

CAT 2022 Slot 2 (VARC) Solutions

Q1. Which one of the following sets of terms best serves as keywords to the passage?

Answer.

A. Humans; Musicking; Linguistic capacities; Symbol-making; Modern humanity.

B. Humans; Psychological vantage; Musicking; Cassirer; Emergence of music.

C. Musicking; Cognitive psychology; Antique; Symbol-makers; Modernity.

D. Humans; Capacities; Language; Symbols; Modernity.

Solutions.

The best answer is:

A. Humans; Musicking; Linguistic capacities; Symbol-making; Modern humanity.

Q2. Based on the passage, which one of the following statements is valid argument about the emergence of music/musicking?

Answer.

A. 20,000 years ago, human musical capacities were not very different from what they are today.

B. Although musicking is not language-like, it shares the quality of being a form of expression.

C. All musical work is located in the overlap between linguistic capacity and music production.

D. Anyone who can perceive and experience music must be considered capable of music king.

Solution.

Based on the passage, the valid argument about the emergence of music/musicking is:

A. 20,000 years ago, human musical capacities were not very different from what they are today.

The passage states that if we look back 20,000 years, we reach the lives of humans whose musical capacities were probably little different from our own. This suggests that the musical capacities of humans 20,000 years ago were quite similar to those of modern humans.

Q3. “Think beyond all the qualifications that might trail after this bald statement.. .” In the context of the passage, what is the author trying to communicate this quoted extract?

Answer.

A. A bald statement is one that requires no qualifications to infer its meaning.

B. Thinking beyond qualifications allows us to give free reign to musical expressions.

C. Although there may be many caveats and other considerations, the statement is essentially true.

D. A bald statement is one that is trailed by a series of qualifying clarifications and caveats.

Solution.

C. Although there may be many caveats and other considerations, the statement is essentially true.

Q4. Which one of the following statements, if true, would weaken the author's claim that humans are musicking creatures?

Answer.

A. Musical capacities are primarily socio-cultural, which explains the wide diversity of musical forms.

B. Nonmusical capacities are of far greater consequence to human survival than the capacity for music.

C. From a cognitive and psychological vantage, musicking arises from unconscious dispositions, not conscious ones.

D. As musicking is neither language-like nor symbol-like, it is a much older form of expression.

Solution.

B. Nonmusical capacities are of far greater consequence to human survival than the capacity for music.

This statement would weaken the author's claim that humans are musicking creatures by suggesting that musical capacities are not as essential or significant to human survival as other nonmusical capacities.

Q5. All of the following inferences from the passage are false, EXCEPT:

Answer.

A. as concepts, "culture" and "tradition" have no analytical, explanatory or expository power, especially when they are treated in isolation.

B. "natural language" refers to that stage of language development where nonconscious human intent is evident in the formation of language.

C. institutions like the family, rituals, governance, economy, and the military are natural and cannot be consciously modified.

D. the institution of friendship cannot be found in the institution of joint-stock companies because the first is an informal institution, while the second is a formal one.

Solution.

B. “natural language” refers to that stage of language development where no conscious human intent is evident in the formation of language.

This inference is false because the passage does not discuss the concept of "natural language" in terms of stages of language development or the lack of conscious human intent. The passage mainly discusses the role of language as an institution and its various forms, both natural and designed.

Q6. In the first paragraph of the passage, what are the two “characterisations” that are seen as overlapping but not congruent?

Answer.

A. “the philosophy of the social sciences” and “a set of social institutions”.

B. “an arena of thought” and “academic disciplines”.

C. “academic disciplines” and “institutions”.

D. “individuals” and “social structures”.

Solution.

A. “the philosophy of the social sciences” and “a set of social institutions”.

Q7. “Consider the fact that the stock exchange and the black market are both market institutions, one formal one not.” Which one of the following statements best explains this quote, in the context of the passage?

Answer.

