

# CAT 2022 Slot 1 VARC Solution

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**Q.1 Which one of the following scenarios is unlikely to follow from the arguments in the Passage?**

**Answer.**

1. A 17th century British painter would have no problem adding personal touches when restoring an ancient Roman painting.
- 2. A 17th century French artist who adhered to a Christian worldview would need to be completely true to the original intent of a painting when restoring it.**
3. A 20th century Japanese Buddhist monk would value a reconstructed shrine as the original.
4. A 21st century Christian scientist is likely to oppose cloning because of his philosophical orientation.

**Solution.**

The passage discusses different cultural perspectives on the concept of copying and reproducing art, as well as the cultural differences in how individuals from various backgrounds perceive copying, restoration, and cloning. Let's analyze the given scenarios:

1. A 17th century British painter would have no problem adding personal touches when restoring an ancient Roman painting.

- This scenario is likely to follow from the arguments in the passage. The passage discusses how artworks from antiquity were treated differently in the past, with massive intervention and changes to their appearance. This aligns with the idea that a British painter might have added personal touches when restoring an ancient Roman painting.

2. A 17th century French artist who adhered to a Christian worldview would need to be completely true to the original intent of a painting when restoring it.

- This scenario is likely to follow from the arguments in the passage. The passage talks about the Western historical development of valuing an unassailable original and treating antiquities differently in terms of restoration. A 17th century French artist adhering to a Christian worldview would likely prioritize preserving the original intent of a painting during restoration.

3. A 20th century Japanese Buddhist monk would value a reconstructed shrine as the original.

- This scenario is likely to follow from the arguments in the passage. The passage discusses the Far Eastern notion of identity and how certain cultural practices, like rebuilding a shrine every 20 years, do not diminish its value for individuals who perceive its continuity through time.

4. A 21st century Christian scientist is likely to oppose cloning because of his philosophical orientation.

- This scenario is likely to follow from the arguments in the passage. The passage mentions that South Korean cloning researcher Hwang Woo-suk found support among Buddhists for cloning, while Christians called for a ban on human cloning. This aligns with the idea that a 21st century Christian scientist might oppose cloning due to their religious and philosophical beliefs.

So, the scenario that is unlikely to follow from the arguments in the passage is:

**2. A 17th century French artist who adhered to a Christian worldview would need to be completely true to the original intent of a painting when restoring it.**

**Q.2 Which one of the following statements does not correctly express the similarity between the Ise Grand Shrine and the cathedral of Freiburg Minster?**

**Answer.**

- 1. Both are continually undergoing restoration.**
2. Both were built as places of worship.
3. Both will one day be completely rebuilt.
4. Both can be regarded as very old structures.

**Solution.**

**The statement that does not correctly express the similarity between the Ise Grand Shrine and the cathedral of Freiburg Minster is:**

**2. Both were built as places of worship.**

Explanation: The Ise Grand Shrine in Japan and the cathedral of Freiburg Minster in southwest Germany have similarities, such as their ongoing restoration and the fact that they are both old structures. However, there is no information in the passage suggesting that the cathedral of Freiburg Minster was built as a place of worship. It is mentioned that the cathedral was built using sandstone, and its restoration involves replacing eroded stones and producing copies of damaged sandstone figures, but its original purpose is not explicitly stated as a place of worship.

**Q.3 The value that the modern West assigns to “an unassailable original” has resulted in all of the following EXCEPT:**

**Answer**

1. it discourages them from simultaneous displays of multiple copies of a painting.
2. it allows regular employment for certain craftsmen.
3. it discourages them from making interventions in ancient art.

**4. it discourages them from carrying out human cloning.**

**Solution.**

**The correct answer is:**

**4. it discourages them from carrying out human cloning.**

Explanation: The passage discusses the value of an "unassailable original" in the context of art restoration and copying. It explains how this value affects attitudes toward displays of copies, employment of craftsmen, and interventions in ancient art. However, the passage does not mention any connection between the value of an "unassailable original" and the practice of carrying out human cloning. Therefore, this option is not a result of the value assigned to an "unassailable original" by the modern West.

