

# MAT Language Comprehension Sample Paper-7

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 context and logical implications of the text.

"The structural shift toward a post-industrial knowledge economy has elevated corporate intellectual property (IP) from an ancillary defensive shield to a primary instrument of market monopolization. In high-tech sectors, dominance is no longer maintained through scale of physical production or distribution infrastructure, but through the aggressive accumulation of defensive patent portfolios. This phenomenon, colloquially termed "patent thistles," creates dense thickets of overlapping legal claims that systematically choke out nascent competitors who lack the capital to endure protracted infringement litigation. Paradoxically, while the patent system was historically codified to incentivize open innovation by granting temporary monopolies in exchange for public disclosure, its contemporary manipulation actively suppresses technological iteration. Capital that would otherwise fund baseline engineering or product optimization is increasingly diverted into rent-seeking legal strategies, transforming engineering firms into specialized legal entities that monetize litigation rather than market innovations."



- Q1.** The author uses the phrase “patent thistles” primarily to characterize which market dynamic?
- (A) The organic growth of open-source software collaboration across global networks.
  - (B) A dense web of legal claims that prevents new competitors from entering tech sectors.
  - (C) The sudden reduction in corporate capital allocation for litigation expenses.
  - (D) A highly efficient regulatory framework designed to expedite product optimization.
- Q2.** According to the passage, the contemporary manipulation of the patent system has resulted in a paradox because it:
- (A) Encourages public disclosure while eliminating all forms of corporate revenue.
  - (B) Subsidizes nascent competitors at the expense of large multi-national corporations.
  - (C) Actively restrains technological iteration instead of incentivizing open innovation.
  - (D) Forces engineering firms to entirely abandon their legal departments.
- Q3.** The passage implies that a firm operating under the current knowledge economy paradigm is highly likely to:
- (A) Prioritize physical distribution networks over intellectual asset accumulation.
  - (B) Allocate substantial financial resources to rent-seeking legal mechanisms.
  - (C) Reduce its total volume of patent filings to lower operational overheads.
  - (D) Focus exclusively on manual manufacturing processes to avoid litigation thickets.
- Q4.** Which of the following, if true, would most directly undermine the author’s primary critique of contemporary patent portfolios?



- (A) Data proving that corporate spending on litigation has doubled over the past five years.
- (B) A study showing that the most heavily patented sectors maintain the highest rates of new startup entries and product breakthroughs.
- (C) Evidence demonstrating that small startups are completely unable to pay for patent registration fees.
- (D) An executive report revealing that engineering firms prefer hiring lawyers over computer scientists.

## Passage II

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

"The economic behavior of the modern consumer is increasingly governed by what social theorists call "surveillance asymmetry." In digital marketplaces, predictive recommendation algorithms do not merely respond to predefined consumer preferences; they actively curate and structure them. By processing massive volumes of granular behavioral data—ranging from hover-times to biometric responses—platforms construct psychological profiles capable of anticipating consumer desires before they reach conscious awareness. This predatory architecture effectively strips the consumer of autonomy, converting the classical marketplace transaction from an exercise of rational choice into a pre-programmed feedback loop. The systemic danger lies in the invisible normalization of this practice, where the illusion of radical convenience effectively masks a deep structural exploitation of human cognitive vulnerabilities for corporate capital extraction."

- Q5.** The term "surveillance asymmetry" as developed in the text refers to a situation where:
- (A) Consumers and digital platforms have equal access to behavioral market data.
  - (B) Platforms possess deep predictive data profiles that allow them to manipulate consumer choice.



- (C) Government regulatory agencies monitor corporate financial records without public consent.
- (D) Recommender systems fail to accurately predict basic consumer purchasing habits.

**Q6.** According to the author, modern digital recommendation engines cross a line because they:

- (A) Provide consumers with too many identical options, causing choice paralysis.
- (B) Lower the cost of luxury consumer goods through hyper-efficient shipping loops.
- (C) Transition from responding to consumer desires to actively curating and structuring them.
- (D) Mandate absolute transparency in how behavioral metrics are stored and monetized.

**Q7.** The author argues that the exploitation of consumer cognitive vulnerabilities is effectively concealed by:

- (A) High-profile government anti-trust lawsuits against digital platforms.
- (B) The illusion of radical convenience provided by the platform architecture.
- (C) A systemic global decline in consumer spending and digital marketplace engagement.
- (D) The absolute rejection of recommendation algorithms by the modern consumer.

