

Questions 1 to 3 are based on this passage.

Reviving the practice of using elements of popular music in classical composition, an approach that had been in hibernation in the United States during the 1960s, composer Philip Glass (born 1937) embraced the ethos of popular music in his compositions. Glass based two symphonies on music by rock musicians David Bowie and Brian Eno, but the symphonies' sound is distinctively his. Popular elements do not appear out of place in Glass's classical music, which from its early days has shared certain harmonies and rhythms with rock music. Yet this use of popular elements has not made Glass a composer of popular music. His music is not a version of popular music packaged to attract classical listeners; it is high art for listeners steeped in rock rather than the classics.

Select only one answer choice.

1. The passage addresses which of the following issues related to Glass's use of popular elements in his classical compositions?
 - A. How it is regarded by listeners who prefer rock to the classics
 - B. How it has affected the commercial success of Glass's music
 - C. Whether it has contributed to a revival of interest among other composers in using popular elements in their compositions
 - D. Whether it has had a detrimental effect on Glass's reputation as a composer of classical music
 - E. Whether it has caused certain of Glass's works to be derivative in quality

Consider each of the three choices separately and select all that apply.

2. The passage suggests that Glass's work displays which of the following qualities?
 - A. A return to the use of popular music in classical compositions
 - B. An attempt to elevate rock music to an artistic status more closely approximating that of classical music
 - C. A long-standing tendency to incorporate elements from two apparently disparate musical styles
3. Select the sentence that distinguishes two ways of integrating rock and classical music.

Questions 4-5 are based on this passage.

While there is no blueprint for transforming a largely government-controlled economy into a free one, the experiment that works: privatization, in which state-owned industries are sold to private companies. By 1979, the total borrowing was £10 billion a year. By selling many of these industries, the government has decreased these borrowings and losses, gained £1 billion from the newly privatized companies. Along with a dramatically improved overall economy, the government has reduced its deficit over a two-year period.

In fact, privatization has not only rescued individual industries and a whole economy headed for disaster, but also improved productivity. At British Gas, for example, productivity per employee has risen by 20 percent. At Associated British Ports, labor productivity has virtually disappeared. At British Telecom, there is no longer a waiting list—as there always was before privatization.

Part of this improved productivity has come about because the employees of privatized industries were given the opportunity to buy shares enthusiastically to the offer of shares: at British Aerospace, 89 percent of the eligible workforce bought shares; at British Gas, 89 percent. When people have a personal stake in something, they think about it, care about it, work to make it prosper. At British Telecom, employees grew so concerned about their company's profits that during wage negotiations they actually pressed their union to accept a 5 percent wage cut.

Some economists have suggested that giving away free shares would provide a needed acceleration of the privatization process. "If we obtain too cheap we esteem too lightly." In order for the far-ranging benefits of individual ownership to be achieved, individuals must make their own decisions to buy, and they must commit some of their own resources to the choice.

Reading Comprehension GMAT Sample Question 4

It can be inferred from the passage that the author considers labor disruptions to be...

1. an inevitable problem in a weak national economy
2. a positive sign of employee concern about a company
3. a predictor of employee reactions to a company's offer to sell shares to them
4. a phenomenon found more often in state-owned industries than in private companies
5. a deterrence to high performance levels in an industry

Reading Comprehension GMAT Sample Question 5

Which of the following can be inferred from the passage about the privatization process in the United Kingdom?

1. It depends to a potentially dangerous degree on individual ownership of shares.
2. It conforms in its most general outlines to Thomas Paine's prescription for business ownership.
3. It was originally conceived to include some giving away of free shares.
4. It has been successful, even though privatization has failed in other countries.
5. It is taking place more slowly than some economists suggest is necessary.

Questions 6-10 are based on this passage.

The following passage is from a discussion of various ways that living creatures have been classified over the years.

	The world can be classified in different ways,
	depending on one's interests and principles of clas-
	sification. The classifications (also known as
Line	taxonomies) in turn determine which comparisons
5	seem natural or unnatural, which literal or analog-
	ical. For example, it has been common to classify
	living creatures into three distinct groups—plants,
	animals, and humans. According to this classifica-

	tion, human beings are not a special kind of
10	animal, nor animals a special kind of plant. Thus
	any comparisons between the three groups are
	strictly analogical. Reasoning from inheritance in
	garden peas to inheritance in fruit flies, and from
	these two species to inheritance in human beings,
15	is sheer poetic metaphor.

