematically amplify inflammatory content over nuanced discourse. This architecture capitalizes on basic evolutionary biases toward tribalism and confirmation bias, creating self-reinforcing informational echo chambers. The resultant epistemological fragmentation threatens the foundational assumptions of deliberative democracy, which presumes a shared baseline of objective reality. When objective facts are cast as partisan fabrications, collective problem-solving becomes structurally impossible. The issue is not merely technological but existential, as the civic fabric is corroded not by a lack of information, but by an engineered surfeit of hyper-customized, emotionally volatile narratives."

- Q5.** The author's primary argument regarding the democratization of information is that it has:
- (A) Fulfilled its utopian promise by decentralizing authoritative knowledge



bases.

- (B) Unintentionally undermined objective reality through profit-driven algorithmic polarization.
- (C) Strengthened deliberative democracies by introducing hyper-customized civic education.
- (D) Eradicated evolutionary biases by forcing users to confront alternative perspectives.

Q6. The word “surfeit” as used in the passage most nearly means:

- (A) A catastrophic deficit or absolute scarcity.
- (B) An excessive or overabundant amount.
- (C) A highly regulated and verified distribution.
- (D) A sophisticated and flawless architecture.

Q7. According to the text, why does collective problem-solving become “structurally impossible”?

- (A) Because digital platforms explicitly ban political discourse from their interfaces.
- (B) Because there is no longer a shared baseline of objective reality due to partisan framing of facts.
- (C) Because users are evolutionary hardwired to reject all forms of technological infrastructure.
- (D) Because deliberative democracies require a complete elimination of user engagement metrics.

Q8. The tone of the author throughout this passage can best be described as:

- (A) Equivocal and deeply ambivalent
- (B) Optimistic and resolutely celebratory
- (C) Analytical and profoundly cautionary
- (D) Cynical and overtly dismissive



Passage III

Directions for Questions 9 to 11: Read the passage below and answer the subsequent questions.

"The Anthropocene has forced a radical reappraisal of classical architectural theory, which historically conceptualized buildings as static, permanent structures designed to master their physical environments. Under the contemporary climate paradigm, this illusion of permanence has collapsed. Forward-thinking architects are championing a shift toward "kinetic adaptability"—structures designed to co-evolve with shifting ecological thresholds. This methodology incorporates biomimetic principles, self-healing polymers, and modular frameworks that prioritize material deconstruction over demolition. By treating architecture as an open thermodynamic system rather than an isolated monument, this framework minimizes embodied carbon and redefines sustainability. The challenge lies in overcoming institutional inertia and outdated zoning codes that continue to incentivize rigid, high-emission structural typologies."

- Q9.** What does the concept of “kinetic adaptability” fundamentally require of architectural design?
- (A) The use of classical structural materials to maximize the physical weight of monuments.
 - (B) Designing structures that can dynamically co-evolve with changing environmental thresholds.
 - (C) Creating completely closed thermodynamic systems that isolate buildings from the climate.
 - (D) Adhering strictly to legacy zoning codes to preserve historical urban aesthetics.
- Q10.** According to the author, what is a primary barrier preventing the widespread adoption of sustainable architecture?
- (A) A total absence of functional biomimetic principles or self-healing materials.



- (B) Institutional inertia combined with outdated structural zoning frameworks.
- (C) The inability of open thermodynamic systems to reduce embodied carbon.
- (D) A structural shortage of materials required for traditional building demolition.

Q11. It can be inferred from the text that classical architectural theory viewed the physical environment as something to be:

- (A) Carefully preserved through modular deconstruction.
- (B) Feared due to its unpredictable thermodynamic fluctuations.
- (C) Dominatingly controlled or mastered by permanent structures.
- (D) Ignored completely in favor of purely digital design architectures.

Q12. Choose the word that is most nearly **OPPOSITE** in meaning to the highlighted word:

The corporate governance committee noted that the CFO's financial projections were remarkably **perspicacious**, saving the firm from a disastrous capital allocation strategy.

- (A) Astute
- (B) Fatuous
- (C) Sagacious
- (D) Discriminating

Q13. Choose the word that is most nearly **SIMILAR** in meaning to the highlighted word:

The mediator's primary objective was to **extirpate** the deep-seated animosity between the two merging tech conglomerates before final negotiations began.