**Q8.** The author's perspective on the relationship between modern platforms and consumers can best be described as:

- (A) Commendatory and highly supportive
- (B) Indifferent and analytically detached
- (C) Critical and deeply apprehensive
- (D) Ambivalent and fluctuating



**Passage III**

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

"The classic macroeconomic doctrine regarding central bank independence is undergoing severe strain under the pressure of fiscal dominance. Historically, isolating monetary policy decisions from short-term electoral cycles was deemed critical to preventing inflationary spiral hazards. When central banks are isolated, they can resolutely raise interest rates to cool overheating economies, completely indifferent to political fallout. However, the massive expansion of sovereign debt across advanced economies has created a structural vulnerability. When interest rates rise, the cost of servicing this mountainous public debt escalates dramatically, threatening sovereign fiscal solvency. Consequently, elected officials are applying immense pressure on monetary authorities to maintain artificially low interest rates, prioritizing state debt management over price stability. This erosion of institutional boundaries threatens to compromise long-term currency credibility and unlock systemic structural inflation."

- Q9.** What is the primary function of central bank independence according to classic macroeconomic doctrine?
- (A) To allow elected officials to directly set short-term interest rates during elections.
  - (B) To insulate monetary policy from short-term political pressures to avoid inflationary spirals.
  - (C) To automatically reduce the total volume of sovereign debt through fiscal spending.
  - (D) To balance the national budget by managing the tax revenues of regional states.
- Q10.** According to the passage, how does massive sovereign debt create an operational conflict for central banks?
- (A) It eliminates the need for commercial banks to hold baseline liquid capital



reserves.

- (B) Higher rates dramatically elevate public debt-servicing costs, inviting political pressure to lower rates.
- (C) It forces central banks to completely privatize national currency production systems.
- (D) It causes an immediate, unmanageable drop in the core Consumer Price Index.

**Q11.** The author concludes that prioritizing state debt management over price stability will most likely lead to:

- (A) A systemic reinforcement of long-term currency credibility and valuation.
- (B) The immediate elimination of fiscal dominance across all advanced economies.
- (C) A compromise of currency credibility and the ignition of systemic structural inflation.
- (D) An organic reduction in the total volume of outstanding government bonds.

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

The board of directors commended the restructuring committee for its **trenchant** analysis of the company's operational inefficiencies, which explicitly identified failed leadership tiers.

- (A) Incisive
- (B) Vague
- (C) Mordant
- (D) Penetrating

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

The compliance auditor warned that the shell company's opaque accounting practices were explicitly designed to **obfuscate** the true origins of the venture capital funds.



- (A) Clarify
- (B) Conceal
- (C) Manifest
- (D) Elucidate

**Q14.** Identify the option that best explains the meaning of the underlined idiom:

When the primary supplier abruptly declared bankruptcy, the procurement director had to ride out the storm until a substitute logistical network could be authorized.

- (A) To aggressively liquidate all company assets at a major financial loss.
- (B) To endure a challenging, highly unstable period without panicked or drastic action.
- (C) To immediately file an anti-trust lawsuit against a regional market competitor.
- (D) To rapidly change product pricing models to artificially boost short-term sales.

**Q15.** Identify the term that best fits the given definition:

“An individual who acts as an absolute iconoclast, explicitly refusing to conform to institutional doctrines, corporate protocols, or established operational frameworks within an organization.”

- (A) Maverick
- (B) Sycophant
- (C) Paragon
- (D) Adherent

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

The legal team noticed that the vendor became remarkably **garrulous** during discussions about supply chain delays, contrastingly sharply with his typical reticent demeanor.

- (A) Loquacious



- (B) Voluble
- (C) Taciturn
- (D) Verbose

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

The economic forecaster noted that the country's fiscal recovery remained highly **precarious**, completely dependent on volatile international commodity prices.

- (A) Resolute
- (B) Perilous
- (C) Unassailable
- (D) Durable

**Q18.** Identify the option that best captures the meaning of the underlined idiom:

The executive vice-president decided to keep his cards close to his chest during the preliminary round of joint-venture acquisition discussions.

- (A) To reveal all confidential operational and financial records to the public.
- (B) To remain deeply secretive and cautious regarding one's true strategic intentions.
- (C) To aggressively borrow capital from secondary commercial banking institutions.
- (D) To resign from an administrative position due to a conflict of corporate interest.

