

VERBAL REASONING TEST

Instructions

This verbal reasoning test comprises **20 questions** and you will have **20 minutes** in which to correctly answer as many as you can.

In each question you will be presented with a short comprehension passage followed by three or four questions. You will need to determine which answer is correct based on the information provided in the passages only.

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Although it was discovered in the 19th century that birds were closely related to dinosaurs, the current scientific consensus is that birds were, and always have been dinosaurs themselves. Fossil evidence demonstrates similarities between birds and other feathered dinosaurs, including hollow bones, nest building and similar brooding behaviours. Although the dinosaurian lineage of birds is largely undisputed, the evolution of powered flight in birds is still debated. Two theories of flight in birds are the “ground-up” theory, and the “trees-down” theory. Ground-up theorists suggest birds evolved powered flight from ground dwelling dinosaurs, and trees-down theorists suggest birds evolved from tree dwelling, gliding dinosaurs. Further research is required to conclusively verify the process in which birds evolved powered flight.

Q1 The “ground-up” and “trees-down” theories are the only theories explaining flight in birds.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot Say - Although the “ground-up” and “trees-down” theories are stated to be theories of flight in birds, they are not stated to be the only two theories explaining flight in birds. Therefore, the correct answer is “Cannot Say”.

Q2 All dinosaurs had hollow bones.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot Say - The passage states that other feathered dinosaurs also had hollow bones, not that all dinosaurs (non-feathered) also had hollow bones. Therefore, the correct answer is “Cannot Say”.

Q3 There is no scientific consensus regarding how birds evolved powered flight.

True

False

Cannot say

True - The passage states that further research is required to conclusively verify the process in which birds evolved powered flight. Similarly, it is stated that, the evolution of powered flight in birds is still debated. Therefore, the correct answer is “True”

Q4 The dinosaurian origins of birds is widely rejected.

True

False

Cannot say

False - It is stated that the dinosaurian origins of birds is “largely undisputed”, and is therefore the antithesis of being widely rejected. Therefore, the correct answer is “False”.

A feral cat is a domestic cat that was raised in the wild, without having experienced significant human contact. Feral cats differ from stray cats, in that strays were previously pets which became nomadic. Unlike strays, feral cats initially show hostility towards humans, particularly upon first contact. Feral cats may become invasive to ecosystems, particularly on insular islands, resulting in a decline in biodiversity. Non-indigenous feral cats often have few natural predators, and prey on local species unaccustomed to defending against cats. Ground nesting birds, small native mammals and even amphibian species are often impacted by invasive populations of feral cats, and have led to extinctions of these species in some cases.

Q5 Both stray and feral cats exhibit hostility when first encountering humans.

True

False

Cannot say

False- The passage states that “Unlike strays, feral cats initially show hostility towards humans”. Since this distinguishes stray cats from feral cats, the correct answer is “False”.

Q6 Biodiversity can be affected by feral cat populations.

True

False

Cannot say

True - The passage states that feral cats can become invasive, resulting in a decline in biodiversity. Therefore, the correct answer is “True”.

Q7 Feral cats are rarely preyed upon.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say - Although non-indigenous feral cats have few predators, it is not stated whether all feral cats have few predators. Similarly, having few predators does not necessarily imply they are rarely preyed upon, as feral cats could be regularly preyed upon by a single predator. Therefore, the correct answer is “Cannot Say”.

Q8 Domestic cats can be raised in the wild.

True

False

Cannot say

True - It is stated in the passage that feral cats are domestic cats, which have been raised in the wild. Since feral cats are given as an example, the correct answer is "True".

The parable of the broken window, also known as the glazier's fallacy, is a concept used to illustrate the fact that money spent due to destruction does not result in a benefit to society. It has been suggested that repairing broken windows may provide employment to tradespeople, which could positively impact the economy through job creation. However, had the window not been broken, the money spent repairing it could have contributed elsewhere to the economy. Similarly, if windows never broke, those tradespeople would be free to contribute towards the economy in other occupations. The glazier's fallacy highlights the fact that destruction of property impacts economic activity in unseen or ignored ways, which are frequently overshadowed by more obvious economic effects.

Q9 The destruction of property has no effect on the economy.

True

False

Cannot say

False - The glazier's fallacy highlights that destruction of property impacts economic activity in unseen or ignored ways, meaning the destruction of property does have an effect on the economy. Therefore, the correct answer is "False".

Q10 Society does not benefit from the cost of repairing destroyed property.

True

False

Cannot say

True - The passage states that society does not benefit from the money spent on repairing destroyed property, and holds this as fact. Therefore, the correct answer is "True".

Q11 The destruction of property negatively impacts the economy.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot Say - The passage does not state that the mere destruction of property negatively impacts the economy, only that the money spent repairing it does not benefit

society, rather than the economy. Therefore, the correct answer is "Cannot Say".

Q12 Repairing broken windows results in job creation.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot Say - the passage states that "It has been suggested that repairing broken windows may provide employment to tradespeople", however this is uncertain. Therefore, the correct answer is "Cannot Say".

The paradox of thrift, as popularised by John Keynes, highlights the fact that excessive saving during times of economic recession negatively impacts the economy. When spending is reduced due to excessive saving, aggregate demand falls, resulting in lowered economic growth. This excessive saving results in reduced economic growth, which in turn encourages further excessive saving, causing a vicious cycle. Reduced economic growth results in reductions in salary, job security and interest on savings, negatively impacting both savers and the economy. However, it could be argued that savings held in savings accounts represent loanable capital, which banks could use to stimulate the economy via lending and investment.

Q13 Excessive saving has no impact on economic growth.

True

False

Cannot say

False - The passage states that excessive saving lowers aggregate demand, resulting in lowered economic growth, which would impact economy growth. Therefore, the correct answer is "False".

Q14 Excessive saving has no impact on savers themselves.

True

False

Cannot say

False - Excessive saving is stated to negatively impact both savers and the economy, therefore savers themselves must be impacted by excessive saving. Therefore, the correct answer is "False".

Q15 Saving money negatively impacts the economy.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot Say - The passage states that excessive saving, not regular saving, negatively impacts the economy. It is not stated what effect, if any, regular saving could have on the economy. Therefore, the correct answer is "Cannot Say".

Q16 Excess saving has no effect on aggregate demand.

True

False

Cannot say

False - The passage states that "When spending is reduced due to excessive saving, aggregate demand falls". Therefore, excessive saving must have an effect on aggregate demand, making the correct answer "False".

Q17 Artificial intelligences perform advanced reasoning more effectively than humans.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say - It is not stated whether artificial intelligences perform advanced reasoning more effectively than humans, only that advanced reasoning requires little computational power. Therefore the correct answer is "Cannot Say".

Q18 Playing chess is a complex activity among humans.

True

False

Cannot say

True - It is stated that chess is an activity considered complex by human standards. Therefore, the correct answer is "True".

Q19 Simple artificial intelligences cannot recognise faces.

True

False

Cannot say

True - The passage states that only the most advanced artificial intelligences can recognise faces. If only the most advanced artificial intelligences are capable of this, simple artificial intelligences cannot. Therefore, the correct answer is "True".

Q20 Science fiction does not feature artificial intelligences.

True

False

Cannot say

False - The passage states that artificial intelligences are commonly featured in science fiction. Therefore, the correct answer is "False".

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Work-related stress is one of the biggest causes of sick leave in the UK. If you've noticed you always seem to be rushing about, or miss meal breaks, take work home or don't have enough time for relaxation, seeing your family or for exercise, then you may well find yourself under stress, especially at work. There is often no single cause of work-related stress, but it can be caused by poor working conditions, long hours, relationship problems with colleagues, or lack of job security. Stress is often the result of a combination of these factors that builds up over time. Work-related stress can result in both physical problems such as headaches, muscular tension, back or neck pain, tiredness, digestive problems and sweating; or emotional problems, such as a lower sex drive, feelings of inadequacy, irritability and lack of concentration. According to recent surveys, one in six of the UK working population said their job is very stressful, and thirty percent of men said that the demands of their job interfere with their private lives.

Q1 Stress at work is often caused by relationship problems with your partner.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say - This may well be true, but is not stated in the passage so we have to answer Cannot Say. The passage refers only to relationship problems with colleagues and does not say if relationship problems with a partner do or don't cause stress.

Q2 Work-related stress can result in tiredness and a lack of concentration.

True

False

Cannot say

True -The fifth sentence lists tiredness as one of the physical problems caused by stress, and lack of concentration is listed under emotional problems.

Q3 One in six working men say their job is very stressful.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say - One in six "of the UK working population" said their job is very stressful in the study referred to in the passage. The passage does not tell us the ratio for men only, which may be higher, equal, or lower.

Q4 If you spend more time with your family, you will not suffer from stress.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say - The passage states that stress can be caused by not spending enough time with your family. However, the passage does not tell us explicitly that everyone who spends more time with their family will or will not suffer from stress.

For many years the hunt has been on to find an effective way to treat cancerous tumours using physical rather than chemical means. That hunt may now be over with the latest breakthrough made by Dr Jennifer West at Rice University in Houston, Texas. West has done tests on animals using a non-chemical procedure known as Photothermal Ablation. She injected millions of nanoparticles, which can absorb infrared light, into the animals' bloodstreams. These particles go straight to the tumours because, unlike healthy tissue, tumours have abnormal blood capillaries that will let them through. A few hours later an optical fibre is inserted into the tumour and a blast of infrared light is passed down the fibre, which heats the particles and effectively cooks the tumour.

Q5 Photothermal Ablation is the latest breakthrough in chemical treatment for cancer.

True

False

Cannot say

False - The passage tells us that Photothermal Ablation is a "non-chemical procedure" which could be used in the treatment of cancerous tumours.

Q6 Nanoparticles are objects whose dimensions are measured in nanometres, or billionths of a metre.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say - The dimensions of nanoparticles are not given in the passage so we have to answer Cannot Say. In fact this is true, but we have to base our answers on only the information contained within the passage, not what knowledge we may have picked up from outside this test.

Q7 Nanoparticles can absorb infrared light.

True

False

Cannot say

True - The fourth sentence says "nanoparticles, which can absorb infrared light..."

U3b Networks (U3b being short for the underprivileged three billion who lack internet access) is a company in Jersey set up by Greg Wyler, former owner of Rwanda's national telephone company. His company intends to provide cheap, high-speed internet access to remote areas in developing countries, which up to now has been the reserve of developed countries. Mr Wyler plans to charge \$500 per megabit per month, compared with the \$4,000 charged by existing companies. Mr Wyler has so far raised €40m from investors, but this seems like a risky investment, especially as billions were lost on similar projects in the past. So why are people investing in the hope of finding customers in the world's poorest regions? The reason is that previous projects were over-ambitious and set out to provide global coverage, whereas U3b's project is far more modest in its optimism and its services will be available only to a 100km wide corridor around the equator, which happens to cover most developing countries. It will initially use just five satellites circling 8,000km above the equator and further expansion will be determined by customer appetite.

Q8 Greg Wyler had a background in telecoms.

True

False

Cannot say

True - The first sentence tells us that Greg Wyler is a former owner of Rwanda's national telephone company, and has now set up U3b Networks.

Q9 The satellites for the project will cost €8m each.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say - There is no information in the passage to tell us the cost of each satellite. We are told that the project will initially use five satellites and that the amount raised so far is €40m, but we don't have enough information to say for sure what each satellite will cost.

Q10 The majority of developing countries lie within 100km of the equator.

True

False

Cannot say

True - The passage tells us that the "services will be available only to a 100km wide corridor around the equator, which happens to cover most developing countries".

We have all heard about bullying in schools, but bullying in the workplace is a huge problem in the UK which results in nearly 19 million days of lost output per year and costs the country 6 billion pounds annually. Workplace bullying is the abuse of a position of power by one individual over another. Otherwise known as harassment, intimidation, aggression, coercive management and by other euphemisms, bullying in the workplace can take many forms involving gender, race or age. In a nutshell, workplace bullying means behaviour that is humiliating or offensive towards some individual. This kind of bullying ranges from violence to less obvious actions like deliberately ignoring a fellow worker.

Q11 Bullying in the workplace hinders UK economic output.

True

False

Cannot say

True - The first sentence says that bullying in the workplace “results in nearly 19 million days of lost output per year and costs the country 6 billion pounds annually”. This means that economic output of the UK is damaged and therefore it hinders UK economic output.

Q12 Another name for workplace bullying is coercive management.

True

False

Cannot say

True - The passage states that coercive management is a euphemism for bullying, i.e., a less direct expression to make it sound less severe.

Q13 Bullying in the workplace is sometimes caused by religious intolerance.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say - The passage does identify race as one form of victimization used in bullying but the passage does not tell us explicitly that this intolerance is a cause of bullying. It would be reasonable to guess that workplace bullying could be the outcome of religious or race intolerance, but we cannot be sure of this given just the information in the passage. Hence we must answer Cannot Say. Reinforcing this is the inexact comparison between race and religion.

Q14 Deliberately ignoring a colleague is a form of bullying.

True

False

Cannot say

True - The last sentence in the passage states that “deliberately ignoring a fellow worker” is a less obvious - but still existing - kind of workplace bullying.

