



IIMs or Nothing

The VA/RC section followed the pattern of the mock test on the CAT website exactly. There were 24 RC questions, distributed across four passages, and 10 VA questions, of three different types. All the RC questions were MCQs; all the VA questions were of the type-in-the-answer (TITA) kind. There were no vocab or grammar based questions in the VA section. The RC questions were mostly quite easy: there may have been one or two questions that had close options, and which might have given students pause for thought, but otherwise they were nearly all very doable. The passages themselves were fairly easy to read and understand. The VA questions were slightly tougher: for example, none of the options of one of the paragraph summary questions seemed correct; in an odd sentence out question, all the sentences seemed to fit logically, so choosing the odd one out was tough; and in one of the jumbled paragraph question, it was difficult to identify the first sentence. The exact question distribution was as follows:

Type	Area	No. Of Ques	Question Type
Reading Comprehension	Passage 1	6	MCQ
Reading Comprehension	Passage 2	6	MCQ
Reading Comprehension	Passage 3	6	MCQ
Reading Comprehension	Passage 4	6	MCQ
Paragraph based	Jumbled Paragraphs	4	TITA
Paragraph based	Paragraph Summary	3	TITA
Paragraph based	Coherent passage	3	TITA

It should not have been difficult for a good student to attempt at least 18 RC questions (preferably the three passages with 6 questions each), and around 7-8 of the VA questions. In case of the latter, even in case of difficult or ambiguous questions, the student would lose nothing by marking an answer, as the TITA questions had no negative marking (it would not be advisable to waste too much time reading the questions, though). So an overall attempt of around 25-26 questions with around 80-85% accuracy would result in a good score in this section.

Overall Strategy		
Correct	Percentile	Time / set
8	70	7.5
12	80	5
16	90	3.8
20	99	3.0
24	99.5	2.5
28	99.99	2.1

Language is not a cultural artifact that we learn the way we learn to tell time or how the federal government works. Instead, it is a distinct piece of the biological makeup of our brains. Language is a complex, specialized skill, which develops in the child spontaneously, without conscious effort or formal instruction, is deployed without awareness of its underlying logic, is qualitatively the same in every individual, and is distinct from more general abilities to process information or behave intelligently. For these reasons some cognitive researchers have described language as a psychological faculty, a mental organ, a neural system, and a computational module. But I prefer the admittedly quaint term “instinct”. It conveys the idea that people know how to talk in more or less the sense that spiders know how to spin webs. Web-spinning was not invented by some unsung spider genius and does not depend on having had the right education or on having an aptitude for architecture or the construction trades. Rather, spiders spin spider webs because they have spider brains, which give them the urge to spin and the competence to succeed. Although there are differences between webs and words, I will encourage you to see language in this way, for it helps to make sense of the phenomena we will explore.

Thinking of language as an instinct inverts the popular wisdom, especially as it has been passed down in the canon of the humanities and social sciences. Language is no more a cultural invention than is upright posture. It is not a manifestation of a general capacity to use symbols: a three-year-old, we shall see, is a grammatical genius, but is quite incompetent at the visual arts, religious iconography, traffic signs, and the other staples of the semiotics curriculum. Though language is a magnificent ability unique to Homo sapiens among living species, it does not call for sequestering the study of humans from the domain of biology, for a magnificent ability unique to a particular living species is far from unique in the animal kingdom. Some kinds of bats home in on flying insects using Doppler sonar. Some kinds of migratory birds navigate thousands of miles by calibrating the positions of the constellations against the time of day and year. In nature’s talent show, we are simply a species of primate with our own act, a knack for communicating information about who did what to whom by modulating the sounds we make when we exhale.