	Another mode of classifying living creatures is
	commonly attributed to Aristotle. Instead of treat-
	ing plants, animals, and humans as distinct
	groups, they are nested. All living creatures
20	possess a vegetative soul that enables them to
	grow and metabolize. Of these, some also have a
	sensory soul that enables them to sense their envi-
	ronments and move. One species also has a
	rational soul that is capable of true understanding.
25	Thus, human beings are a special sort of animal,
	and animals are a special sort of plant. Given this
	classification, reasoning from human beings to all
	other species with respect to the attributes of the
	vegetative soul is legitimate, reasoning from
30	human beings to other animals with respect to the
	attributes of the sensory soul is also legitimate,
	but reasoning from the rational characteristics of
	the human species to any other species is merely

	analogical. According to both classifications, the
35	human species is unique. In the first, it has a king-
	dom all to itself; in the second, it stands at the
	pinnacle of the taxonomic hierarchy.

	Homo sapiens is unique. All species are. But
	this sort of uniqueness is not enough for many
40	(probably most) people, philosophers included. For
	some reason, it is very important that the species
	to which we belong be uniquely unique. It is of
	utmost importance that the human species be
	insulated from all other species with respect to
45	how we explain certain qualities. Human beings
	clearly are capable of developing and learning
	languages. For some reason, it is very important
	that the waggle dance performed by bees * not
	count as a genuine language. I have never been
50	able to understand why. I happen to think that the
	waggle dance differs from human languages to
	such a degree that little is gained by terming them
	both "languages," but even if "language" is so
	defined that the waggle dance slips in, bees still
55	remain bees. It is equally important to some that
	no other species use tools. No matter how inge-
	nious other species get in the manipulation of
	objects in their environment, it is absolutely

	essential that nothing they do count as "tool use."
60	I, however, fail to see what difference it makes
	whether any of these devices such as probes and
	anvils, etc. are really tools. All the species
	involved remain distinct biological species no
	matter what decisions are made. Similar observa-
65	tions hold for rationality and anything a computer
	might do.

6.

Reading Comprehension GMAT Sample Question 6

According to the author, what is most responsible for influencing our perception of a comparison between species?

The behavior of the organisms in their natural environment

The organizational scheme imposed on the living world by researchers and philosophers

The style of language used by scientists in presenting their research

The sophistication of the communication between organisms

The magnitude of hierarchical distance between a species and Homo sapiens

7.

Reading Comprehension GMAT Sample Question 7

Which of the following is NOT possible within an Aristotelian classification scheme?

Two species that are alike in having sensory souls but differ in that one lacks a rational soul

Two species that are alike in having vegetative souls but differ in that only one has a sensory soul

A species having a vegetative soul while lacking sensory and rational souls

A species having vegetative and rational souls while lacking a sensory soul

A species having vegetative and sensory souls while lacking a rational soul

Reading Comprehension GMAT Sample Question 8

Which of the following comparisons would be "legitimate" for all living organisms according to the Aristotelian scheme described in paragraph two?

I. Comparisons based on the vegetative soul

II. Comparisons based on the sensory soul

III. Comparisons based on the rational soul

I only

II only

III only

II and III only

I, II, and III

Reading Comprehension GMAT Sample Question 9

If the author had wished to explain why "most" people (line 40) feel the way they do, the explanation would have probably focused on the

reality of distinct biological species

most recent advances in biological research

behavioral similarities between Homo sapiens and other species

role of language in the development of technology

lack of objectivity in the classification of Homo sapiens

Reading Comprehension GMAT Sample Question 10

The author uses the words "For some reason" in lines 40-41 to express

rage

disapproval

despair

sympathy

uncertainty

Reading Comprehension GMAT Sample Question 11

Which best summarizes the idea of "uniquely unique" (line 42)?

We are unique in the same way that all other species are unique.

We are defined by attributes that we alone possess and that are qualitatively different from those of other species.

We are, by virtue of our elevated rank, insulated from many of the problems of survival faced by less sophisticated species.

Our awareness of our uniqueness defines us as a rational species.

Our apparently unique status is an unintended by-product of classification systems.

Reading Comprehension GMAT Sample Question 12

In line 44, "insulated from" means

warmed by

covered with

barred from

segregated from

protected from

Reading Comprehension GMAT Sample Question 13

In the third paragraph, the author criticizes those who believe that

the similarities between Homo sapiens and other species are more significant than their differences

the differences between Homo sapiens and other animals are those of degree, not kind

Homo sapiens and animals belong to separate and distinct divisions of the living world

Homo sapiens and animals have the ability to control their environment

Homo sapiens and other organisms can be arranged in Aristotelian nested groups