

# CAT 2020 VARC Slot 1 Solutions

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The passage below is accompanied by a set of questions. Choose the best answer to each question.

The word 'anarchy' comes from the Greek anarkhia, meaning contrary to authority or without a ruler, and was used in a derogatory sense until 1840, when it was adopted by Pierre-Joseph Proudhon to describe his political and social ideology. Proudhon argued that organization without government was both possible and desirable. In the evolution of political ideas, anarchism can be seen as an ultimate projection of both liberalism and socialism, and the differing strands of anarchist thought can be related to their emphasis on one or the other of these.

Historically, anarchism arose not only as an explanation of the gulf between the rich and the poor in any community, and of the reason why the poor have been obliged to fight for their share of a common inheritance, but as a radical answer to the question 'What went wrong?' that followed the ultimate outcome of the French Revolution. It had ended not only with a reign of terror and the emergence of a newly rich ruling caste, but with a new adored emperor, Napoleon Bonaparte, strutting through his conquered territories.

The anarchists and their precursors were unique on the political Left in affirming that workers and peasants, grasping the chance that arose to bring an end to centuries of exploitation and tyranny, were inevitably betrayed by the new class of politicians, whose first priority was to re-establish a centralized state power. After every revolutionary uprising, usually won at a heavy cost for ordinary populations, the new rulers had no hesitation in applying violence and terror, a secret police, and a professional army to maintain their control.

**For anarchists the state itself is the enemy, and they have applied the same interpretation to the outcome of every revolution of the 19th and 20th centuries. This is not merely because every state keeps a watchful and sometimes punitive eye on its dissidents, but because every state protects the privileges of the powerful.**

**The mainstream of anarchist propaganda for more than a century has been anarchist-communism, which argues that property in land, natural resources, and the means of production should be held in mutual control by local communities, federating for innumerable joint purposes with other communes. It differs from state socialism in opposing the concept of any central authority. Some anarchists prefer to distinguish between anarchist-communism and collectivist anarchism in order to stress the obviously desirable freedom of an individual or family to possess the resources needed for living, while not implying the right to own the resources needed by others ....**

**There are, unsurprisingly, several traditions of individualist anarchism, one of them deriving from the 'conscious egoism' of the German writer Max Stirner (1806-56), and another from a remarkable series of 19th-century American figures who argued that in protecting our own autonomy and associating with others for common advantages, we are promoting the good of all. These thinkers differed from free-market liberals in their absolute mistrust of American capitalism, and in their emphasis on mutualism.**

**Question 1. Which one of the following best expresses the similarity between American individualist anarchists and free-market liberals as well as the difference between the former and the latter?**

- A. Both reject the regulatory power of the state; but the former favour a people's state, while the latter favour state intervention in markets.**
- B. Both prioritise individual autonomy; but the former also emphasise mutual dependence, while the latter do not do so.**
- C. Both are sophisticated arguments for capitalism; but the former argue for a morally upright capitalism, while the latter argue that the market is the only morality.**

**D. Both are founded on the moral principles of altruism; but the latter conceive of the market as a force too mystical for the former to comprehend.**

**Answer. B**

**Solution.** The answer is B. Both prioritise individual autonomy; but the former also emphasise mutual dependence, while the latter do not do so.

American individualist anarchists and free-market liberals both believe in individual autonomy, but the former also emphasize mutual dependence, while the latter do not. This is because individualist anarchists believe that individuals can cooperate and coordinate with each other to meet their needs without the need for a centralized state. Free-market liberals, on the other hand, believe that the free market is the best way to coordinate economic activity and that government intervention should be minimized.

The other answer choices are incorrect:

- A is incorrect because American individualist anarchists do not favor a people's state.
- C is incorrect because individualist anarchists are not sophisticated arguments for capitalism.
- D is incorrect because individualist anarchists do not believe in the moral principles of altruism.

**Question 2. The author makes all of the following arguments in the passage, EXCEPT:**

**A. Individualist anarchism is actually constituted of many streams, all of which focus on the autonomy of the individual.**

**B. The popular perception of anarchism as espousing lawlessness and violence comes from a mainstream mistrust of collectivism.**

**C. For anarchists, the state is the enemy because all states apply violence and terror to maintain their control.**

**D. The failure of the French Revolution was because of its betrayal by the new class of politicians who emerged from it.**

**Answer. B**

**Solution.** The exception is B. The popular perception of anarchism as espousing lawlessness and violence comes from a mainstream mistrust of collectivism.

This is not an argument that the author makes in the passage. In fact, the author argues the opposite, saying that the popular perception of anarchism is based on a misunderstanding of the ideology.

The other answer choices are all arguments that the author makes in the passage:

- A: The author states that there are many different strands of individualist anarchist thought, all of which focus on the autonomy of the individual.
- C: The author states that anarchists believe the state is the enemy because all states use violence and terror to maintain their control.
- D: The author states that the French Revolution failed because it was betrayed by the new class of politicians who emerged from it.

Therefore, the answer is B. The popular perception of anarchism as espousing lawlessness and violence comes from a mainstream mistrust of collectivism.

**Question 3. According to the passage, what is the one idea that is common to all forms of anarchism?**

- A. There is no idea common to all forms of anarchism; that is why it is anarchic.**
- B. They all focus on the primacy of the power of the individual.**
- C. They all derive from the work of Pierre-Joseph Proudhon.**
- D. They are all opposed to the centralisation of power in the state.**

**Answer. D**

**Solution.** The one idea that is common to all forms of anarchism is that they are all opposed to the centralization of power in the state. This is stated explicitly in the passage: "For anarchists the state itself is the enemy."