Once you begin to look at language not as the ineffable essence of human uniqueness but as a biological adaptation to communicate information, it is no longer as tempting to see language as an insidious shaper of thought, and, we shall see, it is not. Moreover, seeing language as one of nature’s engineering marvels — an organ with “that perfection of structure and co-adaptation which justly excites our admiration,” in Darwin’s words - gives us a new respect for your ordinary Joe and the much-maligned English language (or any language). The complexity of language, from the researcher’s point of view, is part of our biological birthright; it is not something that parents teach their children or something that must be elaborated in school — as Oscar Wilde said, “Education is an admirable thing, but it is well to remember from time to time that nothing that is worth knowing can be taught.” A preschooler’s tacit knowledge of grammar is more sophisticated than the thickest style manual or the most state-of-the-art computer language system, and the same applies to all healthy human beings, even the notorious syntax fracturing professional athlete and the, you know, like, inarticulate teenage skateboarder. Finally, since language is the product of a well engineered biological instinct, we shall see that it is not the nutty barrel of monkeys that entertainer columnists make it out to be.

1. According to the passage, all of the following stem from popular wisdom on language Except?

- (1) Language is a cultural artifact.
- (2) Language is a cultural invention.
- (3) Language is learnt as we grow.
- (4) Language is a psychological faculty.

2. Which of the following can be used as parallel reasoning for the “spiders know how to spin webs” analogy as used by the author?

- (1) A kitten learning to jump over a wall
- (2) Bees collecting nectar
- (3) A donkey carrying a load
- (4) A horse running a Derby

3. According to the passage, which of the following is unique to human beings?

- (1) Ability to use symbols while communicating with one another.
- (2) Ability to communicate with each other through voice modulation.

- (3) Ability to communicate information to other members of the species.
- (4) Ability to use sound as means of communication.

4. According to the passage, complexity of language cannot be taught by parents or at school to children because

- (1) children instinctively know language.
- (2) children learn the language on their own.
- (3) language is not amenable to teaching.
- (4) children know language better than their teachers or parents.

5. Which of the following best summarizes the passage?

- (1) Language is unique to Homo sapiens.
- (2) Language is neither learnt nor taught.
- (3) Language is not a cultural invention or artifact as it is made out.
- (4) Language is instinctive ability of human beings.

6. Why author has referred to 'preschooler's tacit knowledge of grammar'

- (1) To prove that Language is unique to Homo sapiens.
- (2) Used as an analogy for healthy human beings
- (3) To prove his point that language is not a cultural invention or artifact as it is made out.
- (4) To compare children instinctively know language.

If American policy towards Europe in the postwar years had been a conspicuous success, and towards Asia a disappointing balance between success and failure, it could be said that the most conspicuous thing about relations with Latin America was the absence of any policy. Franklin Roosevelt, to be sure, had launched a "Good Neighbour" policy, but being a good neighbour was, it seemed, a negative rather than a positive affair, a matter of keeping hands off, of making the Monroe Doctrine, in form at least, multilateral. All through the postwar years, the states of Latin America - - Mexico and Chile were partial exceptions - - were in the throes of major economic and social crises. Population was growing faster than in any other part of the globe, without a comparable increase in wealth or productivity; the gap between the poor and the rich was widening; and as the rich and powerful turned to the military for the preservation of order and privilege, the poor turned to revolution.

Deeply involved in other quarters of the globe, the United States paid little attention to the fortunes or misfortunes of her neighbours to the south, and when she did intervene, it appeared to be on the side of order and the status quo rather than on the side of reform. So frightened was the United States of "Communism" in Latin America that it preferred military dictatorship to reformers who might drift too far to the "left", and sustained a Batista in Cuba, a Trujillo in the Dominican Republic, a Peron in Argentina, and a Jimenez in Venezuela.

In his last two years, President Eisenhower had tried to mend his Latin American fences. Though rejecting a Brazilian proposal of a Marshall Plan for Latin America, he did take the initiative in setting up an Inter-American development Bank with a capital of one billion dollars, almost half of it supplied by the United States. Other government investments in Latin America ran to some four million dollars, while private investments exceeded nine billion. Yet though to most Americans, all this seemed a form of economic aid, many Latin Americans regarded it as economic imperialism. In September 1960, came a co-operative plan that could not be regarded as other than enlightened: the Act of Bogota, which authorized a grant of half a billion dollars to subsidize not only economic but social and educational progress in Latin America. "We are not saints", said President Eisenhower when he visited Santiago de Chile, "We know we make mistakes, but our heart is in the right place".