**Q.4 Based on the passage, which one of the following copies would a Chinese museum be unlikely to consider as having less value than the original?**

**Answer.**

**1. Pablo Picasso's painting of Vincent van Gogh's original painting, identical in every respect.**

2. Pablo Picasso's miniaturized, but otherwise faithful and accurate painting of Vincent van Gogh's original painting.

3. Pablo Picasso's painting of Vincent van Gogh's original painting, bearing Picasso's signature.

4. Pablo Picasso's photograph of Vincent van Gogh's original painting, printed to exactly the same scale.

**Solution.**

The correct answer is:

2. Pablo Picasso's miniaturised, but otherwise faithful and accurate painting of Vincent van Gogh's original painting.

Explanation: In the passage, it is mentioned that the Chinese concept of a copy includes "fuzhipin," which are exact reproductions of the original and are of equal value to the original. Therefore, a Chinese museum would likely consider a faithful and accurate copy, such as a miniaturized version, to have equal value to the original. This aligns with the concept of "fuzhipin" in Chinese culture. The other options involve alterations or differences that could potentially affect the perceived value of the copy compared to the original.

**Q.5 “Through meditation and the right attitude, one allows emotions to happen to oneself (it is impossible to prevent this), but one is advised to observe the emotions without necessarily acting on them; one achieves some distance and decides what has value and what does not have value.” In the context of the passage, which one of the following is not a possible implication of the quoted statement?**

**Answer.**

- 1. Meditation allows certain out-of-body experiences that permit us to gain the distance necessary to control our emotions.**
2. The observation of emotions in a distant manner corresponds to the second movement referred to earlier in the passage.
3. “Meditation and the right attitude”, in this instance, implies an initially passive reception of all experiences.
4. Emotional responses can make it difficult to distinguish valuable experiences from valueless experiences.

**Solution.**

The correct answer is:

1. Meditation allows certain out-of-body experiences that permit us to gain the distance necessary to control our emotions.

Explanation: The passage does not suggest or imply that meditation leads to out-of-body experiences. The quote discusses meditation as a way to observe emotions without necessarily acting on them, gaining distance, and determining what has value. The context does not mention any out-of-body experiences as a result of meditation. Therefore, option 1 is not a possible implication of the quoted statement.

**Q.6 Which one of the following statements would be an accurate inference from the example of Marcus Aurelius?**

**Answer.**

- 1. Marcus Aurelius was one of the leaders of the Roman army.**
2. Marcus Aurelius plotted revenge in his quest for justice.
3. Marcus Aurelius was humiliated by the accusation of treason in front of the other officers.
4. Marcus Aurelius was a Stoic whose philosophy survived into the Roman era.

**Solution.**

The correct answer is:

- 1. Marcus Aurelius was one of the leaders of the Roman army.**

Explanation: The passage describes an example involving Marcus Aurelius where he is accused of treason in front of other officers. The passage mentions his immediate emotional reactions, such as surprise and anger, in response to this insult. This suggests that Marcus Aurelius felt humiliated by the accusation in front of his peers. Therefore, option 3 is an accurate inference from the example provided.

**Q.7 Which one of the following statements, if false, could be seen as contradicting the facts/arguments in the passage?**

**Answer.**

- 1. In the Epicurean view, indulging in simple pleasures is not desirable.**
2. Despite practising meditation and cultivating the right attitude, emotions cannot ever be controlled.
3. In the Stoic view, choosing a reasoned, unemotional response as the first movement is an appropriate response to emotional situations.
4. The Greek philosopher Zeno survived into the Roman era until about AD 300.

**Solution.**

The statement that, if false, could be seen as contradicting the facts/arguments in the passage is:

1. In the Epicurean view, indulging in simple pleasures is not desirable.

The passage actually describes the Epicurean view as one where people should enjoy simple pleasures like good conversation, friendship, food, and wine. The Epicureans do advocate for enjoying these pleasures, but without indulgence or excess. Therefore, if it were false that the Epicureans find indulging in simple pleasures undesirable, it would contradict the passage's description of their philosophy.