**Q19.** Identify the segment in the following sentence that contains a grammatical error.

If the sentence is completely correct, select option (D).

"Every one of the forensic auditors (A) / were required to sign a non-disclosure agreement (B) / before reviewing the sensitive corporate tax ledgers. (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).

Sailing through the choppy macroeconomic waters, the firm's quarterly revenue targets were missed by the executive team.

- (A) Sailing through the choppy macroeconomic waters, the firm's quarterly revenue targets were missed by the executive team.
- (B) Sailing through the choppy macroeconomic waters, the executive team missed the firm's quarterly revenue targets.
- (C) Having sailed through the choppy macroeconomic waters, the firm's quarterly revenue targets missed the executive team.
- (D) While sailing through the choppy macroeconomic waters, missing the quarterly revenue targets happened to the executive team.

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

"The production manager, along with his entire engineering team, (A) / have spent three weeks troubleshooting the automated assembly line (B) / at the primary manufacturing plant. (C) / No error (D)"

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

**Q22.** Choose the grammatically correct alternative to replace the underlined segment to ensure proper parallel structure:

The primary responsibilities of the compliance officer include investigating internal fraud, to monitor regulatory updates, and the reporting of discrepancies.



- (A) investigating internal fraud, to monitor regulatory updates, and the reporting of discrepancies
- (B) investigating internal fraud, monitoring regulatory updates, and reporting discrepancies
- (C) to investigate internal fraud, monitoring regulatory updates, and report discrepancies
- (D) investigation of internal fraud, monitoring regulatory updates, and directly to report discrepancies

**Q23.** The retiring chairman delivered a remarkably \_\_\_\_\_ speech, intending to \_\_\_\_\_ the internal friction that had fractured the board during the hostile takeover bid.

- (A) bellicose ... intensify
- (B) conciliatory ... assuage
- (C) dogmatic ... ignite
- (D) transient ... escalate

**Q24.** Despite the \_\_\_\_\_ data sets highlighting systemic market saturation, the product development team maintained a highly \_\_\_\_\_ perspective, aggressively launching three niche luxury applications.

- (A) overwhelming ... sanguine
- (B) ambiguous ... pessimistic
- (C) minor ... cautious
- (D) comprehensive ... diffident

**Q25.** The administrative policy structure was intentionally \_\_\_\_\_; it was built around dense regulatory syntax that left the field operational units completely \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) explicit ... enlightened
- (B) labyrinthine ... perplexed
- (C) streamlined ... baffled



(D) unambiguous ... nonplussed

**Q26.** The research team's initial presentation was intentionally \_\_\_\_\_, masked in dense statistical jargon that left the venture capitalists completely \_\_\_\_\_ until the underlying profit margins were clarified.

(A) opaque ... nonplussed

(B) lucid ... bewildered

(C) candid ... enlightened

(D) explicit ... flummoxed

**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 defensive structural pivot represents an aggressive optimization strategy aimed at securing critical component pipelines from geopolitical friction.

2. Consequently, viewing this regional supply chain shift as a mere rejection of global trade completely misreads the corporate calculations at play.

3. The contemporary migration of electronic conglomerates toward Nearshoring frameworks is rarely driven by sudden nationalist sentiments.

4. By establishing secondary production hubs in geographically contiguous jurisdictions, firms effectively sacrifice razor-thin cost efficiencies for operational resilience.

5. This tactical trade-off prioritizes predictable fulfillment cycles over the highly 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 four sentences (1, 2, 3, 4) to discover the most coherent, logically progressive sequence.

1. This operational vulnerability instantly escalates input overheads and decelerates downstream consumer hardware delivery lines.



2. Advanced microprocessor fabrication systems depend extensively on a hyper-concentrated global network of specialized lithography machinery suppliers.
3. Any localized political trade dispute or environmental shock within these precise production corridors immediately triggers systemic supply chain blockades.
4. Because these elite equipment manufacturers have no viable short-term substitutes, the entire hardware industry is structurally exposed to extreme fragility.

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

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

“While traditional corporate performance frameworks prioritize short-term quarterly earnings per share (EPS) metrics, they systematically incentivize the starvation of long-term capital investments. A firm can easily maximize its immediate accounting profitability by freezing its research and development pipelines, selling off foundational real estate, and executing massive debt-fueled equity buybacks. Relying exclusively on these backward-looking financial indicators blinds boards of directors to structural erosions of competitive advantage that invite corporate insolvency within a decade.”