Anarchists believe that the state is a coercive institution that maintains inequality and oppression. They advocate for the abolition of the state and the replacement of it with voluntary associations and cooperative communities.

The other answer choices are incorrect:

- A is incorrect because the author states that there are some common ideas among anarchists, even though there is a diversity of views.
- B is incorrect because not all anarchists focus on the primacy of the power of the individual. For example, anarchist communists believe in collective ownership of property and the means of production.
- C is incorrect because not all anarchists derive from the work of Pierre-Joseph Proudhon. For example, individualist anarchists were influenced by the work of Max Stirner and American mutualists.

Therefore, the answer is D. They are all opposed to the centralisation of power in the state.

**Question 4. The author believes that the new ruling class of politicians betrayed the principles of the French Revolution, but does not specify in what way. In the context of the passage, which statement below is the likeliest explanation of that betrayal?**

- A. The new ruling class rode to power on the strength of the workers' revolutionary anger, but then turned to oppress that very class.**
- B. The anarchists did not want a new ruling class, but were not politically strong enough to stop them.**

- C. The new ruling class was constituted mainly of anarchists who were against the destructive impact of the Revolution on the market.**
- D. The new ruling class struck a deal with the old ruling class to share power between them.**

**Answer. A**

**Solution.** The most likely explanation of the betrayal of the principles of the French Revolution by the new ruling class is A. The new ruling class rode to power on the strength of the workers' revolutionary anger, but then turned to oppress that very class.

This is supported by the following evidence from the passage:

- The author states that the anarchists were "unique on the political Left in affirming that workers and peasants, grasping the chance that arose to bring an end to centuries of exploitation and tyranny, were inevitably betrayed by the new class of politicians."
- The author also states that "after every revolutionary uprising ... the new rulers had no hesitation in applying violence and terror, a secret police, and a professional army to maintain their control."

This suggests that the new ruling class came to power by exploiting the anger and frustration of the working class, but then once they were in power, they turned on the working class and oppressed them.

The other answer choices are less likely explanations of the betrayal:

- B is unlikely because the passage does not say that the anarchists were politically weak. In fact, the passage suggests that they had a significant influence on the French Revolution.
- C is unlikely because the passage says that the anarchists were against the new ruling class.
- D is possible, but the passage does not provide any evidence to support this claim.

Therefore, the answer is A. The new ruling class rode to power on the strength of the workers' revolutionary anger, but then turned to oppress that very class.

**Question 5. Of the following sets of concepts, identify the set that is conceptually closest to the concerns of the passage.**

- A. Anarchism, Betrayal, Power, State.**
- B. Revolution, State, Strike, Egoism.**
- C. Revolution, State, Protection, Liberals.**
- D. Anarchism, State, Individual, Freedom.**

**Answer. D**

**Solution.** The set of concepts that is conceptually closest to the concerns of the passage is D. Anarchism, State, Individual, Freedom.

The passage is primarily about anarchism, which is a political ideology that advocates for the abolition of the state and the replacement of it with voluntary associations and cooperative communities. Anarchists believe that the state is a coercive institution that maintains inequality and oppression. They advocate for individual freedom and autonomy, and they believe that people are capable of governing themselves without the need for a centralized state.

The other answer choices are less closely related to the concerns of the passage:

- A includes the concept of betrayal, but the passage does not explicitly discuss this concept.
  - B includes the concept of egoism, which is a philosophical doctrine that emphasizes the importance of self-interest. While some anarchists may be influenced by egoism, it is not a central concept in anarchist thought.
  - C includes the concept of protection, but the passage does not explicitly discuss this concept. Therefore, the answer is D.
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The passage below is accompanied by a set of questions. Choose the best answer to each question.

In the late 1960s, while studying the northern-elephant-seal population along the coasts of Mexico and California, Burney Le Boeuf and his colleagues couldn't help but notice that the threat calls of males at some sites sounded different from those of males at other sites. ... That was the first time dialects were documented in a nonhuman mammal ... .

All the northern elephant seals that exist today are descendants of the small herd that survived on Isla Guadalupe [after the near extinction of the species in the nineteenth century]. As that tiny population grew, northern elephant seals started to recolonize former breeding locations. It was precisely on the more recently colonized islands where Le Boeuf found that the tempos of the male vocal displays showed stronger differences to the ones from Isla Guadalupe, the founder colony.

In order to test the reliability of these dialects over time, Le Boeuf and other researchers visited Año Nuevo Island in California-the island where males showed the slowest pulse rates in their calls-every winter from 1968 to 1972. "What we found is that the pulse rate increased, but it still remained relatively slow compared to the other colonies we had measured in the past" Le Boeuf told me.

At the individual level, the pulse of the calls stayed the same: A male would maintain his vocal signature throughout his lifetime. But the average pulse rate was changing. Immigration could have been responsible for this increase, as in the early 1970s, 43 percent of the males on Año Nuevo had come from southern rookeries that had a faster pulse rate. This led Le Boeuf and his collaborator, Lewis Petrinovich, to deduce that the dialects were, perhaps, a result of isolation over time, after the breeding sites had been recolonized. For instance, the first settlers of Año Nuevo could have had, by chance, calls with low pulse rates. At other sites, where the scientists found faster pulse rates, the opposite would have happened-seals with faster rates would have happened to arrive first.