**Q.8 On the basis of the passage, which one of the following statements can be regarded as True?**

**Answer**

1. The Epicureans believed in controlling all emotions.
- 2. The Stoic influences can be seen in multiple religions.**
3. There were no Stoics in India at the time of the Roman civilisation.

4. The Stoics valorised the pursuit of money, power, and sexual gratification.

**Solution.**

On the basis of the passage, the following statement can be regarded as true:

2. The Stoic influences can be seen in multiple religions.

The passage mentions that the Stoic idea of developing virtue in oneself and controlling emotions laid the foundation for the three monotheistic religions: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. This indicates that Stoic influences are indeed present in multiple religions.

**Q.9 Which one of the following observations is a valid conclusion to draw from the statement, “From out of the primal darkness of Mankind’s earliest years, come whispers of eerie creatures, not quite alive (or alive in a way which we can understand), yet not quite dead either.”?**

**Answer.**

1. We can understand the lives of the eerie creatures in Mankind’s early years through their whispers in the darkness.

2. Long ago, eerie creatures used to whisper in the primal darkness that they were not quite dead.

**3. Mankind’s early years were marked by a belief in the existence of eerie creatures that were neither quite alive nor dead.**

4. Mankind’s primal years were marked by creatures alive with eerie whispers, but seen only in the darkness.

**Solution.**

The valid conclusion to draw from the statement "From out of the primal darkness of Mankind’s earliest years, come whispers of eerie creatures, not



quite alive (or alive in a way which we can understand), yet not quite dead either" is:

3. Mankind's early years were marked by a belief in the existence of eerie creatures that were neither quite alive nor dead.

The passage suggests that in the early stages of human history, stories and beliefs about eerie creatures that were not clearly alive or dead emerged from the primal darkness. This indicates a belief in the existence of such creatures during that time.

**Q.10 All of the following statements, if false, could be seen as being in accordance with the passage, EXCEPT:**

**Answer**

1. the growing sophistication of Mankind meant that humans stopped believing in the Undead.
- 2. the transition from the Middle Ages to the Age of Enlightenment saw new theories of the Undead.**
3. the Undead remained vague and ill-defined, even as Mankind strove to understand the horror they inspired.
4. the relationship between Shamans and the Undead was believed to be a strong and stable one.

**Solution.**

**The statement that could be seen as being in accordance with the passage is:**

**2. the transition from the Middle Ages to the Age of Enlightenment saw new theories of the Undead.**

The passage doesn't directly suggest that the growing sophistication of mankind led to a complete cessation of belief in the Undead. Instead, it

describes how the concept of the Undead evolved over time and became more defined as cultures and communities developed. The passage doesn't indicate that belief in the Undead ceased altogether due to growing sophistication. The other statements are supported by the passage:

2. The transition from the Middle Ages to the Age of Enlightenment saw new theories of the Undead. (Supported by the passage: "From the Middle Ages and into the Age of Enlightenment, theories of the Undead continued to grow and develop.")

3. The Undead remained vague and ill-defined, even as Mankind strove to understand the horror they inspired. (Supported by the passage: "Some still remained vague and ill-defined but, as Mankind strove to explain the horror which it felt towards them, such creatures emerged more readily into the light.")

4. The relationship between Shamans and the Undead was believed to be a strong and stable one. (This statement is contradicted by the passage: "However, the relationship between the magician and an Undead creature was often a very tenuous and uncertain one.")

**Q.11 Which one of the following statements best describes what the passage is about?**

**Answer.**

1. The writer describes the ways in which the Undead come to be associated with Shamans and the practice of magic.
2. The passage describes the failure of human beings to fully comprehend their environment.
3. The writer discusses the transition from primitive thinking to the Age of Enlightenment.

**4. The passage discusses the evolution of theories of the Undead from primitive thinking to the Age of Enlightenment.**

**Solution.**

**The best description of what the passage is about is:**

**4. The passage discusses the evolution of theories of the Undead from primitive thinking to the Age of Enlightenment.**

The passage primarily focuses on the historical development and evolution of beliefs and theories about the Undead, from the early whispers of eerie creatures in primitive times to more defined concepts of the Undead in later cultures. It discusses how these beliefs evolved as human societies transitioned from primitive thinking to more sophisticated stages like the Age of Enlightenment. The passage touches upon the changing perceptions of the Undead, their connection to magic and folklore, and the emergence of specific names like werewolf, vampire, and ghoul.