Nobody knows what life forms may exist outside our own planet. The search for extra-terrestrial life in the universe took a step nearer to fruition with the discovery in June of what are believed to be traces of water on the surface of Mars. Life on our planet requires water and its presence on Mars may point towards the existence of past life on the planet. The Phoenix Mars Lander robot landed on the plains of Mars on May 25th 2008, searching for signs that the Martian environment might once have been habitable to life. When it dug a ditch in the planet's surface, photos revealed small patches of bright material. Four days later those patches had disappeared, causing scientists to speculate that they were water ice that had previously been buried and which vaporised when exposed to the air. Scientists insisted that if the patches had been salt, they wouldn't have disappeared and if they had been solid carbon dioxide, then they wouldn't have vaporised.

Q15 The Phoenix Mars Lander has provided proof that life once existed on Mars.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say - The passage states that scientists speculate that there were ice patches on Mars, which is needed for life. We are told about the Phoenix Mars Lander and its discovery but we are not told what the Phoenix Mars Lander has proved, disproved, or failed to prove. For illustration: this passage could be reporting on just one aspect of what Phoenix has discovered. So we cannot say if this is true or false without further information.

Tip: this statement would have been False if the passage had said something to the effect that this is everything the Phoenix Mars Lander has ever done or found.

Q16 Life forms on Mars require water in order to survive.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say - The passage states that "Life on our planet requires water". The passage also says that we do not know about every single life form: "Nobody knows what life forms may exist outside our own planet". Given that the passage does not tell us whether all life on Mars (or any planet other than our own) does or does not require water, we cannot say whether or not this statement is true or false, therefore we have to answer Cannot Say.

Q17 Since the Phoenix Mars Lander cannot excavate it is limited to surface photography.

True

False

Cannot say

False - The fifth sentence says "When it dug a ditch in the planet's surface..." meaning that the Phoenix Mars Lander is capable of some sort of excavation.

Most workers in the UK over the age of 16 are legally entitled to a minimum rate of pay, called the national minimum wage. An independent body called the Low Pay Commission (LPC) each year reviews this rate and passes their recommendation to the government, who then set and enforce the rate. With few exceptions, the minimum wage is the same for all types of work and all kinds of business. The current amount for people over 22 years of age is £6.80 per hour. The rates for younger workers are less. However, the following groups are not entitled to receive the minimum wage: workers under school leaving age, the genuinely self-employed, some apprentices, au pairs, armed service personnel and voluntary workers. Also agricultural workers have a separate minimum rate of pay set by the Agricultural Wages Board.

Q18 The Low Pay Commission sets the rate of the national minimum wage.

True

False

Cannot say

False - The second sentence tells us that the Low Pay Commission “passes their recommendation to the government, who then set and enforce the rate”. So we are told that the LPC give a recommendation but it is actually the government who set the rate.

Q19 The Agricultural Wages Board sets pay bands for different levels of agricultural workers

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say - The last sentence says that “agricultural workers have a separate minimum rate of pay set by the Agricultural Wages Board.” So we are told that the AWG set a minimum rate but we are not told if they set rate bands for different levels of workers. Pay bands implies multiple levels of wage rates dependent on factors such as age or experience.

Q20 The lowest wage a 16 year old is entitled to is £6.80 an hour.

True

False

Cannot say

False - The passage states that this is the rate for people over 22 years of age, and that “the rates for younger workers are less”.

A common difficulty faced by business managers is when the behaviour of a team-member conflicts with established desirable practice. How does a good leader handle such an issue? One effective angle is to lead by example: instead of waiting for a problem to develop, take a proactive approach in heading it off with reference to clearly laid out guidelines. If a problematic situation does develop, controlling it can be made simpler by invoking existing values from a mission statement which has been set out in advance. A good team will always put the needs of the organisation first.

Taking such an approach gives the team a sense of personal involvement which encourages them to feel part of the organisation's mission, internalising the needs of the group rather than feeling a sense of externally imposed obligation. It provides team members with a greater sense of personal control, the sense that they have contributed individually, and by choice, to the well-being of their organisation.

To achieve this, a manager must have a good understanding of the way individual people communicate – a flexible approach is essential, using real-life practical examples relevant to each team-member's particular experience.

Q1 Leading by example is an effective approach in dealing with problematic behaviour from employees.

True

False

Cannot say

True – this statement is correct, as the passage says: “when the behaviour of a team-member conflicts with established desirable practice... one effective angle is to lead by example...”

Q2 A manager who understands how people communicate is able to take a flexible approach in dealing with problems.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say – while the passage encourages both effective communication and a flexible approach (“a manager must have a good understanding of the way individual people communicate”, “a flexible approach is essential”) it does not explicitly state that individual communication leads to a flexible approach.

Q3 In a good team, the needs of the organization are secondary to the needs of

the individual.

True

False

Cannot say

False – while the passage generally stresses the importance of understanding individual styles (“a manager must have a good understanding of the way individual people communicate”, “... relevant to each team-member’s particular experience.”) it states explicitly that “A good team will always put the needs of the organisation first.”

An effective PR campaign requires precise, clear communication between the client and PR officer. The client should disclose detailed information to the PR officer, including the company's history, goals, and current business plan. It is especially important to disclose any potentially problematic issues. The company should be prepared to dedicate the necessary time and resources of its senior management, as well as sufficient finances, to the campaign.

The perfect PR message will be consistent, with each new approach reinforcing the key objectives of the company. If new developments do arise, the PR officer should be fully briefed as soon as possible. It is essential to keep to a clear schedule, leaving adequate time available for approval of copy. Seizing opportunities when they arise is key to the success of the campaign.

- Q4** The best approach to PR is to be flexible, regularly changing the company's goals to keep the public interested.

True

False

Cannot say

False – while accepting that changes in approach are sometimes necessary (“If new developments do arise...”) the passage states that: “The perfect PR message will be consistent, with each new approach reinforcing the key objectives of the company.”

- Q5** Not disclosing a full company history to the PR officer will result in a failed campaign.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say – while the passage states that disclosure of company history is important (“The client should disclose detailed information to the PR officer, including the company's history”) it is not explicitly stated anywhere that failing to do this will directly and by itself result in the failure of the PR campaign. However, neither is it stated that failure will not result from no disclosure, so any definite answer to this question would rely on inferences which are not directly confirmed by the passage.

- Q6** It is recommended to wait before taking advantage of any new opportunities, to make certain they would be of benefit to the campaign.

True

False

Cannot say

False - The passage states: “Seizing opportunities when they arise is key to the success of the campaign.”

The secret to success in business is entrepreneurial spirit at all levels of the company. Employees who are identified as entrepreneurs in their own right are more motivated – their own financial success becomes integrated with the company's. Those who are oriented towards personal entrepreneurship will work long hours to develop their own tried-and-tested business practices and strategies, contributing as willing partners to the achievements of the company as a whole.

Orientation and value-formation training can induce this kind of thinking in new staff recruits, inculcating the notion of how quickly it is possible to achieve financial security through hard work and innovative business approaches, combined with the impression that to miss out on opportunities for such rapid economic and social advancement would be at best unwise and at worst catastrophic.

Q7 Employees instilled with the idea of personal entrepreneurship will be less willing to contribute to the success of the company as a whole.

True

False

Cannot say

False - the passage states in fact that such employees will contribute "as willing partners to the achievements of the company."

Q8 New staff members can be indoctrinated with the virtues of entrepreneurship.

True

False

Cannot say

True - the passage states that "this kind of thinking" - which refers directly to the personal entrepreneurship approach discussed in the first paragraph - can be induced through "Orientation and value-formation training".

Q9 Employees encouraged to think of themselves as entrepreneurs work fewer hours than other staff members.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say - while the passage states, "Those who are oriented towards personal entrepreneurship will work long hours", therefore implying that the answer to this question should be 'false', there is no explicit comparison with other staff in either direction, so no definite answer can be given.

For ambitious employees, a good relationship with their immediate boss is crucial. A bad relationship can lead to missed opportunities for promotion, and even damage professional reputations. A boss who possesses a thorough understanding of the company's future direction and ultimate goals is the person best equipped to help an employee achieve success.

Communication is key. It is important to understand a boss's personal goals and priorities within the company, as well as their individual management approach. Clarifying instructions, anticipating needs, requesting feedback, and accepting criticism gracefully all help to build a solid working relationship.

On the other hand, artificial flattery or excessive deference are tactics unlikely to impress if promotion is the goal - a good employee should demonstrate the potential to be an equally effective boss.

Q10 Employees must reject criticism to build a good working relationship with their boss.

True

False

Cannot say

False - the passage explicitly states the opposite, that "accepting criticism gracefully [helps to] build a solid working relationship."

Q11 A bad relationship with a boss can lead to missed opportunities, but does not risk an employee's reputation.

True

False

Cannot say

False – the passage states, "A bad relationship [with an employer] can...damage professional reputations." The statement is therefore incorrect.

Q12 Flattering the boss can be an effective approach for an employee seeking promotion.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say - the passage states "artificial flattery [is] unlikely to impress if promotion is the goal", but makes no comment about the effect of sincere flattery. So that tells us about artificial flattery and that it is unlikely to impress. Regarding flattery in general, the passage does not state that flattery can or cannot be an effective approach for seeking promotion, so we cannot say if this is true or false.

A good salesperson should always learn something about the company, and even the individuals, behind the product he or she is selling. Confidence in a product depends in part on confidence in the integrity, competence, and commitment of those who manufacture and distribute that product. Salespeople should therefore familiarise themselves with the principal personalities behind a company, gaining an understanding of its personnel structure and the functions, duties, and experience of key individuals within the business. It is also useful to know something of the history and development of the company, as well as being aware of its present reputation, and to be familiar with the company's particular practices and policies. As well as providing a more thorough knowledge of the product, this information can help to form the basis of an effective sales pitch.

Q13 Knowledge of a company's reputation is not useful for salespeople.

True

False

Cannot say

False – in direct contradiction to the statement above, the passage states, “It is also useful to know something of the history and development of the company, as well as being aware of its present reputation.”

Q14 The personal traits and abilities of a company's personnel can influence the confidence people have in their product.

True

False

Cannot say

True – the passage states, “Confidence in a product depends in part on confidence in the integrity, competence, and commitment [i.e., personal traits and abilities] of those who manufacture and distribute that product.” The statement above is therefore correct.

Q15 It is helpful to have knowledge of the background, policies and reputation of a company when developing an effective sales pitch.

True

False

Cannot say

True – the passage states that “this information”, i.e., the knowledge of company history and policies described earlier in the paragraph and referred to in the question, “can help to form the basis of an effective sales pitch.”

Well-regulated, ethical practices should always be an area of primary concern for any business. In an environment where multinational conglomerates predominate, owners of small businesses may feel anonymous enough to become flexible about their code of ethics. However, the increasingly inescapable attention of the media allows an unprecedented number of individuals to access news and information with greater speed than ever before – unethical practices can become a matter of public knowledge overnight, with devastating consequences. Codes of ethical practice should apply not only to clients, but to employees, who are just as able to draw inappropriate behaviour on the part of their employers to the public's attention. In today's society, businesses of any size must be able to demonstrate transparency and accountability in their dealings with employees, clients, and the public alike.

Q16 Unethical practices are only a problem if the public becomes aware of them.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say – the passage states that “the increasingly inescapable attention of the media” means that “unethical practices can become a matter of public knowledge overnight, with devastating consequences.” It does not however make any explicit reference to the consequences of unethical practices which do not come to the public attention.

Q17 Employees of a company should be subject to ethical codes of practice.

True

False

Cannot say

True - The passage states that, “Codes of ethical practice should apply not only to clients, but to employees”.

Q18 More people than ever before have access to information about companies' ethical practices.

True

False

Cannot say

True - the passage states that the media “allows an unprecedented number of individuals to access news and information” and explicitly confirms that this includes information about companies' ethical practices by adding “unethical practices can become a matter of public knowledge overnight”.

Successful and cost-effective advertising is an important issue to consider when starting up a business. A comprehensive business plan should include details of advertising strategies, a helpful starting point for which is an analysis of the advertising currently being used by competitors in the same line of business.

The rise of the internet has provided a variety of new opportunities for advertising, of which an innovative business should take full advantage. A well-designed website should ideally combine a professional appearance with user-friendly functionality, and be widely promoted to draw as much traffic as possible. This not only increases the visibility of a company, but assures potential clients that the company has a forward-thinking, enterprising outlook, and is willing to embrace as well as exploit the latest technological developments.

Q19 An analysis of competitors' advertisements is helpful in laying out advertising strategies for a new business

True False Cannot say

True - the passage states, "a helpful starting point for [planning advertising strategies] is an analysis of the advertising currently being used by competitors". The statement is therefore correct.

Q20 A professional and user-friendly website will attract a lot of traffic.

True False Cannot say

Cannot say – the passage states that "A well-designed website" should "combine a professional appearance with user-friendly functionality", but adds that the site should be "widely promoted to draw as much traffic as possible." There is no explicit relationship, positive or negative, suggested to exist between the design of the website and the traffic it attracts.