- (A) Eradicate
- (B) Ameliorate
- (C) Foment
- (D) Cultivate



Q14. Identify the option that best explains the meaning of the underlined idiom in the given sentence:

The managing director decided to throw down the gauntlet during the AGM by challenging the activist investors to produce a superior operational strategy.

- (A) To offer a compromise or concession to avoid conflict.
- (B) To issue an open challenge or a defiance to an adversary.
- (C) To accept defeat gracefully in a competitive environment.
- (D) To secretly manipulate financial records to confuse stakeholders.

Q15. Choose the word that best fits the given definition:

“A person who expresses a formal objection or a strong, principled dissent against an established policy or institutional doctrine, specifically within a corporate or ecclesiastical hierarchy.”

- (A) Sycophant
- (B) Recalcitrant
- (C) Recusant
- (D) Beneficiary

Q16. Choose the word that is most nearly **OPPOSITE** in meaning to the highlighted word:

Fearing an imminent cyclical downturn, the investment bank advised its institutional clients to adopt a highly **circumspect** asset allocation strategy, avoiding speculative technology equities entirely.

- (A) Prudent
- (B) Audacious
- (C) Discreet
- (D) Chary

Q17. Choose the word that is most nearly **SIMILAR** in meaning to the highlighted word:

The independent auditors discovered that the logistics firm had engaged in a



series of **clandestine** transactions designed to route operational capital through offshore shell corporations.

- (A) Surreptitious
- (B) Manifest
- (C) Ostensible
- (D) Blatant

Q18. Identify the term that best fits the given definition:

“The statutory or policy-driven dynamic wherein an state or organization reclaims previously distributed performance-based bonuses, executive compensations, or financial incentives, typically triggered by a subsequent uncovering of systemic accounting fraud, operational misconduct, or material misstatement of earnings.”

- (A) Moratorium
- (B) Indemnification
- (C) Clawback
- (D) Escrow

Q19. Identify the segment in the following sentence that contains a grammatical error. If the sentence is completely correct, select option (D).

"Neither the chief operating officer nor the regional managers (A) / was able to explain the discrepancy (B) / in the balance sheet during the quarterly review. (C) / No error (D)"

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

Q20. Choose the grammatically correct alternative that best replaces the underlined segment. If the original sentence is correct, choose (A).



Having worked for thirty years in the manufacturing sector, the automation crisis did not surprise Mr. Mehta.

- (A) Having worked for thirty years in the manufacturing sector, the automation crisis did not surprise Mr. Mehta.
- (B) Having worked for thirty years in the manufacturing sector, Mr. Mehta was not surprised by the automation crisis.
- (C) Working for thirty years in the manufacturing sector, the automation crisis was not surprising to Mr. Mehta.
- (D) Because of working thirty years in the manufacturing sector, the automation crisis failed to surprise Mr. Mehta.

Q21. Identify the segment in the following sentence that contains a grammatical error. If the sentence is completely correct, select option (D).

"The board of directors are arriving (A) / at a crucial consensus regarding the cross-border merger (B) / despite intense pressure from the regulatory authorities. (C) / No error (D)"

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

Q22. Choose the grammatically correct alternative to replace the underlined segment: The regulatory framework demands that every financial institution maintains an extra reserve, logs all transactions, and reports directly to the central bank.

- (A) maintains an extra reserve, logs all transactions, and reports directly
- (B) maintain an extra reserve, log all transactions, and report directly
- (C) should maintain an extra reserve, log all transactions, and reporting directly
- (D) maintaining an extra reserve, logging all transactions, and reporting directly

Q23. The interim CEO delivered an exceptionally _____ address, attempting to



_____ the anxiety of the shareholders regarding the company's impending restructuring.

- (A) laconic ... exacerbate
- (B) mollifying ... allay
- (C) inflammatory ... suppress
- (D) pedantic ... instigate

Q24. Despite the _____ evidence presented by the forensic auditors, the defense counsel maintained a _____ stance, refusing to concede a single point of liability.