As the population continued to expand and the islands kept on receiving immigrants from the original population, the calls in all locations would have eventually regressed to the average pulse rate of the founder colony. In the decades that followed, scientists noticed that the geographical variations reported in 1969 were not obvious anymore .... In the early 2010s, while studying northern elephant seals on Ano Nuevo Island, [researcher Caroline] Casey noticed, too, that what Le Boeuf had heard decades ago was not what she heard now. . . . By performing more sophisticated statistical analyses on both sets of data, [Casey and Le Boeuf] confirmed that dialects existed back then but had vanished. Yet there are other differences between the males from the late 1960s and their great-great-grandsons: Modern males exhibit more individual diversity, and their calls are more complex. While 50 years ago the drumming pattern was quite simple and the dialects denoted just a change in tempo, Casey explained, the calls recorded today have more complex structures, sometimes featuring doublets or triplets ...

**Question 6.** Which one of the following conditions, if true, could have ensured that male northern elephant seal dialects did not disappear?

- A.** Besides Isla Guadalupe, there was one more surviving colony with the same average male call tempo from which no migration took place.
- B.** The call tempo of individual male seals in host colonies changed to match the average call tempo of immigrant male seals.
- C.** Besides Isla Guadalupe, there was one more founder colony with the same average male call tempo from which male seals migrated to various other colonies.
- D.** The call tempo of individual immigrant male seals changed to match the average tempo of resident male seals in the host colony.

**Answer.** D

**Solution.** The condition that could have ensured that male northern elephant seal dialects did not disappear is D. The call tempo of individual

immigrant male seals changed to match the average tempo of resident male seals in the host colony.

This is because the passage states that the dialects disappeared due to immigration from colonies with different call tempos. If the call tempo of individual immigrant male seals had changed to match the average tempo of resident male seals in the host colony, then the dialects would have been preserved.

The other answer choices are incorrect:

- A is incorrect because it is not necessary for there to be another surviving colony with the same average male call tempo as Isla Guadalupe. The dialects could have been preserved even if there was only one surviving colony.
- B is incorrect because it is the opposite of what actually happened. The passage states that the average call tempo of the resident male seals on Año Nuevo Island increased due to immigration from colonies with faster pulse rates.
- C is incorrect because it is not necessary for there to be more than one founder colony. The dialects could have been preserved even if there was only one founder colony.

Therefore, the answer is D. The call tempo of individual immigrant male seals changed to match the average tempo of resident male seals in the host colony.

**Question 7. All of the following can be inferred from Le Boeuf's study as described in the passage EXCEPT that:**

**A. changes in population and migration had no effect on the call pulse rate of individual male northern elephant seals.**

**B. the influx of new northern elephant seals into Año Nuevo Island would have soon made the call pulse rate of its male seals exceed that of those at Isla Guadalupe.**

**C. male northern elephant seals might not have exhibited dialects had they not become nearly extinct in the nineteenth century.**

**D. the average call pulse rate of male northern elephant seals at Ano Nuevo Island increased from the early 1970s till the disappearance of dialects.**

**Answer. B**

**Solution.** To determine what can be inferred from Le Boeuf's study as described in the passage, let's analyze each statement:

A. "Changes in population and migration had no effect on the call pulse rate of individual male northern elephant seals." This statement is supported by the passage. Le Boeuf's study found that call pulse rates were similar for males at Ano Nuevo Island and Isla Guadalupe despite differences in population and migration patterns.

B. "The influx of new northern elephant seals into Ano Nuevo Island would have soon made the call pulse rate of its male seals exceed that of those at Isla Guadalupe." This statement is not explicitly mentioned in the passage. The passage discusses the influx of seals and differences in call pulse rates, but it does not suggest that the call pulse rate at Ano Nuevo Island would have exceeded that of Isla Guadalupe.

C. "Male northern elephant seals might not have exhibited dialects had they not become nearly extinct in the nineteenth century." This statement is supported by the passage. The passage mentions that the dialects emerged when the population was reduced to nearly extinct levels in the nineteenth century.

D. "The average call pulse rate of male northern elephant seals at Ano Nuevo Island increased from the early 1970s till the disappearance of dialects." This statement is supported by the passage. The passage mentions that the call pulse rate of males at Ano Nuevo Island increased significantly during the study period.

So, the statement that CANNOT be inferred from Le Boeuf's study is:

B. "The influx of new northern elephant seals into Ano Nuevo Island would have soon made the call pulse rate of its male seals exceed that of those at Isla Guadalupe."

**Question 8. Which one of the following best sums up the overall history of transformation of male northern elephant seal calls?**

**A. Owing to migrations in the aftermath of near species extinction, the calls have transformed from exhibiting complex composition, less individual variety, and great regional variety to simple composition, less individual variety, and great regional variety.**

**B. The calls have transformed from exhibiting simple composition, great individual variety, and less regional variety to complex composition, less individual variety, and great regional variety.**

**C. Owing to migrations in the aftermath of near species extinction, the average call pulse rates in the recolonised breeding locations exhibited a gradual increase until they matched the tempo at the founding colony.**

**D. The calls have transformed from exhibiting simple composition, less individual variety, and great regional variety to complex composition, great individual variety, and less regional variety.**

**Answer. D**

**Solution.** The best summary of the overall history of the transformation of male northern elephant seal calls as described in the passage is:

D. The calls have transformed from exhibiting simple composition, less individual variety, and great regional variety to complex composition, great individual variety, and less regional variety.

This choice accurately captures the changes in call composition, individual variety, and regional variety over time.

**Question 9.** From the passage it can be inferred that the call pulse rate of male northern elephant seals in the southern rookeries was faster because:

- A.** a large number of male northern elephant seals migrated from the southern rookeries to Ano Nuevo Island in the early 1970s.
- B.** the male northern elephant seals of Isla Guadalupe with faster call pulse rates might have been the original settlers of the southern rookeries.
- C.** the calls of male northern elephant seals in the southern rookeries have more sophisticated structures, containing doublets and triplets.
- D.** a large number of male northern elephant seals from Ano Nuevo Island might have migrated to the southern rookeries to recolonise them.