Open-source software should not be confused with freeware, or software that is available to install free of charge. While most open-source software is free, there are many other criteria – namely that the source code must be available to the general public via an open-source license, and that anyone is allowed to modify it. Any modifications made must also be distributed under the same terms as the original software. Proponents of the open-source movement believe this collaborative development methodology results in quicker improvements and software that can be easily adapted to users' needs. Financial savings are another main benefit of open-source software. Because numerous programmers are able to identify and fix problems, advocates believe open-source software is more reliable than proprietary software.

The majority of commercial software protects its source code to prevent competitors from developing a competing product. By only making a compiled, ready-to-run version available, software manufacturers retain full control over their product, which they argue ensures higher levels of quality and security. End-users must purchase a license fee, and typically benefit from a warranty and technical support. Although open-source software does not charge license fees to fund its development, it does not follow that it cannot be commercially viable. Developers charge for installation, training and technical support. Alternatively, licenses for add-ons and additional software may be sold.

Q1 Open-source software is free, and is not released under a license.

True

False

Cannot say

False – the second sentence states that “most” (not all) open-source software is available free. The same sentence states that open-source software is available to the public via “an open-source license”. Any modifications must also be distributed under the same terms as the original software.

Q2 Because it is developed collaboratively, open-source software is of better quality than proprietary software.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say – the passage presents arguments both for and against this. The first paragraph highlights “quicker improvements” and says that open-source software is “more reliable” than proprietary software. However, the second paragraph states

controlling the source code ensures “higher levels of quality”.

Q3 One claimed advantage of open-source software over licenced software is greater flexibility.

True

False

Cannot say

True - the first paragraph states that (open-source software) "can be easily adapted to users' needs."

Q4 Technical support is not available for open-source software.

True

False

Cannot say

False - the second paragraph states, "Developers charge for installation, training and technical support."

Q5 It is prohibited to modify free open-source software and then license it for a fee.

True

False

Cannot say

True - while it is possible for anyone to modify open-source software, the first paragraph states: "Any modifications made must also be distributed under the same terms as the original software."

The Ring of Fire is an area of frequent seismic and volcanic activity that encircles the Pacific basin. Approximately 90% of the world's earthquakes occur in this zone, including the largest ever recorded - Chile's 1960 Valdivia earthquake. There are an estimated 452 volcanoes - 75% of the world's total - located in this 40,000 km belt. On its Eastern side, the Ring of Fire stretches along South and Central America up to Canada and Alaska, and includes California's well-known San Andreas fault zone. To the west of the Pacific, it extends from Russia down to Japan, the Philippines, Indonesia and New Zealand. The Ring of Fire finishes in Antarctica, which is home to Mount Erebus, the world's southern-most active volcano.

The volcanic eruptions and earthquakes that characterise the Ring of Fire can be explained by plate tectonics, a unifying geological theory first expounded in the 1960s. The Earth's surface is comprised of tectonic plates that change size and shift over time. Earthquakes are caused when plates that are pushing against each other suddenly slip. Volcanoes occur only when two adjacent plates converge and one plate slides under the other, a process known as subduction. As it is pushed deeper into the Earth, the subducted plate encounters high temperatures and eventually molten rock rises to the surface and erupts.

Q6 Mexico is located along the eastern side of the Ring of Fire.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say – while it is correct that Mexico is part of the Ring of Fire, this is not a fact that is included in the passage and depends on knowledge gained outside of the passage.

Q7 Subduction occurs whenever two tectonic plates move in opposite directions.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say – the passage tells us that subduction is where two adjacent plates converge and one is pushed beneath the other. The passage does not say that this definitely will or will not happen when two plates move in opposite directions (for example other parts of the moving plate may collide with a separate tectonic plate). Since we are not told explicitly if this is the case we have to respond cannot say.

Q8 There are no volcanoes further south than Mount Erebus.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say - while the passage states that Mount Erebus is “the world’s southern-most active volcano” there may be dormant volcanoes further south in Antarctica.

Q9 Molten rock rises during a volcanic eruption.

True

False

Cannot say

True – the last sentence tells us that “molten rock rises to the surface and erupts” during a volcanic eruption.

Q10 The world’s most severe earthquakes and volcanic eruptions occur within the Ring of Fire.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say – while the majority of the world’s earthquakes (90%) and volcanoes (75%) occur within the Ring of Fire, and the world’s largest earthquake (Valdivia) occurred within the Ring of Fire, the passage does not state whether the most severe volcanic eruption happened within this zone, or if they will in the future.

Humans have hunted whales for thousands of years, but in the 18th and 19th centuries whaling became an important industry, due to high demand for whale oil. Even after industrialisation, whaling carried on at unsustainable levels and by the mid-twentieth century whale populations had severely declined. The International Whaling Commission (IWC) was established in 1946 to ensure the conservation of whales and to oversee the development of the whaling industry.

In 1986, the IWC imposed a moratorium on commercial whaling to prevent the extinction of endangered whale species. As a result of the ban, whale stocks have recovered and thus some countries advocate the lifting of restrictions. Using loopholes in the moratorium, Japan, Norway and Iceland currently engage in commercial whaling and vigorously defend the practice as part of their cultural heritage. Anti-whaling activists, however, oppose whaling on ethical grounds. They argue that whales remain vulnerable, and that whales' intelligence gives them intrinsic value.

So intense is the whaling debate that the IWC, which requires a 75% vote to overturn the ban, has reached a stalemate. Even within nations backing a return to commercial whaling the issue is divisive. Not only has demand for whale meat declined, whale-watching has become a popular tourist activity, and an end to restrictions could threaten this profitable industry.

Q11 The International Whaling Commission is a regulatory organisation covering both commercial and environmental interests.

True

False

Cannot say

True - the last sentence of the first paragraph states that the IWC was established "to ensure the conservation of whales and to oversee the development of the whaling industry".

Q12 Industrialisation led to reduced demand for whale oil in the twentieth century.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say – this is implied by the phrase "even after industrialisation" but it is important not to let knowledge gained outside of the passage influence your answer. Nowhere does the passage specifically state that industrialisation reduced the demand for whale oil.

Q13 Japan, Norway and Iceland are the only nations in favour of repealing the 1986 whaling moratorium.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say – while the second paragraph states that these nations are currently engaging in whaling, it does not follow that these are the only nations seeking to repeal the ban.

Q14 The whaling ban has resulted in the recovery of all whaling populations.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say – the second paragraph states “as a result of the ban whale stocks have recovered”, but later in the paragraph it states that anti-whaling activists argue that “whales remain vulnerable”.

Q15 It is arguable that whales are more valuable alive than dead, even in nations where whale meat is eaten.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say - Although the last paragraph cites whale-watching as a lucrative industry, the passage does not specifically state whether it is more or less profitable than Whaling.

The Great Barrier Reef extends over 2,000 km, and has been built by tiny animals called coral polyps. Some of the Great Barrier Reef's coral "skeleton" deposits date over half a million years old. The individual coral polyps that comprise the reef grow very slowly, increasing by only 1-3 cm a year.

A cultural and ecological icon, the Great Barrier Reef has been visited by Aboriginal Australians for over 40,000 years and today attracts over two million tourists annually. Unfortunately the fragility of the reef's ecosystem is now threatened by the effects of climate change on the temperature of the water in which it sits: the Coral Sea. Over the last decade sea pollution caused by farm runoff has caused coral bleaching, thus diminishing the appearance of one of the world's greatest sights. The ecological damage also threatens those endemic creatures that rely upon the Great Barrier Reef for food and/or shelter. Many of these are themselves endangered species.

The Great Barrier Reef is in fact a system of over 3,000 reefs and islands. The northern section of the reef contains deltaic and ribbon reefs. The most common occurrences of fringing and lagoonal reefs are in the southern sections of the reef. In the middle section you are most likely to find crescentic reefs, although this type is also found in the northern reef.

Q16 There has been an aesthetic decline in the Great Barrier Reef.

True

False

Cannot say

True - the passage states that the appearance of the Reef has diminished from farm runoff.

Q17 The Great Barrier Reef is in the Coral Sea.

True

False

Cannot say

True - this is apparent from the fact that the passage refers to the "water in which it sits: the Coral Sea".

Q18 Ocean warming is hazardous to coral systems.

True

False

Cannot say Cannot say

- whilst the passage describes damage to the Great Barrier

Reef

caused by temperature changes in the Coral Sea, it does not specify that the waters have become warmer i.e. the damage could have been caused by colder sea water. It is important not to rely on outside knowledge when answering questions about a passage.

Q19 The northern section of the Great Barrier Reef only contains three types of reef.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say – the passage says “The northern section of the reef contains deltaic and ribbon reefs” and “In the middle section you are most likely to find crescentic reefs, although this type is also found in the northern reef”. However it does not tell us if these are the only three types or whether there are other types. So we cannot tell how many types of reef the northern section contains.

Q20 Farm runoff can affect sea water temperature.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say – the passage refers to the sea pollution caused by farm runoff, but does not specify that farm runoff has caused the changed temperature of the Coral Sea.

VERBAL REASONING TEST 4

Instructions

This verbal reasoning test comprises 20 questions, and you will have 17 minutes in which to correctly answer as many as you can.

You will be presented with a passage to read, and four statements about that passage. You must select two true statements of the following answers.

You will have to work quickly and accurately to perform well in this test. If you don't know the answer to a question, leave it and come back to it if you have time.

Try to find a time and place where you will not be interrupted during the test. When you are ready, begin the test.

Over ten percent of the adult population suffers from a phobia-type of anxiety disorder characterised by an intense, irrational fear of an object or situation that interferes with the sufferers' daily life. Although experts do not fully understand the cause of phobias, research indicates that heredity and triggering events are likely factors. There are a variety of treatments available for phobia sufferers. Cognitive behaviour therapy (CBT) is a very popular, and effective method of desensitization. This approach treats the phobia's anxiety symptoms as conditioned behaviours that can, through systematic exposure to the feared stimulus, be re-learned. CBT increases exposure to the feared object or situation very gradually, thereby modifying the patient's response and developing tolerance. A less common treatment is flooding, which uses total immersion to the feared object in order to desensitize the patient. Medication is also used to treat phobias. Monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs) are antidepressants that can be prescribed to reduce panic and improve confidence, though they can have negative side effects including weight gain. While phobias are among the most easily treated mental health problems, less than 25% of sufferers seek treatment. If untreated, phobias can exacerbate and develop into other problems, such as depression and low self-esteem

Q1 Which two of these statements must be true?

- Despite the high success rates of phobia treatments, most sufferers remain untreated
- The majority of phobia sufferers run the risk of developing associated problems
- Weight gain is the main side effect caused by taking MAO inhibitors
- Flooding is a less effective form of therapy than CBT.

Q2 Which two of these statements must be true?

- Phobias do not affect 90% of the adult population
- Flooding involves a high degree of exposure to the source of dread
- In CBT, patients are exposed to the feared object or situation in small increments
- CBT is more effective at treating phobias than antidepressants

Q3 Which two of these statements must be true?

CBT views a phobia's symptoms as the result of condition

CBT is the most commonly used form of treatment for phobias

A phobia is an extreme and unrealistic fear

Research has proven that phobias are inherited

Q4 Which two of these statements must be true?

Both CBT and flooding involve desensitizing the phobia sufferer

Phobias are among the most common form of mental health problem

In flooding, a person is gradually exposed to their source of fear

A phobia can have a negative impact on sufferer's daily life

The most prevalent neurological condition in the developed world, migraine is characterised by severe, recurrent headaches, with additional symptoms including nausea and sensitivity to light and sound. The frequency and duration of migraine attacks are variable: attacks may occur a few times a year or several times per month, while pain may last between four hours and three days. Approximately one third of sufferers experience an aura - a perceptual disturbance occurring before the migraine's onset. There are numerous theories on the cause of migraines. The vascular theory posits that migraines are caused by problems with blood vessels in the brain. A more widely held view is that migraines result from low levels of the neurotransmitter serotonin in the brain. Prophylactic drug treatment, which prevents the onset of migraines, has declined in recent years, because of side effects and also improvements in medications treating an actual attack. Whereas older varieties of pain medication are potentially addictive, newer drugs called triptans work by reducing pain information travelling to the brain. Treatment plans typically include avoidance of known migraine triggers, such as diet, alcohol, and stress, as overuse of medication can lead to chronic "rebound headaches." Not only do migraines have a debilitating effect on sufferers, they are also bad for the economy, with an estimated 25 million days lost from work every year in the UK alone.

Q5 Which two of these statements must be true?

One third of migraines are preceded by a heightened sensitivity to light.

It is not possible to work when suffering from a migraine.

There are numerous theories on the cause of migraines.

Prophylactic drug has side effect

Q6 Which two of these statements must be true?

Serotonin deficiency is the most commonly held theory.

Migraine triggers include only alcohol and stress.

Old varieties of pain reducing drugs may be difficult to stop. Headaches can reoccur and even increase from overuse of medication.

Q7 Which two of these statements must be true?

Migraine is the most prevalent neurological condition in the developed world. Sufferers from migraine become more sensitive to light and sound.

Triptans are a new form of prophylactic drug which are less addictive

The frequencies of migraine attacks are not constant

Q8 Which two of these statements must be true?