- (A) Quarterly EPS metrics are highly reliable barometers of a firm’s long-term operational health and sustainable innovation capacity.
- (B) Hyper-focusing on short-term quarterly metrics creates destructive incentives that inflate current profits while eroding long-term corporate durability.
- (C) Research and development pipelines should be funded exclusively through corporate debt mechanisms to protect real estate equity.
- (D) Boards of directors should completely stop publishing financial reports to protect long-term competitive advantages.

**Q30.** Read the short passage and identify the option that states the most logical



objective conclusion of the text:

“The introduction of automated programmatic algorithms was heralded as a definitive equalizer in equity markets, promising to eliminate human panic and emotional volatility from the trading floor. However, empirical market data reveals that under conditions of extreme macro volatility, these quantitative systems deploy highly correlated algorithmic risk-off triggers simultaneously. The complete absence of human discretion results in instantaneous liquidity withdrawal, compounding market drops into catastrophic flash crashes within fractions of a second.”

- (A) Programmatic algorithms have successfully eliminated all forms of market volatility and flash crashes from equity trading structures.
- (B) Market volatility is exclusively caused by human traders who refuse to utilize automated quantitative software architectures.
- (C) The structural promise of algorithmic trading stability is compromised by correlated triggers that withdraw market liquidity simultaneously during crises.
- (D) Quantitative automated systems are designed to deliberately trigger flash crashes to maximize profits for small retail investors.



## Detailed Solutions

Q1.

### Solution

**Concept:** Contextual vocabulary and structural analysis require identifying how metaphorical terms describe systemic behaviors. The term "patent thistles" serves as a direct analogy for a dense, sharp, and tangled barrier designed to obstruct movement—or in this case, market entry.

**Solution:** The author uses the phrase "patent thistles" primarily to characterize a dense web of legal claims that prevents new competitors from entering tech sectors. The passage explicitly defines this phenomenon, noting that it creates "dense thickets of overlapping legal claims that systematically choke out nascent competitors." This reveals that the imagery of a thistle is used to describe a tangled, restrictive legal web rather than open collaboration, decreased legal budgets, or a system meant to help optimize engineering processes, validating Option B.

**Final Answer:** Legal barriers that block new competitors in tech.

**Answer: (B)**

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Q2.

### Solution

**Concept:** Identifying a paradox in an economy requires pinpointing a fundamental contradiction between the original structural purpose of a system and its actual real-world outcome.

**Solution:** According to the passage, the contemporary manipulation of the patent system has resulted in a paradox because it actively restrains technological iteration instead of incentivizing open innovation. The text states: "Paradoxically, while the patent system was historically codified to incentivize open innovation by granting temporary monopolies in exchange for public disclosure, its contemporary manipulation actively suppresses technological iteration." This explicitly points to the inversion of the system's foundational goal as the source of the paradox, matching Option C.

**Final Answer:** Restrains innovation instead of promoting it.

**Answer: (C)**

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Q3.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Textual inference relies on matching the broader behavioral trends described in a text with the specific operational choices of a firm embedded within that landscape.

**Solution:** The passage implies that a firm operating under the current knowledge economy paradigm is highly likely to allocate substantial financial resources to rent-seeking legal mechanisms. The author details how contemporary tech dominance is maintained through "the aggressive accumulation of defensive patent portfolios" and notes that "Capital that would otherwise fund baseline engineering or product optimization is increasingly diverted into rent-seeking legal strategies." This explicitly connects operating in the modern paradigm with high spending on legal maneuvers, confirming Option B.

**Final Answer:** Spend heavily on legal rent-seeking mechanisms.

**Answer: (B)**

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Q4.

**Solution**

**Concept:** To undermine or weaken an author's core critique, new evidence must directly break the causal chain asserted in the text. If the author claims patent thickets suppress new entries and technological breakthroughs, empirical proof of the opposite invalidates that premise.

**Solution:** The author's primary critique is that defensive patent portfolios create legal thickets that suppress technological iteration and choke out new competition. A study showing that the most heavily patented sectors maintain the highest rates of new startup entries and product breakthroughs would directly undermine this argument. If the sectors with the most patents also boast the highest levels of innovation and market entry, the author's claim that patents block new rivals and kill technological growth is empirically refuted, making Option B correct.