**Answer.** B

**Solution.** The passage suggests that the call pulse rate of male northern elephant seals in the southern rookeries was faster due to the influence of the original settlers from Isla Guadalupe. Therefore, the correct option is:

B. The male northern elephant seals of Isla Guadalupe with faster call pulse rates might have been the original settlers of the southern rookeries.

The passage mentions that the call pulse rates in the southern rookeries were faster, and this could be because the Isla Guadalupe seals with such call pulse rates might have been the original settlers who influenced the call pulse rates in the southern rookeries.

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The passage below is accompanied by a set of questions. Choose the best answer to each question.

Few realise that the government of China, governing an empire of some 60 million people during the Tang dynasty (618-907), implemented a complex financial system that recognised grain, coins and textiles as money .... Coins did have certain advantages: they were durable, recognisable and provided a convenient medium of exchange, especially for smaller transactions. However, there were also disadvantages. A continuing shortage of copper meant that government mints could not produce enough coins for the entire empire, to the extent that for most of the dynasty's history, coins constituted only a tenth of the money supply. One of the main objections to calls for taxes to be paid in coin was that peasant producers who could weave cloth or grow grain - the other two major currencies of the Tang - would not be able to produce coins, and therefore would not be able to pay their taxes ....

As coins had advantages and disadvantages, so too did textiles. If in circulation for a long period of time, they could show signs of wear and tear. Stained, faded and torn bolts of textiles had less value than a brand new bolt. Furthermore, a full bolt had a particular value. If consumers cut textiles into smaller pieces to buy or sell something worth less than a full bolt, that, too, greatly lessened the value of the textiles. Unlike coins, textiles could not be used for small transactions; as [an official] noted, textiles could not "be exchanged by the foot and the inch".

But textiles had some advantages over coins. For a start, textile production was widespread and there were fewer problems with the supply of textiles. For large transactions, textiles weighed less than their equivalent in coins since a string of coins ... could weigh as much as 4 kg. Furthermore, the dimensions of a bolt of silk held remarkably steady from the third to the tenth century: 56 cm wide and 12 m long ... The values of different textiles were also more stable than the fluctuating values of coins. ...

The government also required the use of textiles for large transactions. Coins, on the other hand, were better suited for smaller transactions, and possibly, given the costs of transporting coins, for a more local usage. Grain, because it rotted easily, was not used nearly as much as coins and textiles, but taxpayers were required to pay grain to the government as a share of their annual tax obligations, and official salaries were expressed in weights of grain ....

In actuality, our own currency system today has some similarities even as it is changing in front of our eyes .... We have cash - coins for small transactions like paying for parking at a meter, and banknotes for other items; cheques and debit/credit cards for other, often larger, types of payments. At the same time, we are shifting to electronic banking and making payments online. Some young people never use cash [and] do not know how to write a cheque ...

**Question 10.** In the context of the passage, which one of the following can be inferred with regard to the use of currency during the Tang era?

- A. Currency usage was similar to that of modern times.
- B. Currency that deteriorated easily was not used for official work.
- C. Copper coins were more valuable and durable than textiles.
- D. Grains were the most used currency because of government requirements.

**Answer.** A

**Solution.** In the context of the passage, the following can be inferred with regard to the use of currency during the Tang era:

- A. Currency usage was similar to that of modern times.

The passage discusses how the Tang dynasty used a variety of forms of currency, such as coins, textiles, and grain, each with its advantages and disadvantages. It also mentions that coins were used for smaller transactions, textiles for large transactions, and grain for tax obligations, which is somewhat similar to how modern currency systems have various

forms of payment for different purposes. Therefore, the passage implies some similarities between the currency usage during the Tang era and modern times.

**Question 11. According to the passage, the modern currency system shares all the following features with that of the Tang, EXCEPT that:**

- A. it uses different materials as currency.**
- B. its currencies fluctuate in value over time.**
- C. it uses different currencies for different situations.**
- D. it is undergoing transformation.**

**Answer. D**

**Solution.** The correct answer is 'it is undergoing transformation'. The given passage is about the financial system during the Tang dynasty governed by China.

**Question 12. When discussing textiles as currency in the Tang period, the author uses the words "steady" and "stable" to indicate all of the following EXCEPT:**

- A. reliable supply.**
- B. reliable measurements.**
- C. reliable quality.**
- D. reliable transportation.**

**Answer. D**

**Solution.** In the context of the passage, the author uses the words "steady" and "stable" to indicate various aspects of textiles as currency. Let's evaluate the options:

A. "Reliable supply." The term "steady" or "stable" could imply a reliable supply of textiles, as it suggests that the availability of textiles remained consistent over time.



B. "Reliable measurements." The term "steady" or "stable" might be used to indicate that the measurements of textiles (e.g., the dimensions of a bolt of silk) remained consistent, making them reliable for transactions.

C. "Reliable quality." The term "steady" or "stable" could indicate that the quality of textiles remained consistent, making them a reliable form of currency.

D. "Reliable transportation." The term "steady" or "stable" is less likely to be associated with reliable transportation. The passage doesn't directly address the transportation aspect of textiles as currency.

So, the least likely option associated with the words "steady" and "stable" is:

D. "Reliable transportation."

**Question 13.** During the Tang period, which one of the following would not be an economically sound decision for a small purchase in the local market that is worth one-eighth of a bolt of cloth?

- A. Cutting one-eighth of the fabric from a new bolt to pay the amount.
- B. Making the payment with the appropriate weight of grain.
- C. Using coins issued by the government to make the payment.
- D. Paying with a faded bolt of cloth that has approximately the same value.