The vascular theory has been discredited

Problems with blood vessels and serotonin deficiencies may cause migraines In the extensive view migraines also affect the economy

Migraines can be cured easily

Is free internet access as much a universal human right as access to clean water and healthcare? Many leading experts believe that the 80% of the world's population that is not connected to the web should have access to information through free low- bandwidth connection via mobile phones. The one fifth of the world connected to the internet, however, faces a very different problem: an insatiable appetite for bandwidth that outstrips availability. Bandwidth refers to the capacity to transfer data through a channel. Emails, for example, require less bandwidth than video. Information traffic jams result when too many users try to move information at the same time, exceeding the channel's capacity. The popularity of mobile web devices means demand for wireless channels is growing rapidly, but bandwidth supply is limited - resulting in high charges for use. With bandwidth controlled by a handful of private suppliers, bandwidth is the subject of government debate in many countries, including the United States. Bandwidth suppliers are in favour of introducing tiered pricing structures, whereby customers paying higher rates would receive faster service. Critics believe that a tiered system violates the principle of net neutrality - whereby all data is treated as equal and would allow suppliers to profiteer from controlling a scarce resource. Suppliers argue that they are funding huge infrastructure updates - such as switching from copper wires to expensive fiberoptics - in order to improve services.

Q9 Which two of these statements must be true?

The main argument in the passage is that internet users are not leaving.

Access to information via the internet is a basic human right.

Suppliers back their demand for higher charges claiming higher infrastructural updates

In the new proposal customers paying higher will receive faster service

Q10 Which two of these statements must be true?

Tired system violates the principle of neutrality

Demand for wireless channels is limited, but bandwidth supply is growing

Mobile net device increase has contributed towards the pressure on bandwidth availability

Only a few suppliers control bandwidth supply

Q11 Which two of these statements must be true?

The bandwidth for emails and video are the same

Switching from copper wires to expensive fiber optics will increase bandwidth

service Capacity to transfer data through a channel is bandwidth

The tiered pricing structures would charge mobile web devices users more

Q12 Which two of these statements must be true?

Proponents of net neutrality are against the prioritising of certain web traffic. Even those with internet connection are still unsatisfied for new

bandwidth Free internet access is as much a universal human right

Traffic jams results only when information are moved at the same time

The Dead Sea Scrolls are probably the most significant archaeological discovery of the twentieth century. More than 800 ancient documents, written on papyrus and parchment, were found in 1947 in desert caves at Qumran, near the Dead Sea. The texts mainly date from between the last century BCE and the first century CE and are comprised of three types of document: copies of books from the Hebrew Bible; apocryphal manuscripts; and documents pertaining to the beliefs and practices of a sectarian community. The former category is arguably of the greatest academic significance, as documents such as a complete copy of the Book of Isaiah enabled historians to analyse the accuracy of Bible translations. However, the secrecy of the scholars appointed by the Israeli Antiquities Authority, and their slow rate of publication, were the subject of international controversy. In 1991, the Huntington Library made photographic images of the full set of scrolls finally available to all researchers. While the scrolls' importance is indisputable, there is no consensus over the texts' origins. The traditional view is that the scrolls belonged to an ascetic Jewish sect, widely believed to be the Essenes. The Essenes' rules and doctrines are even seen by some scholars as a precursor to Christianity. A competing theory holds that the documents are sacred texts belonging to various Jewish communities, hidden in the caves for safekeeping around 68CE, during the unsuccessful Jewish Revolt against the Romans in Jerusalem.

Q13 Which two of these statements must be true?

- Dead Sea Scrolls is that they belonged to an early Christian sect called the Essenes
- Dead Sea scrolls are the most significant archaeological discovery in the 20th century
- There are photographic images of the full set of scrolls
- There are competing theories on the ownership of the ownership of the Dead Sea scroll

Q14 Which two of these statements must be true?

- Both the origins and the process of the scrolls have been disputed
- The Dead sea scroll consist more than 3 types of documents
- The book of Isaiah aided the analyses of the bible translations accuracy
- The Hebrew bible were among the artefacts formed

Q15 Which two of these statements must be true?

- The slow rate of publication by scholars caused controversy
- The Essenes inhabited the desert caves at Qumran near the Dead Sea.

The Dead Sea scroll were found in 1947

A Sectarian community were in charge of keeping the scrolls

Q16 Which two of these statements must be true?

The Dead Sea Scrolls include the oldest known copy of the Book of

Isaiah. The Dead Sea Scrolls were written on parchment

The text on scrolls had varying dates

This passage summarises the difference between two main theories on the scroll

Have you ever set your mouth on fire by biting into a chilli pepper? The sensation is caused by capsaicin, a chemical compound that stimulates the mouth's pain receptors, which in turn tell the brain you've eaten something hot. The body reacts by perspiring and releasing endorphins, the "feel-good" effect of which perhaps accounts for spicy food's appeal. The first scale for measuring a chilli's heat was developed in 1912 by the chemist Wilbur Scoville. Scoville Heat Units refer to the number of times a chilli must be diluted before it is undetectable to tasters. The world's hottest chilli, the Indian naga jolokia, measures 970,000 SHU. Today a chilli's heat can be measured more accurately using high-pressure liquid chromatography, a technique that calculates the concentration of capsaicin in a solution. Humans have consumed chillies for over 8,000 years; they were first cultivated 6,000 years ago in South and Central America. In the late 15th century Christopher Columbus introduced chillies to the rest of the world via Spain, where they were called peppers because they were spicy like peppercorns. In addition to their culinary uses, chillies have long been prized for their medicinal properties. Scientific studies show that capsaicin may lower blood pressure and aid weight loss. Capsaicin has traditionally been used in tropical analgesics, however new research indicates that the compound may actually be carcinogenic.

Q17 Which two of these statements must be true?

Chilli peppers are only indigenous to South and Central America.

The scale developed by Wilbur Scoville is inherently subjective.

Capsaicin is actually carcinogenic

Columbus introduced chillies to the world via Spain

Q18 Which two of these statements must be true?

Some people eat chilli peppers for their psychological effect as well as their spicy taste.

Naga jolokia is the world's hottest chilli.

The most important use of chilli pepper is to loss weight

Endorphin is an hormone that makes you feel good

Q19 Which two of these statements must be true?

Wilbur's scale was not the most efficient for measuring chilli's heat.

Chillies have medical values.

Capsaicin sends a message to the brain that you have eaten something hot

High pressure liquid chromatography was developed in the 20th century

Q20 Which two of these statements must be true?

Pepper got their name from peppercorns

Chilli pepper was first 6,000 years ago

High pressure liquid chromatography is more efficient than Scoville's scale

Sensation from eating hot chilli pepper is gotten from pain receptors

Verbal Reasoning Test Answer

Solutions

Each of the statements are either True or False or Cannot say. However, we are interested only in the true statements.

True: The statement follows logically from the information contained in the passage.

False: The statement is logically false from the information contained in the passage. Cannot Say: It is not possible to determine whether the statement is true or false without further information.

Over ten percent of the adult population suffers from a phobia-type of anxiety disorder characterised by an intense, irrational fear of an object or situation that interferes with the sufferers' daily life. Although experts do not fully understand the cause of phobias, research indicates that heredity and triggering events are likely factors. There are a variety of treatments available for phobia sufferers. Cognitive behaviour therapy (CBT) is a very popular, and effective method of desensitization. This approach treats the phobia's anxiety symptoms as conditioned behaviours that can, through systematic exposure to the feared stimulus, be re-learned. CBT increases exposure to the feared object or situation very gradually, thereby modifying the patient's response and developing tolerance. A less common treatment is flooding, which uses total immersion to the feared object in order to desensitize the patient. Medication is also used to treat phobias. Monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs) are antidepressants that can be prescribed to reduce panic and improve confidence, though they can have negative side effects including weight gain. While phobias are among the most easily treated mental health problems, less than 25% of sufferers seek treatment. If untreated, phobias can exacerbate and develop into other problems, such as depression and low self-esteem

Q1 Which two of these statements must be true?

(True) Despite the high success rates of phobia treatments, most sufferers remain untreated

While phobias are among the most easily treated mental health problems, less than 25% of Sufferers seek treatment (from the last 4 lines in the passage)

(True) The majority of phobia sufferers run the risk of developing associated problems

Since majority of phobia sufferers do not go for treatment, it therefore follows that majority of them run the risk of developing associated problems (from the last 3 lines in the passage)

(Cannot Say) Weight gain is the main side effect caused by taking MAO inhibitors

The passage stated that weight gain is one of the side effects of taking MAO inhibitors, it never stated specifically that this is the main side effect

(Cannot say) Flooding is a less effective form of therapy than CBT.

The effectiveness of both were never compared, it was there level of popularity that was compared

Q2 Which two of these statements must be true?

(Cannot say) Phobias do not affect 90% of the adult population

No such value was given in the entire passage

(False) Flooding involves a high degree of exposure to the source of dread

(True) In CBT, patients are exposed to the feared object or situation in small increments

Very true as seen in line 8 and 9 of the passage

(True) CBT is more effective at treating phobias than antidepressants

From the information given in the passage; CBT help modify the patient's response and develop tolerance while antidepressants only seem to have psychological effect and negative side effects. So one can conclude so

Q3 Which two of these statements must be true?

(True) CBT views a phobia's symptoms as the result of condition

Very true as seen in line 7 of the passage

(Cannot say) CBT is the most commonly used form of treatment for phobias

The passage says "very popular" and not "most popular" as seen in line 6

(True) A phobia is an extreme and unrealistic fear

Very true as seen in line 1 and 2

(False) Research has proven that phobias are inherited

From the passage, heredity was stated as a likely cause and not a proven cause as seen in line 4

Q4 Which two of these statements must be true?

(True) Both CBT and flooding involve desensitizing the phobia sufferer

Very true, as seen in line 6 and 11

(Cannot say) Phobias are among the most common form of mental health problem

This statement was never discussed in the passage, rather what discussed, was how common it was to treat such mental condition; as seen in the last 4 lines

(False) In flooding, a person is gradually exposed to their source of fear

Flooding involves total immersion as seen line 11 of the passage

(True) A phobia can have a negative impact on sufferer's daily life

Line 3 confirms this: Phobia interferes with the sufferers' daily life

The most prevalent neurological condition in the developed world, migraine is characterised by severe, recurrent headaches, with additional symptoms including nausea and sensitivity to light and sound. The frequency and duration of migraine attacks are variable: attacks may occur a few times a year or several times per month, while pain may last between four hours and three days. Approximately one third of sufferers experience an aura - a perceptual disturbance occurring before the migraine's onset. There are numerous theories on the cause of migraines. The vascular theory posits that migraines are caused by problems with blood vessels in the brain. A more widely held view is that migraines result from low levels of the neurotransmitter serotonin in the brain. Prophylactic drug treatment, which prevents the onset of migraines, has declined in recent years, because of side effects and also improvements in medications treating an actual attack. Whereas older varieties of pain medication are potentially addictive, newer drugs called triptans work by reducing pain information travelling to the brain. Treatment plans typically include avoidance of known migraine triggers, such as diet, alcohol, and stress, as overuse of medication can lead to chronic "rebound headaches." Not only do migraines have a debilitating effect on sufferers, they are also bad for the economy, with an estimated 25 million days lost from work every year in the UK alone.

Q5 Which two of these statements must be true?

(Cannot Say) One third of migraines are preceded by a heightened sensitivity to light.

The passage stated in line 3 that migraines are characterised with symptoms like sensitivity to light and sound, nothing was stated about one third of migraines being preceded by a heightened sensitivity to light.

(False) It is not possible to work when suffering from a migraine.

While the last sentence states that 25 million work days are lost due to migraines, it does not say that it is impossible to work

(True) There are numerous theories on the cause of migraines.

Very true as seen in line 7

(True) Prophylactic drug has side effect

This was stated in line 12

Q6 Which two of these statements must be true?

(Cannot Say) Serotonin deficiency is the most commonly held theory of migraine causes.

It is a widely held vascular theory, but the passage does not compare it to every theory. So we cannot say if it is the most held theory.

(False) Migraine triggers include only alcohol and stress.

It include not only alcohol and stress but also diet and over use of medications; as seen in the last 4 and 5 lines

(True) Old varieties of pain reducing drugs may be difficult to stop.

Very true; as seen in line 13

(True) Headaches can reoccur and even increase from overuse of medication.

Very true; as seen in the last 3 lines

Q7 Which two of these statements must be true?

(Cannot say) Migraine is the most prevalent disease in the developed world.

The passage stated that migraine is the most prevalent neurological condition in the world, nothing was said about it being the most prevalent disease

(True) Sufferers from migraine become more sensitive to light and sound.

Very true; as seen in line 3

(False) Triptans are a new form of prophylactic drug which are less addictive.

Triptans are not prophylactic drugs; they reduce pain rather than prevent headaches

(True) The frequencies of migraine attacks are not constant

The passage states "The frequency and duration of migraine attacks are variable

Q8 Which two of these statements must be true?

(Cannot say) The vascular theory has been discredited

Though the passage tells us that it is not the most widely held view, it does not necessarily follow that it has been discredited.