But was it? President Kennedy was confronted by the same dilemma that had perplexed his predecessors. Clearly it was essential to provide a large-scale aid to the countries south of Rio Grande, but should this aid go to bolster up established regimes and thus help maintain status quo, or should it be used to speed up social

reforms, even at the risk of revolt? As early as 1958, the then Senator Kennedy had asserted that “the objective of our aid program in Latin America should not be to purchase allies, but to consolidate a free and democratic Western Hemisphere, alleviating those conditions which might foster opportunities for communistic infiltration and uniting our peoples on the basis of constantly increasing living standards”.

This conviction that raising the standards of living was the best method of checking Communism now inspired President Kennedy's bold proposal for the creation of the alliance for progress - - a ten year plan designed to do for Latin America what Marshall Plan had done for Western Europe. It was to be “a peaceful revolution on a hemispheric scale, a vast cooperative effort, unparalleled in magnitude and nobility of purpose, to satisfy the basic needs of the American people for homes, work, land, health and schools. “To achieve this, the United States pledged an initial grant of one billion dollars, with the promise of additional billions for the future.

7. Following World War II, which problem was the United States most concerned with regarding Latin America?

- (a) Economic stability.
- (b) Political ideology.
- (c) Religious persecution.
- (d) Military dictatorship.

8. A key reason why Latin American rejected the Inter-American development Bank was that

- (a) it primarily provided money for social reform subsidies.
- (b) the moneys provided were only for specific performance projects.
- (c) it constituted an extension of the Marshall Plan into Latin America
- (d) it was being used as a means to control the economic destiny of Latin America.

9. Which of the following is most closely associated with the concept of a Marshall Plan for Latin America?

- (a) The Good Neighbour Policy.
- (b) The Alliance for Progress.
- (c) The Act of Bogota.
- (d) The Monroe Doctrine.

10. According to the passage, the fundamental change in U.S. foreign policy directed towards Latin America

- (a) resulted in a deterioration of U.S. Latin American relations.
- (b) was responsible for Peron remaining as a dictator in Peru.
- (c) recognized that economic aid alone would prevent social revolutions.
- (d) provided for increased military and economic aid to prevent the spread of communism in Latin America.

11. All of the following statements are true, except?

- (a) Mexico and Chile did not experience the general social crises that are common to the majority of Latin American countries.
- (b) President Eisenhower continued in practice the theory that economic aid was the best defense against communist incursion into Latin America
- (c) The Good Neighbour Policy favoured a multilateral interpretation of the Monroe Doctrine.
- (d) The traditional U.S. approach in Latin America was to protect the status quo.

12. Which of the inferences can be drawn if everything said in the passage were assumed to be true?

- (a) Rebellions are fuelled by social reforms and avoided by supporting established authorities or continuing the present state of affairs.
- (b) The American policy towards Asia can be called an overall success, though small in magnitude.
- (c) Kennedy, in 1958, wanted America to aid South American countries to acquire more support in their fight against communism.
- (d) Eisenhower rejected the Marshall Plan, whereas Kennedy implemented a similar one.

Last fortnight, news of a significant development was tucked away in the inside pages of newspapers. The government finally tabled a bill in Parliament seeking to make primary education a fundamental right. A fortnight earlier, a Delhi-based newspaper had carried a report about a three-month interruption in the Delhi Government's 'Education for All' programme. The report made for distressing reading. It said that literacy centres across the city were closed down, volunteers beaten up and enrolment registers burnt. All because the state government had, earlier this year, made participation in the programme mandatory for teachers in government schools. The routine denials were issued and there probably was a wee bit of exaggeration in the report. But it still is a pointer to the enormity of the task at hand.

That economic development will be inherently unstable unless it is built on a solid base of education, specially primary education, has been said so often that it is in danger of becoming a platitude. Nor does India's abysmal record in the field need much reiteration. Nearly 30 million children in the six to ten age group do not go to school — reason enough to make primary education not only compulsory but a fundamental right. But is that the solution? More importantly, will it work? Or will it remain a mere token, like the laws providing for compulsory primary education? It is now widely known that 14 states and four Union Territories have this law on their statute books. Believe it or not, the list actually includes Bihar, Madhya Pradesh (MP) and Rajasthan, where literacy and education levels are miles below the national average. A number of states have not even notified the compulsory education law.