- (A) irrefutable ... recalcitrant
- (B) ambiguous ... compliant
- (C) circumstantial ... conciliatory
- (D) tenuous ... dogmatic

Q25. The marketing team's strategy was explicitly _____; they built an ad campaign around highly complex data sets that left the average consumer completely _____.

- (A) egalitarian ... enlightened
- (B) esoteric ... flummoxed
- (C) superficial ... intrigued
- (D) transparent ... bewildered

Q26. The oversight committee remained completely _____ by the geopolitical turbulence, displaying a stoic poise that highly frustrated external _____.

- (A) unperturbed ... observers
- (B) unhinged ... partners
- (C) energized ... internalists
- (D) concerned ... managers



Q27. Rearrange the following five sentences (1, 2, 3, 4, 5) in the most logically sound sequence to form a coherent, structurally tight paragraph.

1. Rather, this structural pivot represents an aggressive, defensive optimization strategy aimed at insulating corporate supply chains from increasingly hostile macroeconomic shocks.
2. Consequently, viewing this systemic transition as a mere rejection of globalization entirely misreads the sophisticated corporate calculations at play.
3. The contemporary corporate migration toward Nearshoring and Friendshoring frameworks is rarely driven by a sudden, sentimental surge in domestic economic nationalism.
4. By anchoring production hubs within geographically contiguous or diplomatically aligned jurisdictions, multinational firms are effectively trading razor-thin cost efficiencies for operational resilience.
5. This calculated trade-off prioritizes predictable, uninterrupted fulfillment cycles over the volatile allure of lowest-unit-cost offshore manufacturing.

- (A) 3–1–4–5–2
(B) 3–4–1–5–2
(C) 1–4–5–2–3
(D) 3–1–5–4–2

Q28. Rearrange the following five sentences (1, 2, 3, 4, 5) to discover the most coherent and logically progressive analytical paragraph.

1. This programmatic automation of liquidity provision strips human emotion out of the transaction architecture during localized panics.
2. However, when highly correlated quantitative models simultaneously detect identical market anomalies, their collective automated response can inadvertently trigger catastrophic flash crashes.
3. Modern capital market microstructures rely extensively on algorithmic high-frequency trading (HFT) platforms to maintain continuous order-book depth.
4. Therefore, the very digital architecture engineered to guarantee market stability becomes the primary vector of systemic, self-reinforcing volatility.
5. Under normal operational parameters, these systems constantly absorb



asymmetric selling pressure by matching disparate bid-ask spreads within milliseconds.

- (A) 3–5–1–2–4
- (B) 3–1–5–2–4
- (C) 5–1–3–2–4
- (D) 3–5–2–1–4

Q29. Read the short text and choose the option that captures the most accurate summary of the author’s core conclusion:

“While traditional macroeconomic metrics like GDP growth indicate robust economic expansion, they completely overlook the severe degradation of natural capital. A nation can deplete its ancient aquifers, clear-cut its primary old-growth forests, and emit unprecedented levels of greenhouse gases while posting record-high industrial output. Relying solely on these primitive accounting mechanisms to measure national well-being blinds policymakers to impending environmental and structural collapses.”

- (A) GDP is an outstanding measure of a nation’s total industrial performance and long-term economic wealth.
- (B) Traditional economic indicators are fatally flawed because they register the depletion of natural resources as economic progress while ignoring ecological degradation.
- (C) Policymakers must completely abandon industrial output metrics to prioritize agricultural revitalization projects.
- (D) Environmental degradation can be easily corrected if nations reinvest a fraction of their rising GDP directly back into aquifer restoration.

Q30. Read the short passage and identify the option that states the most logical objective conclusion of the text:

“The widespread adoption of remote work infrastructure was heralded as a definitive equalizer for the labor market, promising to liberate workers from geographic constraints. However, corporate data indicates that white-collar workers in remote frameworks face a 30% lower rate of promotion compared



to their in-office peers. The physical absence from executive visibility spaces creates a 'proximity bias,' where leadership unconsciously favors on-site staff for key assignments.”

- (A) Remote work has completely failed to provide any operational flexibility or lifestyle benefits for modern corporate employees.
- (B) Proximity bias can be entirely eliminated if corporations ban all in-office work models globally.
- (C) The structural promise of remote work equality is compromised by deep-seated proximity biases that penalize employees who lack physical executive visibility.
- (D) White-collar workers are actively choosing to turn down promotions in order to maintain their remote working arrangements permanently.