**Final Answer:** Patented sectors also have high innovation and startups.

**Answer: (B)**

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Q5.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Asymmetry within an economic or social framework describes an imbalance of power, knowledge, or visibility. In data monetization, it characterizes the gulf between a platform's infinite predictive insight and a consumer's total lack of awareness.

**Solution:** The term "surveillance asymmetry" as developed in the text refers to a situation where platforms possess deep predictive data profiles that allow them to manipulate consumer choice. The passage states that digital marketplaces use massive volumes of granular behavioral data to construct psychological profiles capable of anticipating desires before they reach conscious awareness, stripping consumers of autonomy. This profound informational imbalance between the monitoring platform and the monitored user perfectly aligns with Option B.

**Final Answer:** Platforms use predictive data to influence consumer choice

**Answer: (B)**

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Q6.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Textual detail retrieval requires identifying the exact functional boundary where an asset transitions from an administrative or helpful tool into an intrusive, predatory mechanism.

**Solution:** According to the author, modern digital recommendation engines cross a line because they transition from responding to consumer desires to actively curating and structuring them. The text states that these predictive recommendation algorithms "do not merely respond to predefined consumer preferences; they actively curate and structure them." This proactive conditioning of choice is what changes a marketplace transaction into a pre-programmed feedback loop, making Option C the correct choice.

**Final Answer:** From serving demand to shaping it.

**Answer: (C)**

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Q7.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Masking or concealment mechanisms rely on diverting a user's attention. A platform can hide deep structural exploitation by enveloping the consumer experience in a highly desirable, frictionless benefit.

**Solution:** The author argues that the exploitation of consumer cognitive vulnerabilities is effectively concealed by the illusion of radical convenience provided by the platform architecture. The final sentence explicitly notes that the systemic danger lies in a process "where the illusion of radical convenience effectively masks a deep structural exploitation of human cognitive vulnerabilities for corporate capital extraction." This directly establishes radical convenience as the deceptive layer, validating Option B.

**Final Answer:** Illusion of convenience from platform design.

**Answer: (B)**

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Q8.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Authorial tone analysis requires evaluating word choices, adjectives, and core framing. Strong vocabulary indicating system-wide dangers and structural predation points directly to a highly critical perspective.

**Solution:** The author's perspective on the relationship between modern platforms and consumers can best be described as critical and deeply apprehensive. Throughout the passage, the author employs highly charged, critical language, describing the marketplace as a "predatory architecture" that "strips the consumer of autonomy" and engages in "deep structural exploitation" for capital extraction. This vocabulary displays profound worry and direct condemnation rather than indifference or praise, matching Option C.

**Final Answer:** Critical and deeply apprehensive

**Answer: (C)**

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Q9.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Textual detail retrieval targets the original mandate of a classic economic theory. Separating the actors who control money from political actors who control voting blocks serves to anchor prices against short-term temptations.

**Solution:** What is the primary function of central bank independence according to classic macroeconomic doctrine? The text notes that "isolating monetary policy decisions from short-term electoral cycles was deemed critical to preventing inflationary spiral hazards." This insulation allows central banks to adjust interest rates to manage economic cycles without worrying about immediate political or electoral blowback, directly validating Option B.

**Final Answer:** To keep monetary policy independent and control inflation

**Answer: (B)**

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Q10.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Operational conflict occurs when two vital state requirements run directly into opposition. Managing a state's interest costs can conflict with the central bank's core duty to raise interest rates to fight inflation.

**Solution:** According to the passage, massive sovereign debt creates an operational conflict for central banks because higher rates dramatically elevate public debt-servicing costs, inviting political pressure to lower rates. The text notes that as sovereign debt expands, rising interest rates cause the cost of servicing public debt to escalate, threatening fiscal solvency. This results in elected officials applying pressure on monetary authorities to keep rates artificially low, forcing a clash between state debt management and price stability, validating Option B.

**Final Answer:** Higher rates raise debt costs and pressure rate cuts.

**Answer: (B)**

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Q11.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Causal conclusions track the long-term systemic fallout resulting from policy compromises. When short-term debt containment takes priority over stabilizing prices, the core currency inevitably degrades.

**Solution:** The author concludes that prioritizing state debt management over price stability will most likely lead to a compromise of currency credibility and the ignition of systemic structural inflation. In the final sentence of the passage, the author warns that this ongoing erosion of institutional boundaries "threatens to compromise long-term currency credibility and unlock systemic structural inflation." This links fiscal dominance directly to long-term monetary debasement, making Option C the correct choice.