- A. Market instruments can be formally traded in the stock exchange and informally traded in the black market.
- B. The stock exchange and the black market are both organized to function by rules.
- C. The stock exchange and the black market are examples of how, even within the same domain, different kinds of institutions can co-exist.**
- D. The stock exchange and the black market are both dependent on the market to survive.

Solution.

C. The stock exchange and the black market are examples of how, even within the same domain, different kinds of institutions can co-exist.

This quote highlights that the stock exchange and the black market are both considered market institutions, but they differ in terms of formality. This exemplifies the coexistence of different types of institutions within the same domain.

Q8. Which of the following statements best represents the essence of the passage?

- A. The stock exchange and the black market are both market institutions.
- B. It is usual in social thought to treat culture and tradition as different from institutions.

C. Language is the fundamental formal institution for social life and for science.

D. Institutions are structures that serve to coordinate the actions of individuals.

Solution.

C. Language is the fundamental formal institution for social life and for science.

This statement captures the central theme of the passage, which discusses how language functions as a key institution for coordinating actions and serves as a paradigm of institutions within society.

9. We can infer that the author would approve of a more evolved engineering pedagogy that includes all of the following EXCEPT:

Answer.

A. making considerations of environmental sustainability intrinsic to the development of technological solutions.

B. moving towards technical-social dualism where social community needs incorporated in problem-definition and solutions.

C. design that is based on the needs of communities using local knowledge and responding to local priorities.

D. a more responsible approach to technical design and problem-solving than focus on speed in developing and bringing to scale.

Solution.

B. moving towards technical-social dualism where social community needs are incorporated in problem-definition and solutions.

The author criticizes the technical-social dualism approach, which separates technical and social dimensions of engineering problems, and argues that social justice must be core to engineering training. Therefore, the author would not approve of moving towards technical-social dualism.

10. All of the following are examples of the negative outcomes of focusing on technical ideals in the medical sphere EXCEPT the:

Answer.

A. neglect of research and development of medical technologies for the diagnosis and treatment of diseases that typically afflict marginalized communities.

B. exclusion of non-privileged groups in clinical trials which leads to incorrect drug dosages.

C. incorrect assignment of people as female at birth which has resulted in faulty drug interventions.

D. continuing calibration of medical devices based on past racial biases that have remained unadjusted for changes

Solution.

C. incorrect assignment of people as female at birth which has resulted in faulty drug interventions.

This option is not mentioned in the passage and does not represent a negative outcome of focusing on technical ideals in the medical sphere. The passage discusses the neglect of research and development for marginalized communities, exclusion of non-privileged groups in clinical trials, and continuing calibration of medical devices based on past racial biases as examples of negative outcomes.

11. The author gives all of the following reasons for why marginalized people are systematically discriminated against in technology-related interventions EXCEPT:

Answer.

A. "And we hardly question whether devices are built sustainably, which has led to a crisis of medical waste and health care accounting for 10 percent of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions." 7

B. "These racially based adjustments are derived from research done by eugenicists who thought these racial differences were biologically determined and who considered nonwhite people as inferior."

C. "Beyond physical failings, subjective beliefs treated as facts by those decision-making roles can encode social inequities."

D. "But those technical ideals are at their core social and political choices determined by a dominant culture focused on economic growth for the most privileged segments of society."

Solution.

A. "And we hardly question whether devices are built sustainably, which has led to a crisis of medical waste and health care accounting for 10 percent of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions."

The passage discusses several reasons for systematic discrimination in technology-related interventions against marginalized people, such as racially biased adjustments, encoding social inequities based on subjective beliefs, and the influence of dominant cultural choices. However, the passage does not specifically mention the reason stated in option A.

Q12. In this passage, the author is making the claim that:

Answer.

A. the objective of best solutions in engineering has shifted the focus of pedagogy from humanism and social obligations to technological perfection.

B. technical-social dualism has emerged as a technique for engineering students to incorporate social considerations into their technical problem-solving processes.