Detailed Solutions

Q1.

Solution

Concept: The financialization of global markets changes how asset valuations behave relative to actual economic activity. Traditional equity markets track real-world productivity indicators, but heavy central bank interventions alter this dynamic by decoupling stock prices from underlying business performance metrics.

Solution: According to the first passage, the primary driver behind the decoupling of asset valuations from empirical macroeconomic indicators is systemic liquidity injections from central banks that shift focus to monetary policy expectations. The text states that the contemporary paradigm relies heavily on liquidity injections from central banking institutions. This transforms systemic markets into feedback loops driven by monetary policy expectations rather than fundamental enterprise performance. Therefore, asset values are propelled by central bank actions and policy signals rather than indicators like industrial productivity or consumer demand, leading directly to the observed structural mutation and valuation divergence described by the author.

Final Answer: Central bank liquidity injections.

Answer: (B)

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Q2.

Solution

Concept: Risk socialization describes an economic framework where private entities capture market profits during periods of expansion while passing structural downside risks to the public. This dynamic typically emerges when institutional backstops or central bank interventions insulate private firms from capital losses.

Solution: The author uses the phrase administrative exercise in risk socialization most likely to imply that private entities reap the benefits of market gains while the systemic risks are buffered by public monetary interventions. The text outlines a scenario where central bank liquidity injections shield capital markets from fundamental economic weaknesses like stagnant wages and compressed manufacturing output. By stepping in to stabilize these asset indices, public monetary policies absorb or socialize the downside operational risks faced by private corporations. This allows firms to enjoy market gains while relying on state administration to buffer them from severe systemic corrections.

Final Answer: Private gains, public risk support.

Answer: (B)

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Q3.

Solution

Concept: A perverse incentive matrix alters standard corporate goals, leading businesses to favor immediate financial engineering over long-term value creation. When market rewards favor short-term stock metrics, companies reduce spending on capital assets and fundamental innovation.

Solution: Based on the text, a direct consequence of the perverse incentive matrix is corporate prioritization of short-term stock buybacks over durable enterprise innovation. The passage explicitly links this structural mutation to a behavioral change within businesses, noting that it introduces a perverse incentive matrix where corporate entities prioritize short-term stock buybacks over long-term capital expenditure or research and development. This direct reference shows that companies focus on elevating immediate share prices through stock buybacks rather than investing in durable enterprise innovation, research, or real output expansion.

Final Answer:

Answer: (C)

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Q4.

Solution

Concept: Weakening a thesis requires finding empirical evidence that directly refutes the central argument. If a text claims two variables have decoupled, showing that they remain tightly linked and move together directly undermines that core argument.

Solution: The main thesis of the passage is that financialization and central bank interventions have decoupled asset valuations from real economic performance, masking structural fragilities like stagnant manufacturing output. Empirical evidence demonstrating that current stock market peaks match record-high levels of real industrial output and manufacturing productivity would directly weaken this thesis. If data proves that stock market gains are closely tied to real industrial output, it invalidates the author's claim of a complete decoupling, proving that equity markets still function as reliable barometers of industrial productivity.

Final Answer:

Answer: (C)

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Q5.

Solution

Concept: The democratization of information via digital media can have unintended systemic side effects. When algorithms maximize user engagement rather than accuracy, they prioritize sensational content, which deepens social divisions and erodes the shared baseline of objective reality.

Solution: The author's primary argument regarding the democratization of information is that it has unintentionally undermined objective reality through profit-driven algorithmic polarization. The text states that instead of delivering a utopian decentralization of epistemic authority, digital platforms have caused a crisis of algorithmic polarization. These platforms optimize for user engagement metrics, amplifying inflammatory content and generating self-reinforcing echo chambers. This fragmentation compromises deliberative democracy by casting objective facts as partisan fabrications, showing how informational democratization has backfired to erode our shared reality.

Final Answer: Algorithmic polarization weakened objective reality.

Answer: (B)

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Q6.