**Final Answer:** Currency credibility loss and structural inflation.

**Answer:** (C)

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Q12.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Antonym identification requires finding a word that reverses the core meaning of the target term. Trenchant describes something sharp, clear, piercing, and highly incisive, meaning its opposite must denote a lack of clarity.

**Solution:** The highlighted word trenchant means incisive, sharp, penetrating, and crystal clear, leaving no ambiguity regarding its findings. To locate its antonym, we need a word that implies a distinct lack of sharpness, clarity, or precision. The word vague means unclear, indistinct, or poorly defined, making it the perfect semantic opposite of trenchant. The other choices (incisive, mordant, penetrating) are all close synonyms, leaving vague as the correct antonym.

**Final Answer:** Vague

**Answer:** (B)

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Q13.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Synonym matching evaluates overlapping definitions. Obfuscate means to deliberately obscure, cloud, muddle, or make something unclear, often to conceal underlying facts or truths.

**Solution:** The highlighted word obfuscate means to make unclear, confuse, darken, or cloud. In the context of the sentence, opaque accounting practices are used to hide or muddle the true origins of venture funds. The word conceal means to hide or keep secret, which matches the intention behind obfuscation. Clarify, manifest, and elucidate are all antonyms that mean to make clear or obvious, confirming conceal as the correct synonym.

**Final Answer:**

**Answer: (B)**

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Q14.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Idioms represent figurative phrases whose meanings are fixed by common usage. The maritime image of riding out a storm translates into a corporate strategy of steady endurance during structural disruptions.

**Solution:** The underlined idiom ride out the storm means to endure a challenging, highly unstable period without panicked or drastic action. In the provided context, the procurement director faces a sudden crisis due to a supplier bankruptcy. Instead of overreacting, the director must steady the company and manage the difficult operational period until a new supply network can be authorized, making Option B the correct interpretation.

**Final Answer:**

**Answer: (B)**

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Q15.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Vocabulary definition matching isolates a precise single noun to fit a behavioral description. An individual who rejects established dogmas and acts independently requires a specific independent classification.

**Solution:** The definition describes an absolute iconoclast who explicitly refuses to conform to institutional doctrines or established organizational frameworks. The correct term for such a person is a maverick, which means an unorthodox, independent-minded individual who stands apart from the crowd. A sycophant is a flatterer, a paragon is an exemplar of excellence, and an adherent is a follower, making maverick the correct definition fit.

**Final Answer:**

**Answer: (A)**

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Q16.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Antonym matching shifts focus to the opposite extreme of a communication spectrum. Garrulous describes a person who is overly talkative or wordy, making its direct opposite someone quiet or reserved.

**Solution:** The highlighted word garrulous means excessively talkative, wordy, or loquacious. The sentence notes that the vendor's chatty behavior contrasted sharply with his typical "reticent" (quiet or reserved) demeanor. To find the antonym of garrulous, we look for a word that denotes silence or brevity. The word taciturn means reserved, quiet, and uncommunicative in speech, making it the direct opposite. Loquacious, voluble, and verbose are all synonyms meaning talkative.

**Final Answer:** Taciturn

**Answer:** (C)

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Q17.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Synonym analysis looks for semantic alignment in descriptions of stability. Precarious describes a state that is dangerously unstable, uncertain, and highly exposed to failure.

**Solution:** The highlighted word precarious means uncertain, unstable, insecure, and dangerously exposed to risk or collapse. In the sentence, the country's fiscal recovery is highly fragile because it depends entirely on volatile commodity prices. The word perilous means full of danger or risk, making it the closest semantic match for precarious. Unassailable, resolute, and durable all describe states of strength or stability, confirming perilous as the correct synonym.

**Final Answer:** Perilous

**Answer:** (B)

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Q18.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Idioms use physical actions as metaphors for strategic behaviors. Holding playing cards flat against one's chest serves as a metaphor for keeping information hidden from competitors during a high-stakes negotiation.

**Solution:** The underlined idiom keep his cards close to his chest means to remain deeply secretive and cautious regarding one's true strategic intentions. In the sentence, the executive vice-president chooses not to reveal his hand or corporate strategy during initial acquisition discussions, holding back critical metrics to protect his bargaining leverage. This directly aligns with Option B.

**Final Answer:** To keep strategic intentions secret and cautious.

**Answer:** (B)

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Q19.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Subject-verb agreement using singular distributive pronouns requires careful verb matching. Pronouns such as "each" or "every one" are singular and dictate singular verbs, irrespective of plural nouns in modifying prepositional phrases.