(True) Problems with blood vessels and serotonin deficiencies may cause migraines

Very true as seen in line 8-10 of the passage

(True) In the extensive view, migraines also affect the economy

Very true as seen in the last two lines of the passage

(Cannot say) Migraines can be cured easily

This fact was never presented in the passage, so we cannot say it is true

Is free internet access as much a universal human right as access to clean water and healthcare? Many leading experts believe that the 80% of the world's population that is not connected to the web should have access to information through free low-bandwidth connection via mobile phones. The one fifth of the world connected to the internet, however, faces a very different problem: an insatiable appetite for bandwidth that outstrips availability. Bandwidth refers to the capacity to transfer data through a channel. Emails, for example, require less bandwidth than video. Information traffic jams result when too many users try to move information at the same time, exceeding the channel's capacity. The popularity of mobile web devices means demand for wireless channels is growing rapidly, but bandwidth supply is limited - resulting in high charges for use. With bandwidth controlled by a handful of private suppliers, bandwidth is the subject of government debate in many countries, including the United States. Bandwidth suppliers are in favour of introducing tiered pricing structures, whereby customers paying higher rates would receive faster service. Critics believe that a tiered system violates the principle of net neutrality - whereby all data is treated as equal

- and would allow suppliers to profiteer from controlling a scarce resource. Suppliers argue that they are funding huge infrastructure updates - such as switching from copper wires to expensive fiberoptics - in order to improve services.

Q9 Which two of these statements must be true?

(False) The main argument in the passage is that internet users are not leaving enough bandwidth for 80% of the world's population.

The passage raises two separate problems- lack of internet connection for 80% of the World and bandwidth shortage for internet users- but there is no causal relationship between the two problems

(Cannot say) Access to information via the internet is a basic human right.

The first two sentences raises this question, but do not provide an objective answer

(True) Suppliers back their demand for higher charges claiming higher infrastructural updates

Very true; as seen in the last two lines of the passage

(True) In the new proposal customers paying higher will receive faster service

Very true; as seen in the last five lines

Q10

Which two of these statements must be true?

(Cannot say) Tired system violates the principle of neutrality

The passage never stated this as a fact, it was actually critics that believe that tired system violates this principle and we cannot take the belief of critics as a fact; this is seen in the last five lines of the passage.

(False) Demand for wireless channels is limited, but bandwidth supply is growing

This is false because the passage says otherwise; line 10 and 11 of the passage states that demand for wireless is growing but bandwidth is limited

(True) Mobile net device increase has contributed towards the pressure on bandwidth availability

Very true - as stated in the 7th sentence

(True) Only a few suppliers control bandwidth supply

Very true - as seen in the 12th sentence

Q11 Which two of these statements must be true?

(False) The bandwidth for emails and video are the same

The passage states that mails require less bandwidth than video – line 8 of the passage

(True) Switching from copper wires to expensive fiberoptics will increase bandwidth service

Very true – as seen in the last line of the passage

(True) Capacity to transfer data through a channel is bandwidth

Very true – as seen in the 6th line of the passage

(Cannot say) The tiered pricing structures would charge mobile web devices users more

While the 7th sentence states that mobile web devices are subject to high charges, the tiered pricing structures described in the 9th sentence does not mention costs for mobile web devices, merely a cost associated with a faster service

Q12 Which two of these statements must be true?

(True) Proponents of net neutrality are against the prioritising of certain web traffic.

Very True – as explained in line 9 and 10 of the passage

(True) Even those with internet connection are still unsatisfied for new bandwidth

Very True - as seen in line 6 of the passage

(Cannot say) Free internet access is as much a universal human right

The passage never stated this as a fact, it asked this as an question - first line of the passage

(Cannot say) Traffic jams results only when information are moved at the same time

The passage never said that traffic jam ONLY results when information are moved at the same time. See line 8 and 9 of the passage

The Dead Sea Scrolls are probably the most significant archaeological discovery of the twentieth century. More than 800 ancient documents, written on papyrus and parchment, were found in 1947 in desert caves at Qumran, near the Dead Sea. The texts mainly date from between the last century BCE and the first century CE and are comprised of three types of document: copies of books from the Hebrew Bible; apocryphal manuscripts; and documents pertaining to the beliefs and practices of a sectarian community. The former category is arguably of the greatest academic significance, as documents such as a complete copy of the Book of Isaiah enabled historians to analyse the accuracy of Bible translations. However, the secrecy of the scholars appointed by the Israeli Antiquities Authority, and their slow rate of publication, were the subject of international controversy. In 1991, the Huntington Library made photographic images of the full set of scrolls finally available to all researchers. While the scrolls' importance is indisputable, there is no consensus over the texts' origins. The traditional view is that the scrolls belonged to an ascetic Jewish sect, widely believed to be the Essenes. The Essenes' rules and doctrines are even seen by some scholars as a precursor to Christianity. A competing theory holds that the documents are sacred texts belonging to various Jewish communities, hidden in the caves for safekeeping around 68CE, during the unsuccessful Jewish Revolt against the Romans in Jerusalem.

Q13 Which two of these statements must be true?

(False) Dead Sea Scrolls is that they belonged to an early Christian sect called the Essenes

The Essence are described as an "ascetic jewish sect". They may have been a Precursor to Christianity but they themselves were an ascetic Jewish sect

(Cannot say) Dead Sea scrolls are the most significant archaeological discovery in the 20th century

The passage never said this as a fact, rather it gave it as a statement of probability, as seen in line 1

(True) There are photographic images of the full set of scrolls

This is true as seen in line 12

(True) There are competing theories on the ownership of the ownership of the Dead Sea scroll

This is true as seen in the last 3 and 5 lines

Q14 Which two of these statements must be true?

(True) Both the origins and the process of the scrolls have been disputed

The fifth and sixth sentences describe controversy over the scholars' work, while the 8th 9th and 10th sentences describe debate over the scrolls' origins.

(False) The Dead sea scroll consist more than 3 types of documents

This is false because line 5 of the passage confirms that only 3 types of documents are found in the dead sea scroll

(True) The book of Isaiah aided the analyses of the bible translations accuracy

This is very true as seen in line 9

(False) The Hebrew bible were among the artefacts formed

This statement is false, because the passage informs us that it was copies of the Hebrew bible and not the Hebrew Bible as a whole that was discovered

Q15

Which two of these statements must be true?

(True) The slow rate of publication by scholars caused controversy

Line 11 of the passage asserts this

(Cannot say) The Essenes inhabited the desert caves at Qumran near the Dead Sea.

While one theory states that the scrolls are thought to be Essence in origin, it does Not necessarily follow that the Essence lived in the caves.

(True) The Dead Sea scroll were found in 1947

This is true as seen in line 3

(Cannot say) A Sectarian community were in charge of keeping the scrolls

The passage never said this. Line 7 only said that part of the discovered document pertained to the beliefs and practices of the sectarian community

Q16

Which two of these statements must be true?

(Cannot say) The Dead Sea Scrolls include the oldest known copy of the Book of Isaiah.

While the Dead Sea Scrolls do include a copy of the Book of Isaiah and the 4th sentence suggests that the Bible books are the oldest known copies, the above statement was not expressly stated

(False) The Dead Sea Scrolls were written on parchment

This is false because it presents an incomplete information. Line 2 and 3 of the Passage states that they were written on both papyrus and parchment

(True) The text on scrolls had varying dates

This is true as seen in line 4 of the passage

(True) This passage summarises the difference between two main theories on the scroll

The passage summarises whether the scrolls are the detailed accounts of one particular sect and it provides historical information about the wider Jewish people. This is seen in the final 3 sentences.

Have you ever set your mouth on fire by biting into a chilli pepper? The sensation is caused by capsaicin, a chemical compound that stimulates the mouth's pain receptors, which in turn tell the brain you've eaten something hot. The body reacts by perspiring and releasing endorphins, the "feel-good" effect of which perhaps accounts for spicy food's appeal. The first scale for measuring a chilli's heat was developed in 1912 by the chemist Wilbur Scoville. Scoville Heat Units refer to the number of times a chilli must be diluted before it is undetectable to tasters. The world's hottest chilli, the Indian naga jolokia, measures 970,000 SHU. Today a chilli's heat can be measured more accurately using high-pressure liquid chromatography, a technique that calculates the concentration of capsaicin in a solution. Humans have consumed chillies for over 8,000 years; they were first cultivated 6,000 years ago in South and Central America. In the late 15th century Christopher Columbus introduced chillies to the rest of the world via Spain, where they were called peppers because they were spicy like peppercorns. In addition to their culinary uses, chillies have long been prized for their medicinal properties. Scientific studies show that capsaicin may lower blood pressure and aid weight loss. Capsaicin has traditionally been used in tropical analgesics, however new research indicates that the compound may actually be carcinogenic.

Q17 Which two of these statements must be true?

(Cannot say) Chilli peppers are only indigenous to South and Central America.

The passage does not explicitly state this fact. While they were first cultivated in South and Central America, wild chillies could have been found in other countries.

(True) The scale developed by Wilbur Scoville is inherently subjective.

This is true because it involves human tasters, and is therefore subjective.

(Cannot say) Capsaicin is actually carcinogenic.

This is not a fact because the passage says the compound may be carcinogenic.

(True) Columbus introduced chillies to the world via Spain.

Very true - as seen in line 13.

Q18 Which two of these statements must be true?

(True) Some people eat chilli peppers for their psychological effect as well as their spicy taste.

This is true because sentence three suggests that release of endorphins contribute

to the popularity of spicy food.

(True) Naga jolokia is the world's hottest chilli.

This is true as seen in line 8 of the passage

(Cannot say) The most important use of chilli pepper is to lose weight

There is nowhere in the passage where it is stated as a fact that the MOST important use of chilli pepper is to lose weight

(Cannot say) Endorphin is a hormone that makes you feel good

Though the passage confirms that the release of Endorphin makes you feel good, it never called Endorphin a HORMONE

Q19 Which two of these statements must be true?

(True) Wilbur's scale was not the most efficient for measuring chilli's heat.

Very true because the passage confirms in line 8 and 9 that there is a more accurate measuring standard

(True) Chillies have medical values.

Very true as seen at the last 4 lines of the passage

(False) Capsaicin sends a message to the brain that you have eaten something hot

From the passage, it is pain receptors that send message to the brain after capsaicin is eaten

(True) High pressure liquid chromatography was developed in the 20th century

Very true as seen in line 8

Q20 Which two of these statements must be true?

(True) Pepper got their name from peppercorns

Very true – as seen in the last five lines of the passage

(False) Chilli pepper was first consumed 6,000 years ago

The passage stated that humans have consumed chilli for over 8000 years ago

(True) High pressure liquid chromatography is more efficient than Scoville's scale

True – as seen in line 8 and 9

(False) Sensation from eating hot chilli pepper is gotten from pain

receptors

The sensation is gotten from capsaicin, a chemical compound that stimulates the mouth's pain receptors

VERBAL REASONING TEST 5

Instructions

This verbal reasoning test comprises 20 questions and you will have 20 minutes in which to correctly answer as many as you can.

In each question you will be presented with a short comprehension passage followed by three or four questions. You will need to determine which answer is correct based on the information provided in the passages only.

You will have to work quickly and accurately to perform well in this test. If you don't know the answer to a question, leave it and come back to it if you have time.

You can submit your test at any time. If the time limit is up before you click submit the test will automatically be submitted with the answers you have selected. It is recommended to keep working until the time limit is up.

Try to find a time and place where you will not be interrupted during the test. **The test will start on the next page.**

Oil sands are most commonly found in Venezuela's Orinoco Basin and Alberta, Canada. Modern technology has made the extraction of crude bitumen, or unconventional oil, from these oil sands much easier. The crude oil that is extracted from traditional oil wells is a free-flowing mixture of hydrocarbons, whereas oil sands yield a highly viscous form of petroleum. Increasing world demand for oil and higher petrol prices have made the economic viability of extracting oil sands approach that of conventional oil.

Oil sands have been described as one of the dirtiest sources of fuel. Compared to conventional oil, four times the amount of greenhouse gases are generated from the extraction of bitumen from oil sands. Additionally there is an impact on the local environment. Tailing ponds of toxic waste are created whenever the tar sands are washed with water.

Proponents of oil sands development point to the land that has already been reclaimed following oil sands development. Also, that there will be considerably less surface impact once technology innovations have allowed oil sand reserves to be drilled rather than mined.

Q1 Oil sands offer a clean solution for meeting future energy needs.

True False Cannot say

False - the passage emphasises the environmental pollution caused by oil sands development.

Q2 Oil sands are only found in Alberta and the Orinoco Basin.

True False Cannot say

False - they are "most commonly" found in these two areas so must occur elsewhere too.

Q3 Bitumen is a highly viscous form of petroleum that needs to be heated to flow.

True False Cannot say

Cannot Say - the passage states only that bitumen is a highly viscous form of petroleum and nothing about the effects of heating.

Q4 It is almost as profitable to extract conventional oil as oil sands.

True

False

Cannot say

True - this can be inferred from the last sentence of the first paragraph: "Increasing world demand for oil and higher petrol prices have made the economic viability of extracting oil sands approach that of conventional oil". So if the economic viability of oil sands is currently approaching the economic viability of conventional oil, it can be said that it is almost as profitable to extract oil sands.