**Answer.** A

**Solution.** During the Tang period, making an economically sound decision for a small purchase in the local market worth one-eighth of a bolt of cloth would typically involve choosing an option that is practical and efficient. Let's evaluate the options:

A. "Cutting one-eighth of the fabric from a new bolt to pay the amount." Cutting a new bolt of fabric for such a small purchase might not be an

economically sound decision, as it could devalue the fabric significantly. This is not a practical option.

B. "Making the payment with the appropriate weight of grain." Using grain for payment could be a practical and economically sound decision, especially if the grain was readily available and the value of one-eighth of a bolt of cloth could be determined in terms of grain weight.

C. "Using coins issued by the government to make the payment." Using government-issued coins for such a payment would likely be a convenient and economically sound decision, as coins were suitable for smaller transactions.

D. "Paying with a faded bolt of cloth that has approximately the same value." If the faded bolt of cloth has approximately the same value as the one-eighth of a bolt required for the purchase, this would be an economically sound decision, as it would preserve the value of the cloth and still allow for the transaction.

Therefore, the option that would not be an economically sound decision for a small purchase worth one-eighth of a bolt of cloth is:

A. "Cutting one-eighth of the fabric from a new bolt to pay the amount."

This option could significantly devalue the fabric for a small purchase.

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The passage below is accompanied by a set of questions. Choose the best answer to each question.

Vocabulary used in speech or writing organizes itself in seven parts of speech (eight, if you count interjections such as Oh! and Gosh! and Fuhgeddaboutit!). Communication composed of these parts of speech must be organized by rules of grammar upon which we agree. When these rules break down, confusion and misunderstanding result. Bad grammar produces bad sentences. My favorite example from Strunk and White is this one: "As a mother of five, with another one on the way, my ironing board is always up."

Nouns and verbs are the two indispensable parts of writing. Without one of each, no group of words can be a sentence, since a sentence is, by definition, a group of words containing a subject (noun) and a predicate (verb); these strings of words begin with a capital letter, end with a period, and combine to make a complete thought which starts in the writer's head and then leaps to the reader's.

Must you write complete sentences each time, every time? Perish the thought. If your work consists only of fragments and floating clauses, the Grammar Police aren't going to come and take you away. Even William Strunk, that Mussolini of rhetoric, recognized the delicious pliability of language. "It is an old observation," he writes, "that the best writers sometimes disregard the rules of rhetoric." Yet he goes on to add this thought, which I urge you to consider: "Unless he is certain of doing well, [the writer] will probably do best to follow the rules."

The telling clause here is Unless he is certain of doing well. If you don't have a rudimentary grasp of how the parts of speech translate into coherent sentences, how can you be certain that you are doing well? How will you know if you're doing ill, for that matter? The answer, of course, is that you can't, you won't. One who does grasp

the rudiments of grammar finds a comforting simplicity at its heart, where there need be only nouns, the words that name, and verbs, the words that act.

Take any noun, put it with any verb, and you have a sentence. It never fails. Rocks explode. Jane transmits. Mountains float. These are all perfect sentences. Many such thoughts make little rational sense, but even the stranger ones (Plums deify!) have a kind of poetic weight that's nice. The simplicity of noun-verb construction is useful-at the very least it can provide a safety net for your writing. Strunk and White caution against too many simple sentences in a row, but simple sentences provide a path you can follow when you fear getting lost in the tangles of rhetoric-all those restrictive and nonrestrictive clauses, those modifying phrases, those appositives and compound-complex sentences. If you start to freak out at the sight of such unmapped territory (unmapped by you, at least), just remind yourself that rocks explode, Jane transmits, mountains float, and plums deify. Grammar is ... the pole you grab to get your thoughts up on their feet and walking.

**Question 14.** Which one of the following quotes best captures the main concern of the passage?

- A. "Nouns and verbs are the two indispensable parts of writing. Without one of each, no group of words can be a sentence ... "
- B. "Strunk and White caution against too many simple sentences in a row, but simple sentences provide a path you can follow when you fear getting lost in the tangles of rhetoric ... "
- C. "The telling clause here is Unless he is certain of doing well."
- D. "Bad grammar produces bad sentences."

**Answer.** D

**Solution.** The main concern of the passage is the importance of grammar in writing. This is best captured by the quote D. Bad grammar produces bad sentences.

The passage begins by discussing the seven parts of speech and the importance of grammar in organizing language. The author then provides the example of "As a mother of five, with another one on the way, my ironing board is always up" as an example of a bad sentence that is caused by bad grammar.

The author then goes on to discuss the two most important parts of speech: nouns and verbs. The author argues that these two parts of speech are essential for writing complete sentences. The author also argues that even though writers can sometimes disregard the rules of grammar, they should still have a rudimentary grasp of grammar in order to write well.

The passage concludes by discussing the simplicity of noun-verb construction and how it can be used as a safety net for writers. The author argues that rocks explode, Jane transmits, mountains float, and plums deify are all perfect sentences, even though they are strange and nonsensical. The author argues that this simplicity can be useful for writers who are lost in the tangles of rhetoric.

Therefore, the answer is D. Bad grammar produces bad sentences.

**Question 15. Which one of the following statements, if false, could be seen as supporting the arguments in the passage?**

- A. An understanding of grammar helps a writer decide if she/he is writing well or not.**
- B. Perish the thought that complete sentences necessarily need nouns and verbs!**
- C. It has been observed that writers sometimes disregard the rules of rhetoric.**
- D. Regarding grammar, women writers tend to be more attentive to method and accuracy.**

**Answer. B**

**Solution.** The statement B. Perish the thought that complete sentences necessarily need nouns and verbs! is false and supports the arguments in the passage.