**Solution:** The grammatical error is located in segment B. The grammatical subject of the sentence is the distributive pronoun expression every one, which is singular. The plural noun phrase of the forensic auditors sits within a modifying prepositional phrase and does not change the number of the subject. Consequently, the plural verb were must be replaced with the singular verb was to establish proper subject-verb agreement, validating Option B.

**Final Answer:** (B)

**Answer:** (B)

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Q20.

**Solution**

**Concept:** A dangling modifier occurs when an introductory phrase is paired with the wrong subject. To ensure logical and grammatical coherence, the agent carrying out the action in the opening phrase must immediately follow the comma.

**Solution:** The original sentence features a dangling modifier because the opening participial phrase sailing through the choppy macroeconomic waters is placed next to the firm's quarterly revenue targets. Targets cannot navigate or sail through markets. To fix this structural flaw, the true logical agent—the executive team—must follow the comma. Option B successfully repairs this by placing the executive team as the subject of the main clause in active voice, establishing an accurate, logical modifier relationship.

**Final Answer:** Executives missed quarterly targets amid macro challenges

**Answer:** (B)

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Q21.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Subject-verb agreement using parenthetical expressions isolates the core subject. Phrases introduced by "along with," "as well as," or "in addition to" do not pluralize the main subject.

**Solution:** The grammatical error is located in segment B. The true subject of the sentence is the production manager, which is a singular noun. The parenthetical phrase along with his entire engineering team is set off by commas and does not make the subject plural. Because the subject is singular, the plural verb have spent in segment B is incorrect and must be changed to the singular form has spent to align correctly with the production manager.

**Final Answer:** (B)

**Answer:** (B)

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Q22.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Parallel structure requires that all items listed in a series share the same grammatical form. Mixing gerunds, infinitives, and noun phrases breaks this parallel pattern and disrupts sentence flow.

**Solution:** The original list breaks parallel structure by mixing three different grammatical forms: a gerund phrase (investigating internal fraud), an infinitive phrase (to monitor regulatory updates), and a complex noun phrase (the reporting of discrepancies). To make the series parallel, all three items must use the same grammatical format. Option B correctly normalizes the list by converting all three duties into parallel gerund phrases: investigating..., monitoring..., and reporting..., ensuring proper syntax.

**Final Answer:** Investigate fraud, track regulations, and report issues.

**Answer:** (B)

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Q23.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Context clues reveal an actor's intentions. A chairperson addressing a fractured, fighting board after a hostile takeover bid would use a soothing, peace-making tone to calm the existing friction.

**Solution:** The context outlines a scenario where a retiring chairman is trying to heal internal friction and splits on a board of directors following a hostile takeover bid. The word conciliatory means intended to placate, pacify, or reconcile, which fits a speech designed to restore peace. The word assuage means to soothe, calm, or relieve internal tensions. Combining these terms aligns perfectly with the sentence logic: a conciliatory speech attempts to assuage friction, making Option B correct.

**Final Answer:** conciliatory ... assuage

**Answer:** (B)

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Q24.

**Solution**

**Concept:** The conjunction "despite" sets up an explicit contrast. If extensive market data signals saturation, a development team that aggressively pushes ahead and launches multiple luxury apps must hold an unusually upbeat view.

**Solution:** The word despite establishes a logical contrast between the data and the team's perspective. If data indicates systemic market saturation, it means the market is full and difficult to enter—information that would typically make a team hesitate. If they launch three new luxury applications anyway, they are maintaining an optimistic or buoyant outlook. The word overwhelming describes the heavy weight of the negative data, while sanguine means optimistic and confident, creating the perfect logical contrast for Option A.

**Final Answer:** overwhelming ... sanguine

**Answer:** (A)

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Q25.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Cause-and-effect sentence completions require linking structural features with practical outcomes. Administrative syntax that is exceptionally dense creates a maze-like structure that leaves operational units completely confused.

**Solution:** The sentence notes that the policy structure was intentionally built around "dense regulatory syntax," meaning it was highly complicated, winding, and maze-like. The word labyrinthine perfectly captures this intricate, maze-like layout. The direct consequence of such structural complexity is that it leaves the field operational units completely confused or puzzled, which matches the definition of perplexed. This logical pairing validates Option B.