**Q.12 “In order to confirm their abnormal status, many of the Undead were often accorded attributes, which defied the natural order of things . . .” Which one of the following best expresses the claim made in this statement?**

**Answer.**

1. The Undead are deified in nature’s order by giving them divine attributes.
2. According the Undead an abnormal status is to reject the natural order of things.
- 3. Human beings conceptualise the Undead as possessing abnormal features.**
4. The natural attributes of the Undead are rendered abnormal by changing their status.

**Solution.**

The statement "3. Human beings conceptualize the Undead as possessing abnormal features." best expresses the claim made in the given statement: "In order to confirm their abnormal status, many of the Undead were often accorded attributes, which defied the natural order of things..."

This option accurately reflects the idea that attributes were assigned to the Undead that went against the normal or natural order of things, indicating that these attributes were considered abnormal or extraordinary by human conceptualization.

**Q.13 Which one of the following statements contradicts the arguments of the passage?**

**Answer**

1. The problems of command over a disempowered and deskilled labor force gave rise to similar patterns of the capitalist rationalization of production wherever masses were organized.
2. Paradoxically, the capitalist rationalization of production is a mark of so-called socialist systems as well.
3. Marx's understanding of the capitalist rationalization of production and Marcuse's understanding of a "project" of "technological rationality" share theoretical inclinations.
- 4. Masses are organized in patterns set by Foucault's prisons and Habermas' public sphere.**

**Solution.**

The statement that contradicts the arguments of the passage is:

**\*\*4. Masses are organized in patterns set by Foucault's prisons and Habermas' public sphere.\*\***

The passage doesn't suggest that masses are organized in patterns set by Foucault's prisons and Habermas' public sphere. Instead, it discusses how similar patterns of centralization and authoritarianism can be observed in various contexts, including technological development, factories, and other social institutions. It doesn't attribute the organization of masses specifically to Foucault's or Habermas' concepts but rather speaks to a broader pattern of centralization.

**Q.14 Which one of the following statements could be inferred as supporting the arguments of the passage?**

**Answer.**

1. The romantic conception of nature referred to by the passage is the one that requires theoretical legitimacy.
2. Nature decides the point at which society loses its capacity to control history.
3. It is not human nature, but human culture that is represented by institutions such as law and custom.

**4. Technologies form the environmental context and shape the contours of human society.**

**Solution.**

The statement that could be inferred as supporting the arguments of the passage is:

**\*\*4. Technologies form the environmental context and shape the contours of human society.\*\***

The passage discusses how critical theory of technology views technologies as an environment that shapes human society and way of life. The passage emphasizes that technologies are not just tools but have broader implications on social values and meanings. This aligns with the

idea that technologies form the environmental context and have an impact on shaping the contours of human society.

**Q.15 Which one of the following statements best reflects the main argument of the fourth paragraph of the passage?**

**Answer.**

1. Automobiles represent the interest in mobility present in human nature.
- 2. Technology, laws, and customs are not unlike each other if considered as institutions.**
3. Technology, laws, and customs are comparable, but dissimilar phenomena.
4. Technological environments privilege certain dimensions of human nature as effectively as laws and customs.

**Solution.**

The statement that best reflects the main argument of the fourth paragraph of the passage is:

**Technology, laws, and customs are not unlike each other if considered as institutions.**

In the fourth paragraph, the passage compares technologies to laws and customs, explaining that each of these institutions represents those who live under their influence by privileging certain dimensions of human nature. Just as laws and customs reflect specific human interests, technologies also shape their inhabitants by representing certain human interests and values. This argument highlights the idea that technologies, like laws and customs, have an influence on human behavior and society by favoring particular aspects of human nature.

**Q.16 All of the following claims can be inferred from the passage, EXCEPT:**

**Answer.**

1. analyses of technologies must engage with their social histories to be able to reveal their implicit and explicit meanings for us.
- 2. technologies seek to privilege certain dimensions of human nature at a high cost to lived nature.**
3. the critical theory of technology argues that, as issues of human rights become more prominent, we lose sight of the ways in which the social order becomes more authoritarian.
4. the significance of parental authority to children's safety does not therefore imply that parental authority is a permanent aspect of human nature.