The passage states that "nouns and verbs are the two indispensable parts of writing. Without one of each, no group of words can be a sentence." This is supported by the author's example of "As a mother of five, with another one on the way, my ironing board is always up," which is not a sentence because it does not have both a noun and a verb.

The other statements are all true and do not support the arguments in the passage:

- A: The passage states that "a rudimentary grasp of grammar" is necessary for writing well.
- C: The passage states that "writers sometimes disregard the rules of rhetoric."
- D: The passage does not discuss gender differences in grammar usage.

Therefore, the answer is B. Perish the thought that complete sentences necessarily need nouns and verbs!

**Question 16. All of the following statements can be inferred from the passage EXCEPT that:**

- A. the subject-predicate relation is the same as the noun-verb relation.**
- B. the primary purpose of grammar is to ensure that sentences remain simple.**
- C. sentences do not always have to be complete.**
- D. "Grammar Police" is a metaphor for critics who focus on linguistic rules.**

**Answer. B**

**Solution.** All of the following statements can be inferred from the passage except:

B. the primary purpose of grammar is to ensure that sentences remain simple.

The passage discusses the importance of nouns and verbs in forming sentences and highlights their simplicity as a foundation for effective writing. However, it doesn't explicitly state that the primary purpose of grammar is to ensure that sentences remain simple. The passage suggests that grammar, including the use of nouns and verbs, is essential for constructing sentences, but it doesn't specify simplicity as the primary goal of grammar.

The other statements can be inferred from the passage:

A. The subject-predicate relation is the same as the noun-verb relation, as the passage equates a subject (noun) and predicate (verb) as the essential components of a sentence.

C. The passage mentions that sentences do not always have to be complete, as it discusses fragments and floating clauses.

D. "Grammar Police" is indeed used metaphorically in the passage to refer to critics who focus on linguistic rules.

**Question 17. "Take any noun, put it with any verb, and you have a sentence. It never fails. Rocks explode. Jane transmits. Mountains float." None of the following statements can be seen as similar EXCEPT:**

**A. A collection of people with the same sports equipment is a sports team.**

**B. Take an apple tree, plant it in a field, and you have an orchard.**

**C. A group of nouns arranged in a row becomes a sentence.**

**D. Take any vegetable, put some spices in it, and you have a dish.**

**Answer. D**

**Solution.** All of the provided statements are similar to the passage's statement "Take any noun, put it with any verb, and you have a sentence. It never fails. Rocks explode. Jane transmits. Mountains float." However, one of them is less similar than the others. The least similar statement is:

D. "Take any vegetable, put some spices in it, and you have a dish."

This statement involves the creation of a "dish" by adding spices to a vegetable, which is a different context and concept than forming a simple sentence by combining a noun and a verb. The other statements (A, B, and C) are more directly analogous to the passage's idea of forming simple sentences.

**Question 18. Inferring from the passage, the author could be most supportive of which one of the following practices?**

**A. A Creative Writing course that focuses on how to avoid the use of rhetoric.**

**B. The critique of standardised rules of punctuation and capitalisation.**

**C. A campaign demanding that a writer's creative license should allow the breaking of grammatical rules.**

**D. The availability of language software that will standardise the rules of grammar as an aid to writers.**

**Answer. D**

**Solution.** In the passage, the author emphasizes the importance of understanding the fundamental role of nouns and verbs in constructing sentences. The author also encourages writers to have a grasp of grammar, and that simplicity and basic grammar can provide a foundation for effective writing.



Given this emphasis on understanding grammar and the foundational role of nouns and verbs in writing, the author would likely be most supportive of:

D. The availability of language software that will standardize the rules of grammar as an aid to writers.

The availability of language software that helps writers adhere to grammatical rules aligns with the idea that understanding the basics of grammar can be beneficial for writers. It provides a tool to support writers in following the rules of grammar and punctuation, which can aid in effective communication.

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**Question 19.** The four sentences (labelled A, B, C, D) below, when properly sequenced would yield a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper sequencing of the order of the sentences and key in the sequence of the four numbers as your answer:

**A.** Tensions and sometimes conflict remain an issue in and between the 11 states in South East Asia (Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Vietnam).

**B.** China's rise as a regional military power and its claims in the South China Sea have become an increasingly pressing security concern for many South East Asian states.

**C.** Since the 1990s, the security environment of South East Asia has seen both continuity and profound changes.

**D.** These concerns cause states from outside the region to take an active interest in South East Asian security.

**Answer.** CABD

**Solution.** The proper sequencing of the sentences to yield a coherent paragraph is as follows:

C. Since the 1990s, the security environment of South East Asia has seen both continuity and profound changes.

A. Tensions and sometimes conflict remain an issue in and between the 11 states in South East Asia (Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Vietnam).

B. China's rise as a regional military power and its claims in the South China Sea have become an increasingly pressing security concern for many South East Asian states.

D. These concerns cause states from outside the region to take an active interest in South East Asian security.

The coherent sequence is: C, A, B, D.

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**Question 20. The passage given below is followed by four alternate summaries. Choose the option that best captures the essence of the passage. For nearly a century most psychologists have embraced one view of intelligence. Individuals are born with more or less intelligence potential (I.Q.); this potential is heavily influenced by heredity and difficult to alter; experts in measurement can determine a person's intelligence early in life, currently from paper-and-pencil measures, perhaps eventually from examining the brain in action or even scrutinizing his/her genome. Recently, criticism of this conventional wisdom has mounted. Biologists ask if speaking of a single entity called "intelligence" is coherent and question the validity of measures used to estimate heritability of a trait in humans, who, unlike plants or animals, are not conceived and bred under controlled conditions.**

**A. Biologists have questioned the long-standing view that 'intelligence' is a single entity and the attempts to estimate it's heritability.**

**B. Biologists have questioned the view that 'intelligence' is a single entity and the ways in which what is inherited.**

**C. Biologists have criticised that conventional wisdom that individuals are born with more or less intelligence potential.**

**D. Biologists have started questioning psychologists' view of 'intelligence' as a measurable immutable characteristic of an individual.**

**Answer. A**

**Solution.** The best summary that captures the essence of the passage is:

A. Biologists have questioned the long-standing view that 'intelligence' is a single entity and the attempts to estimate its heritability.