Q5 Extracting bitumen from conventional oil generates four times the level of greenhouse gases than extracting from oil sands.

True

False

Cannot say

False – the passage states that it is bitumen extraction from oil sands which produces four times the amount of greenhouse gases emitted by extraction of conventional oil (i.e. the other way round).

Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS) is the widespread name for a disorder that is also called Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME), but many sufferers object to the name CFS on grounds that it does not reflect the severity of the illness. While profound fatigue is one symptom of this debilitating condition, there are many others, including muscle pain, headaches, and cognitive difficulties.

Its nomenclature is not the only controversial aspect of CFS. Although an estimated 17 million people worldwide have CFS, its cause is unknown and a diagnostic test does not exist. Doctors must first rule out other conditions that share CFS's symptoms. As there is no cure for CFS, treatment tends to focus on alleviating symptoms, which can range from mild to severe. Despite the World Health Organisation classifying CFS as a neurological disease, there is much disagreement within the medical community. Some scientists believe that CFS originates from a virus, others argue that it stems from genetic predisposition, while still others believe that it is a psychiatric condition.

Because of continuing scepticism about CFS, patients welcomed a 2009 study that linked CFS and a XMRV retrovirus. What at first appeared to be a major scientific breakthrough, however, was disproven by further research – and XMRV is now thought to be a lab contaminant.

Q6 There is a lack of consensus within the medical community about CFS's symptoms.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say – the passage details many aspects of the illness that are controversial, but does not state whether or not the symptoms are debated.

Q7 Many patients believe the name Myalgic Encephalomyelitis trivialises the condition.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot Say – the first sentence states “that many sufferers object to the name CFS on grounds that it does not reflect the severity of the illness.” However we are not told if many other patients believe Myalgic Encephalomyelitis trivialises the condition.

Q8 A 2009 study linking CFS with a retrovirus has now been discredited.

True

False

Cannot say

True - the final sentence states that the link "was disproven by further research."

Q9 The symptoms of Chronic Fatigue Syndrome are also attributable to other illnesses.

True

False

Cannot say

True -the second paragraph states that "Doctors must first rule out other conditions that share CFS's symptoms."

Q10 CFS is a severely debilitating condition for 17 million people worldwide.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot Say – the passage tells us that an "estimated" 17 million people have CFS and the second paragraph states that symptoms can "range from mild to severe." However we are not told the exact numbers of those who have a severely debilitating form of CFS. So we cannot say for sure.

There is no unifying theory to explain the experience of dreaming. Dreaming involves an altered state of consciousness that occurs during periods of REM (rapid eye movement) sleep. One of the most unusual features of this state is that most of the body's muscles are paralysed.

The most common sleeping pattern is for a period of REM sleep to be preceded by four stages of non-REM sleep, and for this to repeat itself up to five times a night. Most adults and children, if woken during REM sleep, will report that they were dreaming. Whilst the physiological stages of sleeping may be similar across adults and young children, the potential complexity of a child's dreams develops as they age – alongside their imagination.

It's difficult to prove that a dream is taking place – only after the fact can you know that you were dreaming. There are a small number of people, however, who do know when they are experiencing what is called a "lucid" dream. The "scanning hypothesis" posits that eyes move during REM sleep in accordance with the direction of gaze of one's dream. Research, for example with "lucid" dreamers, has shown that eyes do point towards the action that a dreamer, having a goal-orientated dream, describes.

Q11 REM sleep tends to be preceded by non-REM sleep.

True False Cannot say

True – this can be inferred from the information in the second paragraph "the most common sleeping pattern is for a period of REM sleep to be preceded by four stages of non-REM sleep".

Q12 Eye muscles are the only muscles that are not paralysed during REM sleep.

True False Cannot say

Cannot say – most of the body's muscles are paralysed according to the passage. We are told that eye muscles are not paralysed, but we are not told about other muscles.

Q13 REM sleep periods always occur after four non-REM sleep periods.

True

False

Cannot say

False – the first sentence of the second paragraph describes this as the “most common” sleeping pattern, so this is not necessarily always the case.

Q14 The scanning hypothesis states that the direction of a lucid dreamer’s eye movements reveals what the dream is about.

True

False

Cannot say

False – the scanning hypothesis posits that “eyes move during REM sleep in accordance with the direction of gaze of one’s dream”. However the eye movements on their own do not reveal the subject of the dream.

Q15 A child’s dreams may become more sophisticated as their imagination develops.

True

False

Cannot say

True - this can be inferred from the last sentence in the second paragraph; “the potential complexity of a child’s dreams develops as they age - alongside their imagination.”

Ergonomics is the scientific study of the interaction between people and machines. The discipline aims to design equipment and environments that best fit users' physical and psychological needs, thus improving the efficiency, productivity and safety of a person using a device. A multi-disciplinary field, ergonomics encompasses aspects of psychology, physiology, industrial design and mechanical engineering.

The field is divided into three main areas. Physical ergonomics addresses the relationship between human anatomy and physical activity, for instance designing tools that minimize or eliminate muscle strain. This area also looks at how the physical environment affects performance and health. Cognitive ergonomics studies the mental processes involved in humans' interactions with systems, such as computer interfaces. In designing an airplane cockpit, for example, it is of vital importance that control panels take human factors into account. Organisational ergonomics focuses on optimising socio-technical systems, such as team structure and work processes.

Increasingly, progressive organisations are looking for ways to improve workplace ergonomics. The benefit of this strategy is not only increased productivity but also reduced sick leave. In the United States, compensation to workers with repetitive strain injuries costs \$20 billion annually.

Q16 The area of physical ergonomics can involve preventing repetitive strain injuries.

True

False

Cannot say

True - this can be inferred from the passage's statement that "physical ergonomics addresses the relationship between human anatomy and physical activity, for instance designing tools that minimize or eliminate muscle strain."

Q17 One of the objectives of ergonomics is to increase the happiness of a work environment.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say – the passage states that efficiency, productivity and safety are some of the areas of ergonomics however the passage does not tell us explicitly if ergonomics is ever used to increase the happiness of a work environment.

Q18 An ergonomically designed control panel accommodates a person's mental and physical needs.

True

False

Cannot say

True - the second sentence describes ergonomics as the design of "equipment and environments that best fit users' physical and psychological needs".

Q19 Environmental factors can affect a worker's productivity and wellbeing.

True

False

Cannot say

True - the second paragraph states that physical ergonomics "looks at how the physical environment affects performance and health."

Q20 Ergonomic design places little emphasis on aesthetics.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot Say - the passage does not make any reference to aesthetics.

VERBAL REASONING TEST 6

Instructions

This verbal reasoning test comprises 20 questions and you will have 20 minutes in which to correctly answer as many as you can.

In each question you will be presented with a short comprehension passage followed by three or four questions. You will need to determine which answer is correct based on the information provided in the passages only.

You will have to work quickly and accurately to perform well in this test. If you don't know the answer to a question, leave it and come back to it if you have time.

You can submit your test at any time. If the time limit is up before you click submit the test will automatically be submitted with the answers you have selected. It is recommended to keep working until the time limit is up.

Try to find a time and place where you will not be interrupted during the test. **The test will start on the next page.**

Kangaroo culling is a controversial issue in Australia, where the government has implemented culls to control populations. The issue is particularly emotive because of the kangaroo's status as a national icon, with some detractors viewing the culls as an attack on Australia's identity. Although indigenous to Australia, kangaroos are, in some areas, threatening the grassland ecosystem. Overgrazing causes soil erosion thus threatening the survival of certain rare species of lizard. Furthermore, in overpopulated areas, food scarcity is driving kangaroos to damage wheat crops. Protesters typically oppose the cull on grounds that it is inhumane. Instead, they favour the relocation of kangaroos to suitable new habitats, or sterilizing the animals in overpopulated areas. Sterilization, however, will not have an immediate effect on the problems of limited resources and land degradation through grazing. Not only is transporting large numbers of kangaroos an expensive undertaking, critics believe it would potentially traumatize the relocated kangaroos and ultimately threaten the new habitat.

Q9 Existentialism views mortality as life's sole inevitability.

True False Cannot say

True - "According to existentialists, the only certainty in life is death".

Q10 Existentialism became a popular political movement in the 1960s.

True False Cannot say

False – the first sentence states that existentialism is a "philosophical and literary movement". One might be tempted to answer True based on a quick reading of the last sentence, however the last sentence also states that existentialism was "not a political movement..."

Q11 The majority of animal rights activists oppose the Australian government's policy of kangaroo culls.

True False Cannot say

Cannot say - the passage does not specify whether most animal rights activists oppose the policy – merely that it is a controversial issue and that protesters oppose the culls as inhumane. In fact, many animal advocacy groups support the culls as being in the long-term interests of the kangaroo.

Q12 The foremost argument against culling kangaroos is that it threatens Australian national identity.

True

False

Cannot say

False – while the second sentence states that some detractors oppose the culls on these grounds, the sixth sentence says that protestors “typically” oppose the culls on grounds that it is inhumane. The word “typically” suggests that this is the foremost argument. **Q13** Kangaroos present a threat to agriculture as well as to the ecosystem.

True

False

Cannot say

True - the passage states that kangaroos damage wheat crops.

Q14 In overpopulated areas where food is scarce, kangaroos are preying on rare lizards.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say – whilst the passage tells us that some species of lizards are threatened because kangaroos overgraze, we are not told whether kangaroos prey on lizards.

Q15 Sterilizing kangaroos will not immediately alleviate problems of their over-grazing.

True

False

Cannot say

True – sterilized kangaroos will not be able to breed, but they will continue to graze. The eighth sentence of the passage tells us that “Sterilization, however, will not have an immediate effect on the problems of limited resources and land degradation through grazing”.

Plastics represent the fastest-growing category of waste. Worldwide consumers use 500 billion plastic shopping bags and drink 154 billion litres of bottled water annually. The majority of these bags and bottles are made from polyethylene terephthalate (PET), a plastic derived from crude oil. Because PET takes over 1,000 years to degrade and leaks dangerous chemicals into the soil, many communities have instituted recycling programmes to reduce the amount of plastic destined for landfill. However, recycling plastic is not a perfect solution. Firstly, there are many different types of plastic, and sorting them makes recycling labour-intensive. Secondly, because the quality of plastic degrades with each reuse, recycled plastic has a low value. To reduce costs most of Europe's plastic is shipped to China for recycling processing. The downside to this is that the transportation consumes large amounts of energy and working conditions in the Chinese processing factories are poor. While recycling plastic may salve the conscience of western consumers, reducing plastic proliferation is a better solution.

Q16 It costs less money to recycle plastic in China than it does in European countries.

True

False

Cannot say

True - the 8th sentence tells us that "to reduce costs" most of Europe's plastic is shipped to China for recycling.

Q17 The passage suggests that finding alternatives to PET is a preferable solution to recycling.

True

False

Cannot say

False - in the final sentence, the passage suggests that reducing the use of plastic is a preferable solution.

Q18 There are economic drawbacks to recycling plastic.

True

False

Cannot say

True - The economic drawbacks are that recycled plastic has a low value.

Q19 The proliferation of shopping bags and water bottles has made plastic the fastest-growing category of waste.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say – while the passage cites high usage of shopping bags and water bottles, it does not specify this as the cause for the fast growth of plastic waste.

Q20 Plastic recycling does not extend the life of the material indefinitely.

True

False

Cannot say

True - the passage states that “the quality of plastic degrades with each re-use” which means that it cannot be used forever.

VERBAL REASONING TEST 7

Instructions

This verbal reasoning test comprises 20 questions and you will have 20 minutes in which to correctly answer as many as you can.

In each question you will be presented with a short comprehension passage followed by three or four questions. You will need to determine which answer is correct based on the information provided in the passages only.

You will have to work quickly and accurately to perform well in this test. If you don't know the answer to a question, leave it and come back to it if you have time.

You can submit your test at any time. If the time limit is up before you click submit the test will automatically be submitted with the answers you have selected. It is recommended to keep working until the time limit is up.

Try to find a time and place where you will not be interrupted during the test. **The test will start on the next page.**

The merits of single-sex education have long been debated in the United States, where demand for single-sex schools is now on the rise. Title IV, a 1972 law prohibiting sex discrimination in education, was amended in 2006, allowing for the establishment of single-sex state schools so long as a co-educational alternative is available. While critics view single-sex schools as discriminatory and inadequate preparation for adult life, advocates claim that children, and particularly girls, benefit from a single-sex education. Some American research shows that girls attending single-sex schools have higher self-esteem, participate more in class, and score higher on aptitude tests than their counterparts in co-educational schools. A 2005 study claimed that both girls and boys attending single-sex schools spent more time on homework and had less disciplinary problems. Single-sex schools subvert stereotypical course-taking patterns and results. Advocates of single-sex schooling argue that educators can teach more effectively by tailoring their tuition to reflect current research about gender-based brain development. Many experts, however, believe that research into single-sex education is inconclusive, and that so long as the education provided is gender-fair, both girls and boys can thrive in a co-educational environment.

Q1 Girls who attend single-sex schools perform better in maths and sciences than their counterparts in co-educational schools.