C. engineering students today are taught to focus on objective technical outcomes, independent of the social dimensions of their work.

D. engineering students today are trained to be non-subjective in their reasoning as this best enables them to develop much-needed universal solutions

Solution.

C. engineering students today are taught to focus on objective technical outcomes, independent of the social dimensions of their work.

The author argues that the current way of teaching engineering emphasizes technical ideals and separates them from social dimensions, which can lead to a disregard for social considerations. This aligns with option C, where the focus on objective technical outcomes is highlighted.

13. All of the following are reasons for octopuses being “misfits” EXCEPT that they:

Answer.

A. exhibit higher intelligence than other molluscs.

B. do not possess an outer protective shell.

C. are consumed by humans and other animals.

D. have several arms.

Solution.

D. have several arms.

The passage doesn't mention the number of arms as a reason for octopuses being "misfits." It discusses their lack of a protective shell, their higher intelligence, and their susceptibility to being consumed by humans and other animals as reasons for them being "misfits" among their mollusc relatives.

14. Which one of the following statements is not true about the camouflaging ability of Cephalopods?

Answer.

- A. Cephalopods can change their texture.
- B. Cephalopods can change their color.
- C. Cephalopods can take on the color of their predator.**
- D. Cephalopods can blend into the color of their surroundings

Solution.

C. Cephalopods can take on the color of their predator.

The passage does not mention that cephalopods can take on the color of their predator. It does describe their ability to change texture and color to match their surroundings or environment, but there is no reference to them imitating their predators.

15. Based on the passage, we can infer that all of the following statements, if true, would weaken the camouflaging adeptness of Cephalopods EXCEPT:

Answer.

- A. the number of chromatophores in Cephalopods is half the number of iridophores and leucophores.
- B. the temperature of water at the depths at which Cephalopods resides renders the transmission of neural signals difficult.
- C. the hydrostatic pressure at the depths at which Cephalopods resides renders radial muscle movements difficult.
- D. light reflects the colors red, green, and yellow at the depths at which Cephalopods reside.**

Solution.

D. light reflects the colors red, green, and yellow at the depths at which Cephalopods reside.

The passage does not provide information or context that suggests the reflection of these specific colors would weaken the camouflaging adeptness of Cephalopods.

16. Based on the passage, it can be inferred that camouflaging techniques octopus are most dissimilar to those in:

Answer.

- A. cuttlefish
- B. squids
- C. polar bears**
- D. sea snails

Solution.

C. polar bears

The passage discusses various camouflaging techniques used by cephalopods like octopuses, cuttlefish, and squids. It does not mention any

direct comparison or similarity between cephalopod camouflaging techniques and those of polar bears or sea snails.

Q17. The four sentences (labeled A, B, C and 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:

Answer.

- A. Women may prioritize cooking because they feel they alone are responsible for mediating a toxic and unhealthy food system.
- B. Food is commonly framed through the lens of individual choice: you can choose to eat healthily.
- C. This is particularly so in a neoliberal context where the state has transferred the responsibility for food onto individual consumers.
- D. The individualized framing of choice appeals to a popular desire to experience agency, but draws away from the structural obstacles that stratify individual food choices.

Solution.

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

So the answer is: 2, 3, 1, 4.

18. The passage given below is followed by four alternate summaries. Choose The Option that best captures the essence of the passage. Today, many of the debates about behavioral control in the age of big data echo Cold War-era anxieties about brainwashing, insidious manipulation and repression in the 'technological society'. In his book Psychopolitics, Han warns of the sophisticated use of targeted online content, enabling 'influence to take place one pre-reflexive level'. On our current trajectory, "freedom will prove to have been merely an interlude." The fear is that the digital age has not liberated

but exposed us, by offering up our private lives to machine-learning algorithms that can process masses of personal and behavioral data. In a world of influencers and digital entrepreneurs, it's not easy to imagine the resurgence of culture engendered through disconnect and disaffiliation, but concerns over the threat of online targeting, polarization and big data have inspired recent polemics about the need to rediscover solitude and disconnect.