This is not to belittle the decision to make education a fundamental right. As a statement of political will, a commitment by the decision-makers, its importance cannot be undervalued. Once this commitment is clear, a lot of other things like resource allocation will naturally fall into place. But the task of universalizing elementary education (UEE) is complicated by various socio-economic and cultural factors which vary from region to region and within regions.

If India's record continues to appall, it is because these intricacies have not been adequately understood by the planners and administrators. The trouble has been that education policy has been designed by grizzled mandarins ensconced in Delhi and is totally out of touch with the ground reality. The key then is to decentralise education planning and implementation. What's also needed is greater community involvement in the whole process. Only then can school timings be adjusted for convenience, school children given a curriculum they can relate to and teachers made accountable.

For proof, one has only to look at the success of the district primary education programme, which was launched in 1994. It has met with a fair degree of success in the 122 districts it covers. Here the village community is involved in all aspects of education — allocating finances to supervising teachers to fixing school timings and developing curriculum and textbooks — through district planning teams. Teachers are also involved in the planning and implementation process and are given small grants to develop teaching and learning material, vastly improving motivational levels. The consequent improvement in the quality of education generates increased demand for education.

But for this demand to be generated, quality will first have to be improved. In MP, the village panchayats are responsible for not only constructing and maintaining primary schools but also managing scholarships, besides organising non-formal education. How well this works in practice remains to be seen (though the department claims the schemes are working very well) but the decision to empower panchayats with such powers is itself a significant development. Unfortunately, the Panchayat Raj Act has not been notified in many states. After all, delegating powers to the panchayats is not looked upon too kindly by vested interests.

More specifically, by politicians, since decentralisation of education administration takes away from them the power of transfer, which they use to grant favours and build up a support base. But if the political leadership can push through the bill to make education a fundamental right, it should also be able to persuade the states to implement the laws on Panchayat Raj. For, UEE cannot be achieved without decentralisation. Of course, this will have to be accompanied by proper supervision and adequate training of those involved in the administration of education. But the devolution of powers to the local bodies has to come first.

13. None of these problems are plaguing the education system in India Except

- a. poverty.
- b. diverse cultural and socio-economic factors.
- c. male chauvinism.
- d. Celebrating festivals

14. In the context of the passage, the term 'grizzled mandarins' means

- a. old hags.
- b. decrepit men.
- c. ineffective old men.
- d. None of these

15. One of the reasons contributing to India's poor performance on the education front is that

- a. its leaders do not have the conviction required to improve the education system.
- b. male members of society do not want their female counterparts to be educated.
- c. administrators in charge of education are out of touch with ground realities.
- d. the country does not have the law for implementation of education policies in its statute books.

16. The only way in which the education system can be improved is by

- a. decentralising education planning and implementation.
- b. introducing fresh blood in the planning body.
- c. injecting funds into the exchequer solely for the purpose.
- d. educating the people on the need for primary education.

17. Primary education

- a. is a fundamental right.
- b. will be made a fundamental right.
- c. is only for the privileged sections of society.
- d. None of these

18. Education policy cannot be successfully implemented by any of the following Except?

- a. greater community involvement.
- b. greater community development.
- c. greater community awareness.
- d. Greater community experience

Directions for questions: The passage given below is followed by a set of four questions. Choose the best answer to each question.

A game of strategy, as currently conceived in game theory, is a situation in which two or more “players” make choices among available alternatives (moves). The totality of choices determines the outcomes of the game, and it is assumed that the rank order of preferences for the outcomes is different for different players. Thus the “interests” of the players are generally in conflict. Whether these interests are diametrically opposed or only partially opposed depends on the type of game.

Psychologically, most interesting situations arise when the interests of the players are partly coincident and partly opposed, because then one can postulate not only a conflict among the players but also inner conflicts within the players. Each is torn between a tendency to cooperate, so as to promote the common interests, and a tendency to compete, so as to enhance his own individual interests.