True

False

Cannot Say

Cannot say - while the sixth sentence states that "single-sex schools subvert stereotypical course-taking patterns and results," it is not possible to say - based only on the information in the passage - whether girls perform better in maths and sciences. The passage explains how there are advocates on each side of the argument, but does not say who is right.

Q2 The increased demand for American single-sex state education is a relatively recent phenomenon.

True

False

Cannot Say

True – The first sentence states that demand is "now on the rise". This is further supported by stating that single-sex state schools were illegal between 1972 and 2006, as explained in the second sentence.

differences between the two genders.

True

False

Cannot Say

True - the seventh sentence states that educators can tailor their tuition to reflect current research about gender-based brain development.

- Q4** Whereas girls benefit academically from single-sex education, the only advantage for boys is improved discipline.

True

False

Cannot Say

Cannot say – the passage cites a 2005 study which found more time spent on homework and less-stereotyped course taking. However the benefits of single-sex education given in the passage are all opinions; the passage does not give them to us as fact.

- Q5** Critics of single-sex education believe that such schools reinforce pre-existing gender stereotypes.

True

False

Cannot Say

Cannot say – this is not an argument made in the passage.

The United States' space programme is at a critical juncture. Between 1971 and 2011, spending on space has declined from 5% of the federal budget to 0.5%. The US government recently announced it has cancelled its Constellation human spaceflight programme, which was intended to provide transportation to the International Space Station (ISS). Instead, NASA will shift its emphasis to developing new technologies and commercializing space flight. NASA will outsource its transportation to the ISS – a move designed to dramatically reduce launch costs. Five private companies – nearly all of which are headed by internet entrepreneurs – are sharing \$50 million of federal funds to develop cargo spacecraft. NASA's new vision has not been met by enthusiasm from all quarters, with critics calling it the death knell of America's former supremacy in space travel. Politicians whose states are losing out on jobs as a result of NASA's cancelled programmes have been among the most vocal critics. With entrepreneurs racing to achieve human spaceflight, the next American to land on the moon could be a commercial passenger rather than a NASA astronaut.

Q6 NASA aims to save money by outsourcing transport to the International Space Station.

True

False

Cannot Say

True – the fifth sentence states that outsourcing transportation is “designed to dramatically reduce launch costs”. So NASA has designed something to save money, which is equivalent to aiming to save money. The passage also states that “Five private companies” will help develop the cargo ship, indicating outsourcing to the private sector.

Q7 Under NASA's new plans, travel to the International Space Station will be privatised.

True

False

Cannot Say

True - As referred to in the fifth sentence. Handing operation to private companies is privatisation.

Q8 The five companies sharing the federal funds are using internet technology to develop cargo spacecraft.

True

False

Cannot Say

Cannot say - while these companies are headed by internet entrepreneurs, this fact is not necessarily related to the spacecraft they are developing for NASA.

Q9 Some critics believe that NASA's new direction marks the end of American leadership in space exploration.

True

False

Cannot Say

True - summarizes the seventh sentence. Death knell means the beginning of the end.

Q10 The United States government recently announced plans to reduce its space programme budget.

True

False

Cannot

Say

Cannot say - the second sentence states that spending has declined over the past 40 years, however it does not say if the government announced this (they could have just done it). Also this does not preclude a one-off cut 39 years ago with a recent small increase. We cannot tell from the passage.

Although according to the EU-funded Psychonaut Research Project it has only been available since 2008, mephedrone is now the fourth most popular recreational drug in the United Kingdom. Also known as “meow meow” and “drone”, mephedrone is a synthetic stimulant that is derived from cathinone compounds found in the khat plant of Eastern Africa. Chemically similar to amphetamines, mephedrone has the effect of euphoria and increased stimulation. Because it is sold as plant fertilizer and thus not subject to medical regulations, mephedrone is currently legal in the United Kingdom, although it has been banned in many other countries, including Sweden, Germany and Israel. Manufactured in China and sold cheaply, the drug’s legality and availability have led to its meteoric rise. While it is not illegal, it does not follow that mephedrone is safe to use – an international lack of scientific research means that its effects on health are not fully known. Following reports of addiction and the drug’s suspected involvement in several deaths; there are calls in the UK to have mephedrone classified as an illegal substance immediately. This legal decision, however, cannot be taken until a government advisory council has fully investigated any scientific evidence.

Q11 Mephedrone is a naturally occurring substance.

True

False

Cannot Say

False - the second sentence describes mephedrone as a “synthetic” stimulant derived from cathinone compounds found in a type of plant.

Q12 Sweden and Germany have scientifically proven the health dangers of mephedrone.

True

False

Cannot Say

False – the passage tell us there is an “international lack of scientific research” on the effects on health from the drug. If there is a lack of research it cannot follow that it has been scientifically proven.

Q13 Mephedrone's low cost makes it especially attractive to teenage users.

True

False

Cannot Say

Cannot say - the passage does not mention the age of mephedrone users, nor the reasons a particular age group use the drug.

Q14 Despite being a legal substance, mephedrone is not safe to use.

True

False

Cannot Say

Cannot say - the sixth sentence states that "a lack of scientific research means that its effects on health are not fully known".

Q15 The UK government has been criticised for failing to act quickly to criminalise mephedrone.

True

False

Cannot Say

Cannot say - the penultimate sentence states there are calls to have mephedrone classified as illegal, but the passage does not mention criticism of the government, or the length or their inaction.

Ecotourism can be defined as responsible travel to natural areas that aims to both conserve the environment and bring economic opportunities to local people. Ecotourism provides an alternative to environmentally damaging industries such as logging and mining, while also stimulating the local economy. However, its dependency on foreign investment leads to one of the main criticisms of the industry: that the profits generated from ecotourism do not benefit the local economy and work force. Furthermore, while the ideals behind ecotourism are unobjectionable, the industry is highly susceptible to “greenwashing” – whereby a false impression of environmental friendliness is given. More radical opposition comes from those critics who believe that ecotourism is inherently flawed because travel that uses fossil fuels is damaging to the environment. Despite these voices of dissent, ecotourism has become the fastest-growing sector of the tourism industry, growing at an annual rate of twenty to thirty percent. Ironically, ecotourism’s very success may counteract its environmental goals, as high levels of visitors – even careful ones – inevitably damage the ecosystem.

Q16 Ecotourism strives to profit from a nation’s natural resources.

True

False

Cannot Say

Cannot say – whilst the second sentence mentions ecotourism as an alternative to logging and mining, we are not told anywhere in the passage that profit from natural resources is one of its aims.

Q17 Ecotourism’s critics believe that air travel contributes to global warming.

True

False

Cannot Say

Cannot say - the fifth sentence states that critics believe that travel using fossil fuels is damaging to the environment, but it does not say how it is damaging to the environment, for example they could just mean the extraction of natural resources.

Q18 The passage dismisses the ecotourism industry as an example of greenwashing.

True

False

Cannot Say

False - the fourth sentences merely says that ecotourism is susceptible to greenwashing. The passage does not dismiss ecotourism.

Q19 The long-term environmental credentials of ecotourism are debatable.

True

False

Cannot Say

True - the last sentence states that high levels of visitors “may counteract its environmental goals” and that all visitors inevitably damage the environment. The passage leaves open the debate.

Q20 While ecotourism’s environmental benefits are disputed, there is consensus that it benefits local people economically.

True

False

Cannot Say

False – while the second sentence states that stimulating the local economy is one of the aims of ecotourism, the third sentence makes clear that critics believe that “the profits generated from ecotourism do not benefit the local economy and work force. If there are critics, there cannot be consensus.

VERBAL REASONING TEST 8

Instructions

This verbal reasoning test comprises 20 questions and you will have 20 minutes in which to correctly answer as many as you can.

In each question you will be presented with a short comprehension passage followed by three or four questions. You will need to determine which answer is correct based on the information provided in the passages only.

You will have to work quickly and accurately to perform well in this test. If you don't know the answer to a question, leave it and come back to it if you have time.

You can submit your test at any time. If the time limit is up before you click submit the test will automatically be submitted with the answers you have selected. It is recommended to keep working until the time limit is up.

Try to find a time and place where you will not be interrupted during the test. **The test will start on the next page.**

Today, the term surreal is used to denote a curious imaginative effect. The word's provenance can be traced back to the revolutionary surrealism movement which grew out of Dadaism in the mid-1920s. Surrealism spread quite quickly across European arts and literature, particularly in France, between the two world wars. The movement's founder – French poet Andre Breton – was influenced heavily by Freud's theories, as he reacted against reason and logic in order to free the imagination from the unconscious mind. Surrealist works, both visual and oral, juxtaposed seemingly unrelated everyday objects and placed these in dreamlike settings. Thus, the popularity of surrealist paintings, including Salvador Dali's, lies in the unconventional positioning of powerful images such as leaping tigers, melting watches and metronomes. Surrealist art is widely known today, unlike the less easily accessible works of the French surrealist writers who, ignoring the literal meanings of words, focused instead on word associations and implications. That said, the literary surrealist tradition still survives in modern-day proponents of experimental writing.

Q1 Salvador Dali's work is more popular than Andre Breton's output.

True

False

Cannot say

True - This can be inferred from the passage. Breton was a French surrealist poet and the surrealist's written work is described as "less easily accessible", compared to the "popularity" of Dali's paintings.

Q2 Some experimental writing is surreal.

True

False

Cannot say

True - Some of the surrealists from whose work the word is derived practiced experimental writing.

Q3 Surrealist painting is renowned for the arbitrary portrayal of everyday objects.

True

False

Cannot say

True - As the sixth sentence of the passage describes.

Q4 Salvador Dali was a French surrealist painter.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say - The passage mentions Dali, as well as emphasising the movement's French focus, but does not link the two together. In fact Dali was Spanish.

Q5 At one time Dadaism and Surrealism were closely affiliated.

True

False

Cannot say

True - The passage notes that Surrealism "grew out of Dadaism."

Huge controversy surrounded the construction between 1994 and 2006 of what was the world's largest hydroelectric dam, the Three Gorges Dam. Spanning China's 1.4-mile wide Yangtze River in the Hubei province with twenty-six state-of-the-art turbines, the dam has been heralded by the Chinese state as a symbol of China's modernisation and engineering prowess. It supports China's economic development by supplying over ten percent of its electricity. However, over 1.3 million people were deliberately displaced as part of the Gorges flooding project that created the dam's 660km-long reservoir. Hundreds of archaeological sites, initially above and below ground level, were lost under the reservoir's water. Questions remain as to whether the dam - as a source of renewable energy - benefits the surrounding environment, or depletes it by causing, for example, landslides and the death of fish species in the Yangtze.

Supporters argue that the Dam's deepening of the river has made the Yangtze easier for large ships to navigate and has reduced the risk of flooding downstream. As the only other viable Chinese energy source continues to be non-renewable coal power, the hydroelectric power generated by the dam may be the lesser of two evils.

Q6 The passage suggests that energy supplies are critical to economic development.

True

False

Cannot say

False - We are told in the third sentence that electricity from the dam "supports China's economic development" but we are not told whether electricity is critical to its economic development. Note the statement is "the passage suggests..." so we must respond False, instead of Cannot Say.

Q7 The Three Gorges Dam is China's largest and most controversial dam

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say - Certainly it once was the largest in the world according to the first sentence, however the sentence is written in the past tense.

Q8 The environmental impacts of the Three Gorges Dam have been more positive than negative

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say - The passage lists both the positive and negative environmental impacts and argues for both sides, concluding "the dam may be the lesser of two evils".

Q9 The 660km length of the Three Gorges Dam spans the Yangtze River

True

False

Cannot say

False - The passage states that it is the dam's reservoir that is 660km long.

Q10 The Dam's monetary benefits were prioritised over environmental damage.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say - The passage tells us that the dam "It supports China's economic development" and that there were negative environmental consequences, but it would be an assumption to say that the priorities were this way round. For example there may have been long-term environmental benefits, or there may have been other environmental benefits which are not talked about in the passage.

Outsourcing - purchasing services from an external supplier rather than performing the work internally - is a popular but politically sensitive means of cutting costs. There has been an increasing use of third parties for HR functions, such as managing payroll and other employee data, and for traditional Finance functions, such as invoice services. The manufacture of goods has even become part of this trend; though the design function is typically kept in-house. Third party call centre operatives can offer customer service expertise that may be more expensive to provide in-house. "Offshoring", when functions are moved abroad, often to India or China, where the average wage is considerably lower raises job protection issues. The potential profits from outsourcing operations encourage underdeveloped countries to invest in the necessary educational infrastructure and skills training that are required to support such business. Still, higher corporate profits may be seen to be at the expense of low-wage economies, and the cost benefits are not always passed on to the consumer. Additionally the consumer may not benefit from an improved quality of customer service. Outsourcing decreases prices in another way - the competitive marketplace in which service providers companies operate gets squeezed as they vie for client contracts.

Q11 Offshoring is synonymous with outsourcing.

True False Cannot say

False - The passage gives offshoring as an example of a particular type of outsourcing, but the two are not the same thing.

Q12 Low wage countries may need to enhance their infrastructure to attract outsourcing contracts.