Solution

Concept: Contextual vocabulary analysis relies on evaluating surrounding textual clues to determine a word's exact meaning. When a passage contrasts a deficit with an excess that causes social saturation or fragmentation, it indicates an overabundant supply.

Solution: The word surfeit as used in the passage most nearly means an excessive or overabundant amount. In the closing sentence, the author contrasts a lack of information with an engineered surfeit of hyper-customized, emotionally volatile narratives. The context demonstrates that the civic fabric is harmed not by a shortage or scarcity of media, but by an overwhelming abundance of customized, polarizing content that floods the digital ecosystem. This makes an excessive or overabundant amount the correct definition.

Final Answer: An excessive or overabundant amount.

Answer: (B)

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Q7.

Solution

Concept: Deliberative democracy requires a shared framework of facts to debate and solve public issues. When algorithmic polarization turns objective data into partisan disputes, it eliminates the common ground needed to build political consensus.

Solution: According to the text, collective problem-solving becomes structurally impossible because there is no longer a shared baseline of objective reality due to partisan framing of facts. The author explains that deliberative democracy presumes a shared baseline of objective reality. When algorithmic ecosystems fragment this foundation, turning objective facts into partisan fabrications, the common ground required for public debate breaks down completely. Without an agreed set of facts, societies cannot evaluate issues logically, making collective problem-solving impossible.

Final Answer: Partisan framing destroys shared reality.

Answer: (B)

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Q8.

Solution

Concept: Authorial tone reflects the writer's attitude toward the subject matter, conveyed through their choice of words and arguments. A balanced evaluation that diagnoses systemic structural flaws while warning of severe societal risks indicates a careful yet warning tone.

Solution: The tone of the author throughout this passage can best be described as analytical and profoundly cautionary. The author uses precise terminology like algorithmic polarization, epistemological fragmentation, and optimization metrics to dissect how digital architectures alter society. The language is not merely dismissive or cynical, but points to existential threats and warns that the civic fabric is being corroded. This careful, structured breakdown combined with an explicit warning about risks to deliberative democracy matches an analytical and deeply cautionary tone.

Final Answer: Analytical and profoundly cautionary

Answer: (C)

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Q9.

Solution

Concept: Kinetic adaptability marks a shift away from traditional, static architecture toward structures that react to environmental changes. This design approach uses open thermodynamic principles to ensure buildings adjust and co-evolve with changing ecosystems over time.

Solution: The concept of kinetic adaptability fundamentally requires designing structures that can dynamically co-evolve with changing environmental thresholds. The passage notes that forward-thinking architects are moving away from the classical view of buildings as static, permanent monuments. Instead, they embrace kinetic adaptability to design structures that co-evolve with shifting ecological limits. This approach treats architecture as an open thermodynamic system that uses biomimetic principles, self-healing polymers, and modular frameworks to adjust dynamically to its surroundings.

Final Answer: Designing adaptable structures.

Answer: (B)

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Q10.

Solution

Concept: Adopting sustainable technologies often faces hurdles from systemic institutional resistance and outdated legal regulations. Even when green materials exist, old legal structures can trap industries in high-emission manufacturing habits.

Solution: According to the author, a primary barrier preventing the widespread adoption of sustainable architecture is institutional inertia combined with outdated structural zoning frameworks. The final sentence of the passage states that the primary challenge lies in overcoming institutional inertia and outdated zoning codes that continue to incentivize rigid, high-emission structural typologies. This indicates that while green technologies and adaptive architectural models are available, entrenched administrative habits and obsolete regulatory frameworks slow down sustainable development.

Final Answer: Institutional inertia and outdated zoning systems.

Answer: (B)

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Q11.

Solution

Concept: Textual inference requires reading between the lines based on explicit statements in a text. If a new theory treats the environment as an open system to adapt to, it implies the older theory viewed nature as an adversary to master.

Solution: It can be inferred from the text that classical architectural theory viewed the physical environment as something to be dominantly controlled or mastered by permanent structures. The author states that classical architectural theory historically conceptualized buildings as static, permanent structures designed to master their physical environments. This explicit use of the word master demonstrates that classical architecture aimed to establish dominion and control over natural surroundings using rigid, permanent shapes.

Final Answer:

Answer: (C)

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Q12.