Internal conflicts are always psychologically interesting. What we vaguely call “interesting” psychology is in very great measure the psychology of inner conflict. Inner conflict is also held to be an important component of serious literature as distinguished from less serious genres. The classical tragedy, as well as the serious novel reveals the inner conflict of central figures. The superficial adventure story on the other hand, depicts only external conflict; that is, the threats to the person with whom the reader (or viewer) identifies stem in these stories exclusively from external obstacles and from the adversaries who create them. On the most primitive level this sort of external conflict is psychologically empty. In the fisticuffs between the protagonists of good

and evil, no psychological problems are involved or, at any rate, none are depicted in juvenile representations of conflict.

The detective story, the “adult” analogue of a juvenile adventure tale, has at times been described as a glorification of intellectualized conflict. However, a great deal of the interest in the plots of these stories is sustained by withholding the unraveling of a solution to a problem. The effort of solving the problem is in itself not a conflict if the adversary (the unknown criminal) remains passive, like Nature, whose secrets the scientist supposedly unravels by deduction. If the adversary actively puts obstacles in the detective’s path toward the solution, there is genuine conflict. But the conflict is psychologically interesting only to the extent that it contains irrational components such as a tactical error on the criminal’s part or the detective’s insight into some psychological quirk of the criminal or something of this sort. Conflict conducted in a perfectly rational manner is psychologically no more interesting than a standard Western.

For example, Tic-tac-toe, played perfectly by both players, is completely devoid of psychological interest. Chess may be psychologically interesting but only to the extent that it is played not quite rationally. Played completely rationally, chess would not be different from Tic-tac-toe.

In short, a pure conflict of interest (what is called a zero-sum game) although it offers a wealth of interesting conceptual problems, is not interesting psychologically, except to the extent that its conduct departs from rational norms.

19. Find the main idea of the passage?

- (1) To explain game of strategy
- (2) To explain detective’s path
- (3) To explain juvenile representations of conflict
- (4) None of these

20. According to the passage, internal conflicts are psychologically more interesting than external conflicts because

- (1) internal conflicts, rather than external conflicts, form an important component of serious literature as distinguished from less serious genres.
- (2) only juveniles or very few “adults” actually experience external conflict, while internal conflict is more widely prevalent in society.
- (3) in situations of internal conflict, individuals experience a dilemma in resolving their own preferences for different outcomes.
- (4) there are no threats to the reader (or viewer) in case of external conflicts.

21. Which, according to the author, would qualify as interesting psychology?

- (1) A statistician’s dilemma over choosing the best method to solve an optimization problem.
- (2) A chess player’s predicament over adopting a defensive strategy against an aggressive opponent.
- (3) A mountaineer’s choice of the best path to Mt. Everest from the base camp.
- (4) A finance manager’s quandary over the best way of raising money from the market.

22. According to the passage, which of the following options about the application of game theory to a conflict-of-interest situation is true?

- (1) Assuming that the rank order of preferences for options is different for different players.
- (2) Accepting that the interests of different players are often in conflict.
- (3) Not assuming that the interests are in complete disagreement.
- (4) All of the above.

23. The problem solving process of a scientist is different from that of a detective because

- (1) scientists study inanimate objects, while detectives deal with living criminals or law offenders.
- (2) scientists study known objects, while detectives have to deal with unknown criminals or law offenders.
- (3) scientists study phenomena that are not actively altered, while detectives deal with phenomena that have been deliberately influenced to mislead.

(4) scientists study psychologically interesting phenomena, while detectives deal with “adult” analogues of juvenile adventure tales.

24. How Tic-tac-toe as a game is different from Chess?

- (1) Games like Tic-tac-toe is played in a perfectly rational manner is psychologically no more interesting than chess which is played not quite rationally.
- (2) Both games are same when it comes to pure conflict of interest.
- (3) Both games are played psychology of inner conflict
- (4) Tic-tac-toe is a juvenile adventure tale, while chess at times been described as a glorification of intellectualized conflict.

25. Answer the following question on the basis of this paragraph and mark the correct option in the given box. Parents usually do not insist that their children learn to walk by a certain age. Parents feel confident that the children will learn to walk within a reasonable period of time, when their bodies are ready for such an undertaking. Teachers should adopt the same attitude when teaching children in school how to read. If teachers did this, children might learn to read much more quickly and experience less anxiety while doing so.

Which of the following best describes the Essence or structure of the passage?