**Final Answer:** labyrinthine ... perplexed

**Answer: (B)**

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Q26.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Context clues point to the effects of masking information. Presentations hidden behind dense statistical jargon are inherently hard to understand, leaving investors puzzled until the numbers are clarified.

**Solution:** The sentence states that the presentation was hidden or "masked in dense statistical jargon," meaning it was deliberately unclear and hard to comprehend. The word opaque means muddy, hard to see through, or unintelligible, matching this description. The result of this dense jargon is that it leaves the venture capitalists completely puzzled or stunned, which fits the word nonplussed. This makes Option A the only pair that maintains logical coherence before the margins are finally clarified.

**Final Answer:** opaque ... nonplussed

**Answer: (A)**

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Q27.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Sentence unscrambling requires identifying a clear introductory sentence, connecting structural arguments to their clarifying counterpoints, identifying trade-offs, and concluding with the resulting macro-level takeaway.

**Solution:** To build a logically tight paragraph, we break down the sentences: \* Sentence 3 serves as the ideal introduction, stating that electronic conglomerates migrating toward nearshoring is rarely driven by sudden nationalist sentiments. \* Sentence 1 uses Rather to directly clarify the introductory sentence, explaining that this structural pivot is an aggressive optimization strategy to secure supply lines from geopolitical friction. \* Sentence 4 explains the mechanics of this nearshoring strategy, noting that by establishing hubs in contiguous jurisdictions, firms sacrifice cost efficiencies for operational resilience. \* Sentence 5 clarifies this tactical trade-off, noting that it prioritizes predictable fulfillment cycles over volatile, lowest-unit-cost offshore options. \* Sentence 2 uses Consequently to deliver the final concluding takeaway, explaining that viewing this shift as a mere rejection of global trade completely misreads corporate calculations. This creates the sequence 3–1–4–5–2, matching Option A.

**Final Answer:**

**Answer:** (A)

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Q28.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Coherent analytical progression relies on identifying a core baseline, connecting it to an inherent structural vulnerability, tracing an operational disruption, and concluding with the systemic fallout.

**Solution:** We track the logical links between the sentences to trace the semiconductor hardware narrative: \* Sentence 2 establishes the core baseline premise, explaining that advanced micro-processor fabrication systems depend on a hyper-concentrated global network of lithography machinery suppliers. \* Sentence 4 introduces the vulnerability, stating that because these elite manufacturers have no short-term substitutes, the entire industry is structurally exposed to extreme fragility. \* Sentence 3 shows how a disruption triggers this vulnerability, noting that any localized political trade dispute or environmental shock in these production corridors triggers supply blockades. \* Sentence 1 closes the loop by showing the final operational fallout, explaining that this vulnerability instantly escalates input overheads and slows down hardware delivery lines. This logical progression builds the chain 2–4–3–1, matching Option B.

**Final Answer:**

**Answer:** (B)

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Q29.

**Solution**

**Concept:** A precise textual summary accurately captures the author’s main thesis. It highlights how focusing on short-term indicators creates destructive incentives that compromise long-term competitive durability.

**Solution:** The text argues that traditional performance frameworks prioritizing short-term quarterly EPS metrics incentivize firms to starve long-term investments—such as freezing RD or selling off real estate to juice immediate numbers. Relying solely on these backward-looking financial metrics blinds boards to structural erosions that can lead to insolvency within a decade. Option B perfectly captures this core conclusion, summarizing that hyper-focusing on short-term quarterly metrics creates destructive incentives that inflate current profits while eroding long-term corporate durability.

**Final Answer:** Quarterly focus erodes long-term corporate strength.

**Answer: (B)**

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Q30.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Objective text conclusions distill empirical passages without overextending stated facts. The deduction must summarize the core conflict—such as how automated programmatic structures can undermine trading stability during crises.

**Solution:** The passage notes that while automated programmatic algorithms were introduced to eliminate human emotion and stabilize equity markets, empirical data shows that under extreme volatility, these quantitative systems deploy correlated risk-off triggers simultaneously. This complete lack of human discretion causes an instantaneous withdrawal of market liquidity, turning volatility into catastrophic flash crashes. Option C states the most logical objective conclusion: the structural promise of algorithmic trading stability is compromised by correlated triggers that withdraw market liquidity simultaneously during crises, capturing the exact tension detailed in the text.

**Final Answer:** Algo trading fails in liquidity crunches.

**Answer: (C)**

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**Answer Key**

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