Answer.

A. The role of technology in influencing public behavior is reminiscent of the manner in which behavior was manipulated during the Cold War.

B. With big data making personal information freely available, the debate on nature of freedom and the need for privacy has resurfaced.

C. The notion of freedom and privacy is at stake in a world where artificial intelligence is capable of influencing behavior through data gathered online.

D. Rather than freeing us, digital technology is enslaving us by collecting personal information and influencing our online behavior.

Solution.

C. The notion of freedom and privacy is at stake in a world where artificial intelligence is capable of influencing behavior through data gathered online.

19. The passage given below is followed by four alternate summaries. Choose The Option that best captures the essence of the passage. There's a common idea that museum artworks are somehow timeless objects available to admire for generations to come. But many are objects of decay. Even The most venerable Old Master paintings don't escape: pigments discolor, varnishes crack, canvases warp. This

challenging fact of art-world life is downtown something that sounds more like a thread from a morality tale: inherent vice. Damien Hirst's iconic shark floating in a tank – entitled *The Physical Impossibility Of Death in the Mind of Someone Living* – is a work that put a spotlight on inherent vice. When he made it in 1991, Hirst got himself in a pickle by not using the right kind of pickle to preserve the giant fish. The result was that the shark began to decompose quite quickly – its preserving liquid clouding, the skin wrinkling, and an unpleasant smell wafting from the tank.

Answer.

A. Museums have to guard timeless art treasures from intrinsic defects such as the deterioration of paint, polish and canvas.

B. Artworks may not last forever; they may deteriorate with time, and the challenge is to slow down their degeneration.

C. The role of museums has evolved to ensure that the artworks are preserved forever in addition to guarding and displaying them.

D. Museums are left with the moral responsibility of restoring and preserving the artworks since artists cannot preserve their works beyond their life.

Solution.

B. Artworks may not last forever; they may deteriorate with time, and the challenge is to slow down their degeneration.

20. The four sentences (labeled A, B, C and 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:

Answer.

A. The trajectory of cheerfulness through the self is linked to the history of the word 'cheer' which comes from an Old French meaning 'face'.

B. Translations of the Bible into vernacular languages, expanded the noun 'cheer' into the more abstract 'cheerful-ness', something that circulates as an emotional and social quality defining the self and a moral community.

C. When you take on a cheerful expression, no matter what the state of your soul, your cheerfulness moves into the self: the interior of the self is changed by the power of cheer.

D. People in the medieval 'Canterbury Tales' have a 'piteous' or a 'sober' cheer; 'cheer' is an expression and a body part, lying at the intersection of emotions and physiognomy.

Solution.

The proper sequencing of the sentences is:

C. When you take on a cheerful expression, no matter what the state of your soul, your cheerfulness moves into the self: the interior of the self is changed by the power of cheer.

A. The trajectory of cheerfulness through the self is linked to the history of the word 'cheer' which comes from an Old French meaning 'face'.

D. People in the medieval 'Canterbury Tales' have a 'piteous' or a 'sober' cheer; 'cheer' is an expression and a body part, lying at the intersection of emotions and physiognomy.

B. Translations of the Bible into vernacular languages expanded the noun 'cheer' into the more abstract 'cheerful-ness', something that circulates as an emotional and social quality defining the self and a moral community.

21. The passage given below is followed by four alternate summaries. Choose The Option that best captures the essence of the passage. Several of the world's earliest cities were organized along egalitarian

lines. In some regions, urban populations governed themselves for centuries without any indication of the temples and palaces that would later emerge; in others, temples and palaces never emerged at all, and there is simply no evidence of a class of administrators or any other sort of ruling stratum. It would seem that the mere fact of urban life does not, necessarily, imply any particular form of political organization, and never did. Far from resigning us to inequality, the picture that is now emerging of humanity's past may open our eyes to egalitarian possibilities we otherwise would have never considered.