- A. How children learn one kind of activity is described and then this method is recommended for teaching children another kind of activity.
- B. Two different views of how children should be taught to read are compared and contrasted.
- C. A view of how children should be taught is described and then criticized.
- D. Contrasting views of parents and teachers on how quickly children actually learn are described and then analyzed.
- E. The amount of time it take for children to learn one kind of activity is described and then used to predict how long it will take them to learn another kind of activity.

26. The sentences given, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labeled with a letter. Choose the most logical order of sentences from among the given choices to construct a coherent paragraph. Sentence 1 and 6 are fixed starting and ending of the paragraph. Type the correct order in the given space.

1. Amount of published information available varies widely by industry.

- A. Unfortunately for the researcher, many industries do not meet these criteria, and there may be little published information available.
- B. Generally, the problem the researcher will face in using published data for analysing an economically meaningful industry is that they are too broad or too arranged to fit the industry.
- C. However, it is always possible to gain some important information about an industry from published sources and these sources should be aggressively pursued. D. Larger the industry, the older it is, and the slower the rate of technological change, better is the available published information.
6. If a researcher starts a searching for data with this reality in mind, the uselessness of broad data will be better recognized and the tendency to give up will be avoided.

27. In the following question a paragraph from which the last sentence has been deleted. From the given options, choose the sentence that completes the paragraph in the most appropriate way. Type the correct option number in the given space below.

Trade protectionism, disguised as concern for the climate, is raising its head. Citing competitiveness concerns, powerful industrialized countries are holding out threats of a levy on imports of energy-intensive products from developing countries that refuse to accept their demands. The actual source of protectionist sentiment in the OECD countries is, of course, their current lacklustre economic performance, combined with the challenges posed by the rapid economic rise of China and India - in that order.

- (1) Climate change is evoked to bring trade protectionism through the back door.
- (2) OECD countries are taking refuge in climate change issues to erect trade barriers against these two countries.

- (3) Climate change concerns have come as a convenient stick to beat the rising trade power of China and India.
- (4) Defenders of the global economic status quo are posing as climate change champions.
- (5) Today's climate change champions are the perpetrators of global economic inequity.

28. Answer the following question on the basis of this paragraph and mark the correct option in the given box. Whatever their disadvantage with respect to distributing education tax dollars equally among school districts, in one respect at least, local property taxes are superior to state taxes as a means of funding public schools. Because local property taxes provide public schools with a direct source of revenue, these public schools are relatively free from competition for tax dollars with other government services. School administrators do not have to compete for a share of the state tax dollars, which are already being spent on health, criminal justice, public safety, and transportation. They are not placed in the position of having to argue that school programs must have priority over other public services financed by state taxes.

Which of the following statements best expresses essence of the passage?

- A. Education is more important than other government services, such as criminal justice or public safety.
- B. The disadvantage of local property taxes is that they do not equally distribute tax dollars spent on education.
- C. School administrators are not accustomed to arguing that their programs must have priority over other government services.
- D. Financing education with local property taxes has the advantage of eliminating competition for funding between schools and other public services.
- E. School administrators must be prepared to justify the funds they spend on education programs.

29. In the following question a paragraph from which the last sentence has been deleted. From the given options, choose the sentence that completes the paragraph in the most appropriate way. Type the correct option number in the given space below.

Most people at their first consultation take a furtive look at the surgeon's hands in the hope of reassurance. Prospective patients look for delicacy, sensitivity, steadiness, perhaps unblemished pallor. On this basis, Henry Perowne loses a number of cases each year. Generally, he knows it's about to happen before the patient does: the downward glance repeated, the prepared questions beginning to falter, the overemphatic thanks during the retreat to the door.

- (1) Other people do not communicate due to their poor observation.
- (2) Other patients don't like what they see but are ignorant of their right to go elsewhere.
- (3) But Perowne himself is not concerned.'
- (4) But others will take their place, he thought.
- (5) These hands are steady enough, but they are large.

30. The sentences given, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labeled with a letter. Choose the most logical order of sentences from among the given choices to construct a coherent paragraph. Sentence 1 and 6 are fixed starting and ending of the paragraph. Type the correct order in the given space.