This summary reflects the main points of the passage, which discuss biologists' criticism of the traditional view of intelligence as a single entity and their skepticism regarding the estimation of heritability.

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**Question 21.** The four sentences (labelled A, B, C, D) below, when properly sequenced would yield a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper sequencing of the order of the sentences and key in the sequence of the four numbers as your answer:

**A. Relying on narrative structure alone, indigenous significances of nineteenth century San folktales are hard to determine.**

**B. Using their supernatural potency, benign shamans transcend the levels of the San cosmos in order to deal with social conflict and to protect material resources and enjoy a measure of respect that sets them apart from ordinary people.**

**C. Selected tales reveal that they deal with a form of spiritual conflict that has social implications and concern conflict between people and living or dead malevolent shamans.**

**D. Meaning can be elicited, and the tales contextualized, by probing beneath the narrative of verbatim, original-language records and exploring the connotations of highly significant words and phrases.**

**Answer.** ADCB

**Solution.** Correct sequence is ADCB

A. Relying on narrative structure alone, indigenous significances of nineteenth century San folktales are hard to determine.

D. Meaning can be elicited, and the tales contextualized, by probing beneath the narrative of verbatim, original-language records and exploring the connotations of highly significant words and phrases.

C. Selected tales reveal that they deal with a form of spiritual conflict that has social implications and concern conflict between people and living or dead malevolent shamans.

B. Using their supernatural potency, benign shamans transcend the levels of the San cosmos in order to deal with social conflict and to protect material resources and enjoy a measure of respect that sets them apart from ordinary people.

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**Question 22. The passage given below is followed by four alternate summaries. Choose the option that best captures the essence of the passage. For years, movies and television series like Crime Scene Investigation (CSI) paint an unrealistic picture of the "science of voices." In the 1994 movie Clear and Present Danger an expert listens to a brief recorded utterance and declares that the speaker is "Cuban, aged 35 to 45, educated in the [ ... ] eastern United States." The recording is then fed to a supercomputer that matches the voice to that of a suspect, concluding that the probability of correct identification is 90%. This sequence sums up a good number of misimpressions about forensic phonetics, which have led**

to errors in real-life justice. Indeed, that movie scene exemplifies the so-called "CSI effect"-the phenomenon in which judges hold unrealistic expectations of the capabilities of forensic science.

A. Voice recognition has started to feature prominently in crime-scene intelligence investigations because of movies and television series.

B. Voice recognition as used in many movies to identify criminals has been used to identify criminals in real life also.

C. Although voice recognition is often presented as evidence in legal cases, its scientific basis can be shaky.

D. Movies and televisions have led to the belief that the use of forensic phonetics in legal investigations is robust and fool proof.

**Answer. D**

**Solution.** The correct answer is D. Movies and televisions have led to the belief that the use of forensic phonetics in legal investigations is robust and fool proof.

This is the only summary that accurately captures the main point of the passage, which is that movies and television series have created unrealistic expectations about the capabilities of forensic phonetics. The other summaries are either incorrect or incomplete.

For example, answer choice A is incorrect because it says that voice recognition has started to feature prominently in crime-scene intelligence investigations because of movies and television series. However, the passage does not say that voice recognition is actually being used more frequently in real life because of movies and television series. In fact, the passage suggests that the opposite is true, and that movies and television series are actually creating unrealistic expectations about the capabilities of voice recognition.

Answer choice B is also incorrect because it says that voice recognition as used in many movies to identify criminals has been used to identify criminals in real life also. However, the passage does not say that voice recognition has been used to identify criminals in real life with the same

degree of accuracy as it is portrayed in movies. In fact, the passage suggests that the opposite is true, and that movies are actually creating unrealistic expectations about the accuracy of voice recognition.

Answer choice C is incomplete because it only mentions one of the main points of the passage, which is that the scientific basis of voice recognition can be shaky. The passage also mentions that movies and television series have created unrealistic expectations about the capabilities of voice recognition.

Therefore, the correct answer is D. Movies and televisions have led to the belief that the use of forensic phonetics in legal investigations is robust and fool proof.

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**Question 23. The passage given below is followed by four alternate summaries. Choose the option that best captures the essence of the passage. As Soviet power declined, the world became to some extent multipolar, and Europe strove to define an independent identity. What a journey Europe has undertaken to reach this point. It had in every century changed its internal structure and invented new ways of thinking about the nature of international order. Now at the culmination of an era, Europe, in order to participate in it, felt obliged to set aside the political mechanisms through which it had conducted its affairs for three and a half centuries. Impelled also by the desire to cushion the emergent unification of Germany, the new European Union established a common currency in 2002 and a formal political structure in 2004. It proclaimed a Europe united, whole, and free, adjusting its differences by peaceful mechanisms.**

**A. Europe has consistently changed in keeping with the changing world order and that has culminated in a united Europe.**

**B. The establishment of a formal political structure in Europe was hastened by the unification of Germany and the emergence of a multipolar world.**

**C. Europe has consistently changed its internal structure to successfully adapt to the changing world order.**

**D. Europe has chosen to lower political and economic heterogeneity, in order to adapt itself to an emerging multi-polar world.**

**Answer. D**

**Solution.** The correct answer is D. Europe has chosen to lower political and economic heterogeneity, in order to adapt itself to an emerging multi-polar world.