**Solution.**

The claim that cannot be inferred from the passage is:

**2. Technologies seek to privilege certain dimensions of human nature at a high cost to lived nature.**

The passage discusses the critical theory of technology and its view on how technologies shape society and human nature. However, it does not directly state or imply that technologies seek to privilege certain dimensions of human nature at a high cost to lived nature. The passage primarily focuses on the relationship between technologies, laws, customs, and human nature, and how they are represented in society.

**Q.18 The passage given below is followed by four alternate summaries. Choose the option that best captures the essence of the passage. All that we think we know about how life hangs together is really some kind of illusion that we have perpetrated on ourselves**

**because of our limited vision. What appear to be inanimate objects such as stones turn out not only to be alive in the same way that we are, but also in many infinitesimal ways to be affected by stimuli just as humans are. The distinction between animate and inanimate simply cannot be made when you enter the world of quantum mechanics and try to determine how those apparent subatomic particles, of which you and everything else in our universe is composed, are all tied together. The point is that physics and metaphysics show there is a pattern to the universe that goes beyond our capacity to grasp it with our brains.**

**Answer.**

1. Quantum physics indicates that an astigmatic view of reality results in erroneous assumptions about the universe.
2. The inanimate world is both sentient and cognizant like its animate counterpart.
3. The effect of stimuli is similar in inanimate objects when compared to animate objects or living beings.

**4. Arbitrary distinctions between inanimate and animate objects disappear at the scale at which quantum mechanics works.**

**Solution.**

The option that best captures the essence of the passage is:

**4. Arbitrary distinctions between inanimate and animate objects disappear at the scale at which quantum mechanics work.**

The passage discusses how the conventional distinction between animate and inanimate objects becomes less clear when considering quantum mechanics and the interconnectedness of particles in the universe. It emphasizes that the distinction fades as one delves into the realm of quantum physics, suggesting that the arbitrary divide between animate and inanimate objects becomes less meaningful at the scale of quantum mechanics.



**Q.19** The passage given below is followed by four alternate summaries. Choose the option that best captures the essence of the passage. It's not that modern historians of medieval Africa have been ignorant about contacts between Ethiopia and Europe; they just had the power dynamic reversed. The traditional narrative stressed Ethiopia as weak and in trouble in the face of aggression from external forces, so Ethiopia sought military assistance from their fellow Christians to the north. But the real story, buried in plain sight in medieval diplomatic texts, simply had not yet been put together by modern scholars. Recent research pushes scholars of medieval Europe to imagine a much more richly connected medieval world: at the beginning of the so-called Age of Exploration, there is evidence that the kings of Ethiopia were sponsoring their own missions of diplomacy, faith and Commerce.

**Answer.**

- 1. Medieval texts have been 'cherry-picked' to promote a view of Ethiopia as weak and in need of Europe's military help with aggressive neighbours, but recent studies reveal it was a well-connected and outward-looking culture.**
2. Historians were under the illusion that Ethiopia needed military protection from their neighbours, but in fact the country had close commercial and religious connections with them.
3. Medieval historical sources selectively promoted the narrative that powerful European forces were called on to protect weak African civilisations such as Ethiopia, but this is far from reality.
4. Medieval texts have documented how strong connections between the Christian communities of Ethiopia and Europe were invaluable in establishing military and trade links between the two civilisations.

**Solution.**

The option that best captures the essence of the passage is:

**1. Medieval texts have been ‘cherry-picked’ to promote a view of Ethiopia as weak and in need of Europe’s military help with aggressive neighbors, but recent studies reveal it was a well-connected and outward-looking culture.**

The passage discusses how traditional narratives of medieval Africa, particularly Ethiopia's interactions with Europe, have often presented Ethiopia as weak and seeking help from Europe. However, recent research has revealed a different perspective where Ethiopia had its own diplomatic, faith-based, and commercial missions, suggesting that it was a well-connected and outward-looking culture. This option accurately summarizes the shift in understanding presented in the passage.