1. Intensity of competition in an industry is neither a matter of coincidence nor bad luck.
- A. The collective strength of these forces determines the ultimate profit potential in the industry where profit potential is measured in terms of long run returns on invested capital.
- B. Rather, competition in an industry is rooted in its underlying economic structure and goes well beyond the behavior of current competitors.
- C. Not all industries have the same potential.
- D. The state of competition in an industry depends on five basic competitive forces.
6. They differ fundamentally in their ultimate profit potential as the collective strength of the forces differs.

31. Answer the following question on the basis of this paragraph and mark the correct option in the given box. Shakespeare wrote four types of plays: histories, comedies, tragedies, and tragicomedies. Some scholars contend that Shakespeare's choice of three of these types of dramatic forms reflects his various psychological states. As a young man making a name for himself in London, he wrote comedies. Then, saddened by the

death of this son, he turned to tragedies. Finally, seasoned by life's joys and sorrows, he produced tragicomedies. But a look at the theater scene of his day reveals that Shakespeare was not so much writing out of his heart as into his pocketbook. When comedies were the vogue, he wrote comedies; when tragedies were the rage, he wrote tragedies; and when tragicomedies dominated the stage, he produced tragicomedies.

Which of the following statements best expresses essence of the passage?

- A. Examine Shakespeare's life in light of his dramatic works
- B. Contest a theory that attempts to explain why Shakespeare wrote the kinds of plays he did
- C. Explain the terms "comedy," "tragedy," and "tragicomedy" as they are used in discussions of Shakespeare's plays
- D. Compare Shakespeare's plays with the works of other dramatists of his day
- E. Discuss what is known about Shakespeare's psychological states

32. The sentences given, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labeled with a letter. Choose the most logical order of sentences from among the given choices to construct a coherent paragraph. Type the correct order in the given space.

- A. A few months ago I went to Princeton University to see what the young people who are going to be running our country in a few decades are like.
- B. I would go to sleep in my hotel room around midnight each night, and when I awoke, my mailbox would be full of replies—sent at 1:15 a.m., 2:59 a.m., 3:23 a.m.
- C. One senior told me that she went to bed around two and woke up each morning at seven; she could afford that much rest because she had learned to supplement her full day of work by studying in her sleep.
- D. Faculty members gave me the names of a few dozen articulate students, and I sent them e-mails, inviting them out to lunch or dinner in small groups.
- E. As she was falling asleep she would recite a math problem or a paper topic to herself; she would then sometimes dream about it, and when she woke up, the problem might be solved.

33. In the following question a paragraph from which the last sentence has been deleted. From the given options, choose the sentence that completes the paragraph in the most appropriate way. Type the correct option number in the given space below.

Mattancherry is Indian Jewry's most famous settlement. Its pretty streets of pastel coloured houses, connected by first-floor passages and home to the last twelve saree-and-sarong-wearing, whiteskinned Indian Jews are visited by thousands of tourists each year. Its synagogue, built in 1568, with a floor of blue-and-white Chinese tiles, a carpet given by Haile Selassie and the frosty Yaheh selling tickets at the door, stands as an image of religious tolerance.

- (1) Mattancherry represents, therefore, the perfect picture of peaceful co-existence.
- (2) India's Jews have almost never suffered discrimination, except for European colonizers and each other.
- (3) Jews in India were always tolerant.
- (4) Religious tolerance has always been only a façade and nothing more.
- (5) The pretty pastel streets are, thus, very popular with the tourists.

34. The sentences given, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labeled with a letter. Choose the most logical order of sentences from among the given choices to construct a coherent paragraph. Type the correct order in the given space.

- A. Four days later, Infosist announced its own bid for PepSoftware, and invited the firm's board to a discussion.
- B. Furious that his own plans had been endangered, PepSoftware's boss, Chandan Shah, called Infosist's offer "diabolical", and its boss, Laxman, a "sociopath".
- C. In early June, PepSoftware said that it would buy J.D.Soft, a smaller rival.
- D. Moreover, said Mr. Shah, he "could imagine no price nor combination of price and other conditions to recommend accepting the offer."
- E. On June 12th, PepSoftware turned Infosist down.

Verbal Master Class