Solution

Concept: Antonym selection requires identifying the word with the opposite meaning of a target term. Perspicacious means having clear insight, sharp mental discernment, and sound judgment, so its antonym must mean foolish or lacking intelligence.

Solution: The highlighted word perspicacious means having keen mental perception, discernment, and sound judgment. In the given corporate sentence, the CFO's wise insight saved the firm from a bad capital strategy. The word fatuous means foolish, silly, or lacking intelligence, making it the direct opposite in meaning. Words like astute and sagacious are synonyms that mean intelligent or wise, while discriminating means showing careful judgment, leaving fatuous as the correct antonym.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

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Q13.

Solution

Concept: Synonym identification requires matching a target word with a term that shares a nearly identical meaning. Extirpate means to destroy completely, root out, or eradicate, making it a tool for removing negative conditions entirely.

Solution: The highlighted word extirpate means to root out, destroy completely, or eliminate an unwanted element. In the context of the sentence, the mediator aims to completely remove deep-seated animosity between two companies before negotiations begin, making eradicate the exact synonym. Ameliorate means to improve a bad situation, while foment and cultivate mean to stir up or grow, making eradicate the correct option.

Final Answer: Eradicate

Answer: (A)

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Q14.

Solution

Concept: Idiomatic expressions carry figurative meanings rooted in history. The phrase throw down the gauntlet comes from medieval customs where a knight dropped a glove to challenge someone to combat, signifying an open challenge.

Solution: The underlined idiom throw down the gauntlet means to issue an open challenge or a defiance to an adversary. In the given sentence, the managing director uses the annual general meeting to challenge activist investors openly to present a better corporate plan. This matches the historical meaning of issuing a direct challenge, making option B the correct choice while eliminating options that involve compromise, defeat, or financial fraud.

Final Answer: To openly challenge or defy an opponent.

Answer: (B)

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Q15.

Solution

Concept: Precise nouns identify specific roles within a hierarchy based on behavior. A person who refuses to comply with or formally dissents from an established policy or institutional authority is described by a precise historical term.

Solution: The word that best fits the definition is recusant. Historically and in modern contexts, a recusant is a person who refuses to submit to authority or comply with an established policy, rule, or institutional doctrine. A sycophant is a self-seeking flatterer, a recalcitrant is an adjective meaning stubbornly disobedient, and a beneficiary is someone who receives advantages. This makes recusant the correct noun for a formal, principled dissenter within a structural hierarchy.

Final Answer:

Answer: (C)

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Q16.

Solution

Concept: Antonym analysis requires evaluating a target word's contextual definition to find an option with the opposite meaning. Circumspect means cautious, wary, and unwilling to take risks, meaning its antonym must describe bold, daring, or reckless behavior.

Solution: The highlighted word circumspect means cautious, wary, guarded, and unwilling to take unnecessary risks. In the context of the sentence, the bank advises a careful asset strategy to avoid speculative risks during a market downturn. The word audacious means bold, daring, reckless, or highly adventurous, making it the direct opposite in meaning to circumspect. Options A, C, and D (prudent, discreet, and chary) are all synonyms that describe careful, guarded, or wise financial behavior, leaving audacious as the correct antonym choice.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

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Q17.

Solution

Concept: Synonym identification requires selecting a word that shares the same definition as the target term. Clandestine describes actions that are kept secret or done deceptively, especially because they are illegal or illicit.

Solution: The highlighted word clandestine means secret, hidden, undercover, or illicit. In the provided sentence, the auditors uncover hidden, deceptive transfers designed to route capital through offshore shell entities. The word surreptitious means kept secret, stealthy, or done illicitly, making it the exact synonym for clandestine. Options B, C, and D are incorrect: manifest means obvious, ostensible means apparent but not necessarily true, and blatant means completely obvious or undisguised, leaving surreptitious as the matching choice.

Final Answer:

Answer: (A)

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Q18.

Solution

Concept: Corporate governance terminology uses specific nouns to define risk-mitigation policies. A legal provision that lets an organization reclaim paid-out executive money if misconduct or fraud is later discovered uses a precise operational term.