This is the only summary that accurately captures the main point of the passage, which is that Europe has chosen to become more united in order to adapt to a changing world order. The other summaries are either incorrect or incomplete.

For example, answer choice A is incomplete because it does not mention the fact that Europe has changed its internal structure in order to adapt to the changing world order.

Answer choice B is incorrect because it says that the establishment of a formal political structure in Europe was hastened by the unification of Germany and the emergence of a multipolar world. However, the passage does not say that the European Union was established solely in response to these two events. In fact, the passage suggests that the European Union was also established in order to unite Europe and create a peaceful and prosperous region.

Answer choice C is incorrect because it says that Europe has consistently changed its internal structure in order to successfully adapt to the changing world order. However, the passage does not say that Europe has always been successful in adapting to the changing world order. In fact, the passage suggests that Europe has sometimes struggled to adapt to the changing world order.

Therefore, the correct answer is D. Europe has chosen to lower political and economic heterogeneity, in order to adapt itself to an emerging multi-polar world.

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**Question 24.** The four sentences (labelled A, B, C, D) below, when properly sequenced would yield a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper sequencing of the order of the sentences and key in the sequence of the four numbers as your answer:

**A.** Man has used poisons for assassination purposes ever since the dawn of civilization, against individual enemies but also occasionally against armies.

**B.** These dangers were soon recognized, and resulted in two international declarations-in 1874 in Brussels and in 1899 in The Hague-that prohibited the use of poisoned weapons.

**C.** The foundation of microbiology by Louis Pasteur and Robert Koch offered new prospects for those interested in biological weapons because it allowed agents to be chosen and designed on a rational basis.

**D.** Though treaties were all made in good faith, they contained no means of control, and so failed to prevent interested parties from developing and using biological weapons.

**Answer.** ACBD

**Solution.** The proper sequencing of the sentences to yield a coherent paragraph is as follows:

A. Man has used poisons for assassination purposes ever since the dawn of civilization, against individual enemies but also occasionally against armies.



C. The foundation of microbiology by Louis Pasteur and Robert Koch offered new prospects for those interested in biological weapons because it allowed agents to be chosen and designed on a rational basis.

B. These dangers were soon recognized, and resulted in two international declarations-in 1874 in Brussels and in 1899 in The Hague-that prohibited the use of poisoned weapons.

D. Though treaties were all made in good faith, they contained no means of control, and so failed to prevent interested parties from developing and using biological weapons.

The coherent sequence is: A, C, B, D.

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**Question 25.** Five jumbled up sentences, related to a topic, are given below. Four of them can be put together to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the odd one out and key in the number of the sentence as your answer:

**A.** For feminists, the question of how we read is inextricably linked with the question of what we read.

**B.** Elaine Showalter's critique of the literary curriculum is exemplary of this work.

**C.** Androcentric literature structures the reading experience differently depending on the gender of the reader.

**C.** The documentation of this realization was one of the earliest tasks undertaken by feminist critics.

**D.** More specifically, the feminist inquiry into the activity of reading begins with the realization that the literary canon is androcentric, and that this has a profoundly damaging effect on women readers.

**Answer.** C

**Solution.** The odd one out is:

C. Androcentric literature structures the reading experience differently depending on the gender of the reader.

This sentence is not directly related to the feminist critique of the literary curriculum and the androcentric nature of the literary canon discussed in the other sentences. It introduces a different aspect of how literature may affect readers based on their gender, while the other sentences focus on the feminist critique and its implications for reading and the curriculum.

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**Question 26. Five jumbled up sentences, related to a topic, are given below. Four of them can be put together to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the odd one out and key in the number of the sentence as your answer:**

- A. Talk was the most common way for enslaved men and women to subvert the rules of their bondage, to gain more agency than they were supposed to have.**
- B. Even in conditions of extreme violence and unfreedom, their words remained ubiquitous, ephemeral, irrepressible, and potentially transgressive.**
- C. Slaves came from societies in which oaths, orations, and invocations carried great potency, both between people and as a connection to the all-powerful spirit world.**
- D. Freedom of speech and the power to silence may have been preeminent markers of white liberty in Colonies, but at the same time, slavery depended on dialogue: slaves could never be completely muted.**
- E. Slave-owners obsessed over slave talk, though they could never control it, yet feared its power to bind and inspire-for, as everyone knew, oaths, whispers, and secret conversations bred conspiracy and revolt.**

**Answer. C**

**Solution.** The odd sentence is C. Slaves came from societies in which oaths, orations, and invocations carried great potency, both between people and as a connection to the all-powerful spirit world.

This sentence is about the cultural background of slaves, while the other sentences are about the use of talk by slaves to subvert their bondage.

Here is the paragraph with the sentences in the correct order:

- D. Freedom of speech and the power to silence may have been preeminent markers of white liberty in Colonies, but at the same time, slavery depended on dialogue: slaves could never be completely muted.
- A. Talk was the most common way for enslaved men and women to subvert the rules of their bondage, to gain more agency than they were supposed to have.
- E. Slave-owners obsessed over slave talk, though they could never control it, yet feared its power to bind and inspire-for, as everyone knew, oaths, whispers, and secret conversations bred conspiracy and revolt.
- B. Even in conditions of extreme violence and unfreedom, their words remained ubiquitous, ephemeral, irrepressible, and potentially transgressive.

This paragraph flows smoothly, with each sentence building on the one before it. The sentences are also all related to the topic of the paragraph, and they support the main idea, which is that slaves used talk to subvert their bondage and gain more agency.

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