Answer.

A. The emergence of a class of administrators and ruling stratum transformed egalitarian urban life of ancient cities to the hierarchical civic organizations today.

B. We now have the evidence in support of the existence of an egalitarian urban life in some ancient cities, where political and civic organization was far less hierarchical.

C. The lack of hierarchical administration in ancient cities can be deduced by the absence of religious and regal structures such as temples and palaces.

D. Contrary to our assumption that urban settlements have always involved hierarchical political and administrative structures, ancient cities were not organized in this way.

Solution.

B. We now have the evidence in support of the existence of an egalitarian urban life in some ancient cities, where political and civic organization was far less hierarchical.

22. The four sentences (labeled A, B, C and 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:

Answer.

A. From chemical pollutants in the environment to the damming of rivers to invasive species transported through global trade and travel, every environmental issue is different and there is no single tech solution that can solve this crisis.

B. Discourse on the threat of environmental collapse revolves around cutting down emissions, but biodiversity loss and ecosystem collapse are caused by myriad and diverse reasons.

C. This would require legislation that recognises the rights of future generations and other species that allows the judiciary to uphold a much higher standard of environmental protection than currently possible.

D. Clearly, our environmental crisis requires large political solutions, not minor technological ones, so, instead of focusing on infinite growth, we could consider path of stable-state economies, while preserving markets and healthy competition.

Solution.

The proper sequencing of the sentences is:

B. Discourse on the threat of environmental collapse revolves around cutting down emissions, but biodiversity loss and ecosystem collapse are caused by myriad and diverse reasons.

A. From chemical pollutants in the environment to the damming of rivers to invasive species transported through global trade and travel, every environmental issue is different and there is no single tech solution that can solve this crisis.

C. This would require legislation that recognises the rights of future generations and other species that allows the judiciary to uphold a much higher standard of environmental protection than currently possible.

D. Clearly, our environmental crisis requires large political solutions, not minor technological ones, so, instead of focusing on infinite growth, we could consider path of stable-state economies, while preserving markets and healthy competition.

The correct sequence of numbers is: 2, 1, 3, 4.

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: This was years in the making but fast-tracked during the pandemic,when "people started being more mindful about their food", he explained. Paragraph: For millennia, ghee has been a venerated staple of the subcontinental diet, but it fell out of favor a few decades ago when saturated fats were largely considered to be unhealthy.

(1) But more recently, as the thinking around saturated fats is shifting globally, Indians are finding their own way back this ingredient that is so integral to their cuisine.

(2) For Karmakar, renewed interest in ghee is emblematic of a return-to-basics movement in India.

(3)This movement is also part of an overall trend towards "slow food". In Keeping With the movement's philosophy, ghee can be produced locally (even at home)and has inextricable cultural ties.

(4) At a basic level, ghee is a type of clarified butter believed to have originated in India as a way to preserve butter from going rancid in the hot climate.

Answer.

A. Option 1

B. Option 2

- C. Option 3
- D. Option 4

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: Most were first-time users of a tablet and a digital app. Paragraph: Aage Badhein's USP lies in the ethnographic research that constitute the foundation of its development process. Customizations based on learning directly from potential users were critical to making this self-paced app suitable for both a literate and non-literate audience. (1) The user interface caters to a Hindi Speaking audience who have minimal to no experience with digital services and devices. (2) The content and functionality of the app are suitable for a wide audience. This includes youth preparing for an independent role in life or a student ready to create a strong foundation of financial management early in her life. (3) Household members desirous of improvingtheirfamily's financial strength to reach their aspirations can also benefit. WepilotedAage Badhein in early 2021 with over 400 women from rural areas. (4)13

Answer. D

The digital solution generated a large amount of interest in the communities.

- A. Option 1
- B. Option 2
- C. Option 3
- D. Option 4**