**Q.21 The passage given below is followed by four alternate summaries. Choose the option that best captures the essence of the passage. Petitioning is an expeditious democratic tradition, used frequently in prior centuries, by which citizens can bring issues directly to governments. As expressions of collective voice, they support procedural democracy by shaping agendas. They can also recruit citizens to causes, give voice to the voteless, and apply the discipline of rhetorical argument that clarifies a point of view. By contrast, elections are limited in several respects: they involve only a few candidates, and thus fall far short of a representative democracy. Further, voters’ choices are not specific to particular policies or laws, and elections are episodic, whereas the voice of the people needs to be heard and integrated constantly into democratic government.**

**Answer.**

1. By giving citizens greater control over shaping political and democratic agendas, political petitions are invaluable as they represent an ideal form of a representative democracy.

**2. Petitioning has been important to democratic functioning, as it supplements the electoral process by enabling ongoing engagement with the government.**

3. Petitioning is definitely more representative of the collective voice, and the functioning of democratic government could improve if we relied more on petitioning rather than holding periodic elections.

4. Citizens become less inclined to petitioning as it enables vocal citizens to shape political agendas, but this needs to change to strengthen emocracies today.

**Solution.**

The option that best captures the essence of the passage is:

**2. Petitioning has been important to democratic functioning, as it supplements the electoral process by enabling ongoing engagement with the government.**

The passage discusses the value of petitioning as a democratic tradition that allows citizens to bring issues directly to governments, shape agendas, and express their collective voice. It highlights the limitations of elections in fully representing the people's interests. The summarized option accurately conveys that petitioning is seen as an important complement to the electoral process, facilitating continuous engagement between citizens and the government in a democratic context.

**Q.23 There is a sentence that is missing in the paragraph below. Look at the paragraph and decide in which blank (option 1, 2, 3, or 4) the following sentence would best fit. Sentence: Having made citizens more and less knowledgeable than their predecessors, the Internet has proved to be both a blessing and a curse.**

**Paragraph: Never before has a population, nearly all of whom has enjoyed at a least a secondary school education, been exposed to so**

much information, whether in newspapers and magazines or through YouTube, Google, and Facebook. \_\_\_(1)\_\_\_.

Yet it is not clear that people today are more knowledgeable than their barely literate predecessors. Contemporary advances in technology offered more serious and inquisitive students access to realms of knowledge previously unimaginable and unavailable. \_\_\_(2)\_\_\_ . But such readily available knowledge leads many more students away from serious study, the reading of actual texts, and toward an inability to write effectively and grammatically. \_\_\_(3)\_\_\_ . It has let people choose sources that reinforce their opinions rather than encouraging them to question inherited beliefs. \_\_\_(4)\_\_\_ .

**Answer.**

1. Option 1
2. Option 2
3. Option 3
4. **Option 4**

**Solution.**

**Q.24** There is a sentence that is missing in the paragraph below. Look at the paragraph and decide in which blank (option 1, 2, 3, or 4) the following sentence would best fit. Sentence: Easing the anxiety and pressure of having a “big day” is part of the appeal for many couples who marry in secret.

Paragraph: Wedding season is upon us and – after two years of Covid chaos that saw nuptials scaled back– you may think the temptation would be to go all out. \_\_\_(1)\_\_\_ . But instead of expanding the guest list, many couples are opting to have entirely secret ceremonies. With Covid case numbers remaining high and the cost of living crisis meaning that many couples are feeling the pinch, it’s no wonder that some are less than eager to send out invites. \_\_\_(2)\_\_\_ . Plus, it can’t hurt that in celebrity circles getting married in secret is all the rage.

\_\_\_(3)\_\_. “I would definitely say that secret weddings are becoming more common,” says Landis Bejar, the founder of a therapy practice, which specialises in helping brides and grooms manage wedding stress.

“People are looking for ways to get out of the spotlight and avoid the pomp and circumstance of weddings. \_\_\_(4)\_\_. They just want to get to the part where they are Married.”

**Answer.**

1. Option 1
- 2. Option 2**
3. Option 3
4. Option 4

**Solution.**