Solution: The provision described in the definition is a clawback. A clawback clause is a specific policy or statutory mechanism that allows a state, corporation, or organization to reclaim financial bonuses or incentive compensations previously paid out to executives if accounting fraud, severe misconduct, or material errors are exposed later. A moratorium is a temporary ban on an activity, indemnification means compensation for harm or loss, and an escrow is a third-party asset holding system, making clawback the correct term.

Final Answer:

Answer: (C)

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Q19.

Solution

Concept: Subject-verb agreement with correlative conjunctions follows the proximity rule. When subjects are joined by "neither... nor," the verb must agree in number with the closer subject.

Solution: The grammatical error is located in segment B. In sentences utilizing the correlative conjunction structure neither... nor, the verb must agree in number with the closer subject. Here, the subjects are the chief operating officer (singular) and the regional managers (plural). Since regional managers is plural and sits closer to the verb, the singular verb was must be replaced with the plural verb were to be grammatically correct.

Final Answer: (B)

Answer: (B)

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Q20.

Solution

Concept: Dangling modifiers happen when an introductory modifying phrase does not logically match the subject that follows it. To correct this error, the subject immediately following the modifier must be the person or entity performing the action.

Solution: The original sentence contains a dangling modifier because the introductory phrase having worked for thirty years in the manufacturing sector modifies the automation crisis rather than Mr. Mehta. Since a crisis cannot work in a sector, the sentence must be restructured to place Mr. Mehta immediately after the comma as the main subject. Option B corrects this error by making Mr. Mehta the subject, establishing a logical link with the introductory modifying phrase.

Final Answer: Mr. Mehta was unsurprised by the automation crisis.

Answer: (B)

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Q21.

Solution

Concept: Collective nouns take a singular verb when referring to the group acting as a single, unified entity. When a board arrives at a single collective decision, the noun functions as a singular unit and requires a singular verb form.

Solution: The grammatical error occurs in segment A. The collective noun board of directors acts as a single, unified entity in this context because the group is reaching a unified consensus. Therefore, it requires the singular verb is arriving instead of the plural verb are arriving. Restructuring segment A to use a singular verb establishes proper subject-verb agreement with the collective noun.

Final Answer: (A)

Answer: (A)

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Q22.

Solution

Concept: The subjunctive mood is used in clauses following verbs that express demands, requirements, or mandates. This structure requires the base form of the verb and applies parallel structure across all listed actions.

Solution: The sentence uses the demand verb demands that, which requires the subjunctive mood for the following clause. The subjunctive mood uses the base form of the verb, omitting the third-person -s. Therefore, maintains, logs, and reports must change to maintain, log, and report. Option B applies this rule correctly while maintaining parallel structure across all three verbs in the list.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

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Q23.

Solution

Concept: Sentence completions require evaluating vocabulary combinations to ensure they fit the contextual flow. A speech designed to calm worried shareholders must use an adjective that means soothing alongside a verb that means to reduce fear.

Solution: The sentence requires a pair of words that show the interim CEO is trying to reduce shareholder worry during a company restructuring. The word mollifying means soothing, calming, or pacifying, which describes the tone of the address. The word allay means to diminish, reduce, or alleviate fear and anxiety. Combining these terms fits the context perfectly: a mollifying address attempts to allay shareholder anxiety, making option B the correct choice.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

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Q24.

Solution

Concept: Conjunctions like "despite" create a contrast between two clauses. When audit evidence is conclusive and unyielding, a defense counsel who refuses to concede a single point shows an uncooperative, stubborn attitude.

Solution: The word despite establishes a contrast between the nature of the evidence and the behavior of the defense counsel. If the defense counsel refuses to concede a single point of liability, the audit evidence must be incredibly strong and conclusive, which matches the definition of irrefutable. In response to this clear evidence, the counsel's unyielding behavior is best described as recalcitrant, which means stubbornly uncooperative. This makes option A the correct combination.

Final Answer: irrefutable ... recalcitrant

Answer: (A)

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Q25.

Solution

Concept: Contextual sentence completions match the cause of a strategy with its effect on an audience. An ad campaign built around complex data sets is described as specialized or obscure, leaving average consumers confused.

Solution: The marketing strategy relies on highly complex data sets, which means it is intended for or understood by only a small group with specialized knowledge, defined as esoteric. The effect of using such complex data is that it leaves the average consumer completely confused or flummoxed. This cause-and-effect relationship makes option B the only logically consistent word pair for the blanks.

Final Answer: esoteric ... flummoxed

Answer: (B)

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Q26.

Solution

Concept: Context clues like "stoic poise" describe a calm, unaffected state of mind. An oversight committee acting with stoic poise during geopolitical changes remains steady and unbothered, frustrating outside spectators.

Solution: The phrase displaying a stoic poise demonstrates that the oversight committee was completely unaffected and calm in the face of geopolitical turbulence, which matches the definition of unperturbed. This calm demeanor in a crisis would naturally frustrate external observers or spectators who expected panic or instability. This makes option A the only pair that preserves the context and logical meaning of the passage.

Final Answer: unperturbed ... observers

Answer: (A)

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Q27.

Solution

Concept: Sentence unscrambling requires identifying an introductory topic sentence, connecting transition words to their referents, and building a logical structural flow from a general premise to a specific conclusion.

Solution: To build a coherent paragraph, we must arrange the sentences to follow a clear logical flow: * Sentence 3 serves as an ideal introduction by stating what does not drive corporate migration to nearshoring and friendshoring frameworks. * Sentence 1 connects directly with sentence 3 using the contrast transition Rather, explaining that this shift is an aggressive, defensive strategy to insulate supply chains. * Sentence 4 expands on this defensive strategy, detailing how firms anchor production hubs to trade low costs for operational resilience. * Sentence 5 reinforces sentence 4 by analyzing this calculated trade-off, explaining that it favors predictable fulfillment over volatile, low-cost offshore manufacturing. * Sentence 2 uses Consequently to deliver the final conclusion, noting that viewing this shift as a total rejection of globalization misreads corporate strategy. This analysis yields the logical sequence 3–1–4–5–2, which matches option A.

Final Answer: 3–1–4–5–2

Answer: (A)

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Q28.

Solution

Concept: Paragraph coherence relies on introducing a core operational mechanism, describing its normal function, detailing how it handles disruptions, introducing a structural vulnerability, and drawing a final systemic conclusion.

Solution: We track the logical development of the sentences to form an analytical paragraph: * Sentence 3 establishes the background theme, introducing algorithmic high-frequency trading (HFT) platforms used to maintain continuous order-book depth. * Sentence 5 follows by describing how these systems work under normal operational parameters to constantly absorb selling pressure. * Sentence 1 adds detail to this normal function, explaining that this programmatic automation of liquidity provision removes human emotion from transactions. * Sentence 2 introduces a critical turn using However, showing that when correlated quantitative models detect identical anomalies, their automated response can trigger flash crashes. * Sentence 4 concludes with Therefore, summarizing how the digital architecture built to ensure stability becomes the main driver of volatility. This structure builds the sequence 3–5–1–2–4, which matches option A.

Final Answer:

Answer: (A)

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Q29.

Solution

Concept: An accurate passage summary distills the author’s primary argument while omitting secondary details. It captures the main conflict—such as the flaw of using industrial metrics that count natural resource depletion as economic growth.

Solution: The text argues that traditional economic indicators like GDP growth are incomplete because they track industrial output while ignoring the destruction of natural capital, such as depleting aquifers and clear-cutting forests. Relying entirely on these primitive accounting mechanisms blinds policymakers to environmental collapse. Option B summarizes this core conclusion accurately, stating that traditional indicators are fatally flawed because they register the depletion of natural resources as economic progress while ignoring ecological degradation, capturing the main point of the passage.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

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Q30.

Solution

Concept: Drawing a logical conclusion requires finding an option that matches the facts stated in a text without overgeneralizing. The conclusion should summarize the core problem described by the data without introducing unsupported claims.

Solution: The passage explains that while remote work promised labor market equality, remote white-collar workers face a 30% lower rate of promotion. This gap is caused by proximity bias, where executives favor on-site staff for key assignments due to their physical visibility. Option C states the most logical objective conclusion: the structural promise of remote work equality is compromised by deep-seated proximity biases that penalize employees who lack physical executive visibility, summarizing the core findings without making overbroad claims.

Final Answer: Proximity bias weakens remote work equality.

Answer: (C)

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Answer Key

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