True False Cannot say

True - This can be inferred from the statement "encourage underdeveloped countries to invest in the necessary educational infrastructure... required to support such business".

Q13 Outsourcing providers compete aggressively for client contracts.

True False Cannot say

True - This can be inferred from the last sentence.

Q14 The outsourcing trend has led to a reduction in the cost of consumer goods.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say - The passage states that "cost benefits are not always passed on to the consumer". The passage does not say explicitly though whether this has led to a reduction in the cost of consumer goods.

Q15 Outsourcing refers to the use of a third party supplier to provide either HR or Finance functions.

True

False

Cannot say

False - The passage also mentions the outsourcing of manufacturing capability

Hydrogen-fuelled cars are not reliant upon petrol or diesel, which potentially makes them safer. Hydrogen fuel can be produced from renewable sources, such as wind or solar power, and does not have the ordinary car's dependency on burning fossil fuels. Since cars account for roughly a third of greenhouse gas emissions, these futuristic vehicles could form part of an effective strategy to combat global warming. This is an idealistic scenario and there are many barriers to be overcome first. The existing designs for hydrogen fuelled cars are extremely expensive. The National Research Association also estimates that £8 billion would be needed to set-up the refuelling stations required by hydrogen-fuelled cars. For a mass market product to be developed there needs to be increased cooperation between governments and industry to allow the infrastructure to lead the manufacture. In fact, hybrid and hybrid-electric car designs may prove to be a more worthwhile long-term investment for governments. Compared to ordinary cars, hybrids emit reduced levels of carbon dioxide, whereas hydrogen-fuelled cars emit only water and so are 100% clean.

Q16 The first hydrogen-fuelled car was too expensive for consumers

True False Cannot say

Cannot say - The passage states that existing designs are extremely expensive but does not refer to a retail price for the first hydrogen fuelled car.

Q17 The passage questions the viability of hydrogen-fuelled cars as a solution to global warming.

True False Cannot say

True - The passage states that "this is an idealistic scenario" and that they "could form part of an effective strategy to combat global warming".

Q18 Widespread use of hydrogen-fuelled cars would incur High infrastructure costs.

True False Cannot say

True - The passage states that "The existing designs for hydrogen fuelled cars are extremely expensive" and refers to an £8 billion estimate of what "would be needed to set-up the refuelling stations required by hydrogen-fuelled cars".

Q19 Hybrids are the cleanest form of transport.

True

False

Cannot say

False - The passage compares hydrogen-fuelled cars more favourably than hybrids which emit some carbon dioxide.

Q20 Hydrogen is universally available and is not a greenhouse gas.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say - These facts are not presented in the passage.

VERBAL REASONING TEST 9

Instructions

This verbal reasoning test comprises 20 questions and you will have 20 minutes in which to correctly answer as many as you can.

In each question you will be presented with a short comprehension passage followed by three or four questions. You will need to determine which answer is correct based on the information provided in the passages only.

You will have to work quickly and accurately to perform well in this test. If you don't know the answer to a question, leave it and come back to it if you have time.

You can submit your test at any time. If the time limit is up before you click submit the test will automatically be submitted with the answers you have selected. It is recommended to keep working until the time limit is up.

Try to find a time and place where you will not be interrupted during the test. **The test will start on the next page.**

As their name suggests, Asian carp are not indigenous to the United States, yet these invasive fish have become the subject of a Supreme Court lawsuit. Introduced in the US in 1831, carp were originally intended for consumption although today they are not widely eaten. Populations have flourished in the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers since the 1970s, when it is thought that they escaped from Midwestern fish farms during heavy flooding. Carp consume only plankton, although vast amounts of it, and some species of Asian carp can grow to over one hundred pounds. Not only are the fish a hazard to recreational boaters, they also compete with native species for food and space. Environmentalists fear that carp will infiltrate the Great Lakes, via locks connecting the Mississippi to Lake Michigan, where they would damage the ecosystem. They also fear that by crowding out species such as salmon, Asian carp would also be detrimental to the Great Lakes' sports fishing industry. The US government currently spends \$80 million per annum on Asian carp control, using methods such as toxins and underwater electric barriers designed to repel carp. Evidence of carp in Lake Michigan however has led anticarp activists to call for stronger measures, such as blocking off the locks on the Chicago canal. Business interests strongly oppose the closure of this major shipping lane for economic reasons, also arguing that forcing canal traffic onto the roads will cause pollution.

Q1 Anticarp activists have demanded more drastic measures of carp control in the US Supreme Court.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say - while the first sentence mentions that carp are the subject of a Supreme Court lawsuit, it does not specify the exact nature of the debate.

Q2 Heavy flooding in the 1970s resulted in Asian carp proliferating in the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say - the third sentence says "it is thought". This is not a proven fact.

Q3 If allowed into the Great Lakes, Asian carp would prey on native salmon.

True

False

Cannot say

False - the fourth sentence states that carp "consume only plankton" so they would not prey on native salmon. Competing with the salmon's food supply is different to preying on them.

Q4 Electric barriers are not a fully effective means of carp control.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say -the passage tells us the US government use "electric barriers designed to repel carp" but it is impossible to say from the information given in the passage whether the carp evidence in Lake Michigan is due to the fish bypassing the electric barriers.

Q5 Anticarp activists are motivated by environmental concerns rather than business interests.

True

False

Cannot say

False - the passage states that "They also fear that by crowding out species such as salmon, Asian carp would also be detrimental to the Great Lakes' sports fishing industry".

The most prevalent neurological condition in the developed world, migraine is characterised by severe, recurrent headaches, with additional symptoms including nausea and sensitivity to light and sound. The frequency and duration of migraine attacks are variable: attacks may occur a few times a year or several times per month, while pain may last between four hours and three days. Approximately one third of sufferers experience an aura – a perceptual disturbance occurring before the migraine’s onset. There are numerous theories on the cause of migraines. The vascular theory posits that migraines are caused by problems with blood vessels in the brain. A more widely held view is that migraines result from low levels of the neurotransmitter serotonin in the brain. Prophylactic drug treatment, which prevents the onset of migraines, has declined in recent years, because of side effects and also improvements in medications treating an actual attack. Whereas older varieties of pain medication are potentially addictive, newer drugs called triptans work by reducing pain information travelling to the brain. Treatment plans typically include avoidance of known migraine triggers, such as diet, alcohol, and stress, as overuse of medication can lead to chronic “rebound headaches.” Not only do migraines have a debilitating effect on sufferers, they are also bad for the economy, with an estimated 25 million days lost from work every year in the UK alone.

Q6 One third of migraines are preceded by a heightened sensitivity to light.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot Say – the third sentence says that one third of migraines are preceded by an aura, which is not defined as a heightened sensitivity to light. However the passage does not tell us anything about a possible other third of sufferers who may or may not experience before their migraine a heightened sensitivity to light.

Q7 The passage states that it is not possible to work when suffering from a migraine.

True

False

Cannot say

False - while the last sentence states that 25 million work days are lost due to migraines, it does not say that it is impossible to work.

Q8 Although the cause of migraines is unknown, serotonin deficiency is the most commonly held theory.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say - it is more widely held than the vascular theory, but the passage does not compare it to every theory. So we cannot say if it is the most commonly held theory.

Q9 Triptans are a new form of prophylactic drug which are less addictive than older medications.

True

False

Cannot say

False – triptans are not prophylactic drugs; they reduce pain rather than prevent headaches. The passage tells us that prophylactic drugs prevent the onset of migraines as opposed to triptans which target the pain signals to the brain.

Q10 The vascular theory has been discredited.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say - it is not the most widely held view, but it does not necessarily follow that it has been discredited.

Is free internet access as much a universal human right as access to clean water and healthcare? Many leading experts believe that the 80% of the world's population that is not connected to the web should have access to information through free low-bandwidth connection via mobile phones. The one fifth of the world connected to the internet, however, faces a very different problem: an insatiable appetite for bandwidth that outstrips availability. Bandwidth refers to the capacity to transfer data through a channel. Emails, for example, require less bandwidth than video. Information traffic jams result when too many users try to move information at the same time, exceeding the channel's capacity. The popularity of mobile web devices means demand for wireless channels is growing rapidly, but bandwidth supply is limited – resulting in high charges for use. With bandwidth controlled by a handful of private suppliers, bandwidth is the subject of government debate in many countries, including the United States. Bandwidth suppliers are in favour of introducing tiered pricing structures, whereby customers paying higher rates would receive faster service. Critics believe that a tiered system violates the principle of net neutrality – whereby all data is treated as equal – and would allow suppliers to profiteer from controlling a scarce resource. Suppliers argue that they are funding huge infrastructure updates – such as switching from copper wires to expensive fiberoptics – in order to improve services.

Q11 The main argument in the passage is that internet users are not leaving enough bandwidth for 80% of the world's population.

True

False

Cannot say

False – the passage raises two separate problems – lack of internet connection for 80% of the world and bandwidth shortage for internet users – but there is no causal relationship between the two problems.

Q12 Access to information via the internet is a basic human right.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say – the first two sentences raise this question, but do not provide an objective answer.

Q13 The growth of mobile net device use has contributed towards the pressure on bandwidth availability.

True

False

Cannot say

True - as stated in the 7th sentence.

Q14 Proposed tiered pricing structures would charge users more for using mobile web devices.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say – while the 7th sentence states that mobile web devices are subject to high charges, the tiered pricing structures described in the 9th sentence does not mention costs for mobile web devices, merely a cost associated with a faster service.

Q15 Proponents of net neutrality are against the prioritising of certain web traffic.

True

False

Cannot say

True – as explained in the 9th and 10th sentences.

The Dead Sea Scrolls are probably the most significant archaeological discovery of the twentieth century. More than 800 ancient documents, written on papyrus and parchment, were found in 1947 in desert caves at Qumran, near the Dead Sea. The texts mainly date from between the last century BCE and the first century CE and are comprised of three types of document: copies of books from the Hebrew Bible; apocryphal manuscripts; and documents pertaining to the beliefs and practices of a sectarian community. The former category is arguably of the greatest academic significance, as documents such as a complete copy of the Book of Isaiah enabled historians to analyse the accuracy of Bible translations. However, the secrecy of the scholars appointed by the Israeli Antiquities Authority, and their slow rate of publication, were the subject of international controversy. In 1991, the Huntington Library made photographic images of the full set of scrolls finally available to all researchers. While the scrolls' importance is indisputable, there is no consensus over the texts' origins. The traditional view is that the scrolls belonged to an ascetic Jewish sect, widely believed to be the Essenes. The Essenes' rules and doctrines are even seen by some scholars as a precursor to Christianity. A competing theory holds that the documents are sacred texts belonging to various Jewish communities, hidden in the caves for safekeeping around 68CE, during the unsuccessful Jewish Revolt against the Romans in Jerusalem.

Q16 The traditional interpretation of the Dead Sea Scrolls is that they belonged to an early Christian sect called the Essenes.

True

False

Cannot say

False – the Essenes are described as an “ascetic Jewish sect”. They may have been a precursor to Christianity but they themselves were an ascetic Jewish sect.

Q17 Academics debate whether the scrolls are the detailed accounts of one particular sect, or provide historical information about the wider Jewish people.

True

False

Cannot say

True - summarises the difference between the two main theories on the Dead Sea Scrolls, as described in the final three sentences.

Q18 Not only the origins of the Dead Sea Scrolls, but also the process of their interpretation, have been disputed.

True

False

Cannot say

True - the fifth and sixth sentences describe controversy over the scholars' work, while the 8th, 9th, and 10th sentences describe debate over the scrolls' origins.

Q19 Some scholars believe the Essenes inhabited the desert caves at Qumran, near the Dead Sea.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say – while one theory states that the scrolls are thought to be Essene in origin, it does not necessarily follow that the Essenes lived in the caves.

Q20 The Dead Sea Scrolls include the oldest known copy of the Book of Isaiah.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say – while the Dead Sea Scrolls do include a copy of the Book of Isaiah and the 4th sentence suggests that the Bible books are the oldest known copies, this is not expressly stated.

VERBAL REASONING TEST 10

Instructions

This verbal reasoning test comprises 20 questions and you will have 20 minutes in which to correctly answer as many as you can.

In each question you will be presented with a short comprehension passage followed by three or four questions. You will need to determine which answer is correct based on the information provided in the passages only.

You will have to work quickly and accurately to perform well in this test. If you don't know the answer to a question, leave it and come back to it if you have time.

You can submit your test at any time. If the time limit is up before you click submit the test will automatically be submitted with the answers you have selected. It is recommended to keep working until the time limit is up.

Try to find a time and place where you will not be interrupted during the test. **The test will start on the next page.**

Founded in 1954, the Bilderberg Group holds an annual conference of 120 of the world's most powerful and influential people. Participants from 18 different countries, invited by a steering committee comprised of two people, typically include financiers, industrialists, politicians, royalty and newspaper editors. Past delegates have included Tony Blair and Bill Clinton, shortly before becoming heads of state. Reporters, however, are not invited: the Bilderberg Group's meetings are conducted in privacy, with strict confidentiality rules to foster open discussion. The Group was established to promote understanding and cooperation between the United States and Europe and to create an informal network for the global elite. No votes are taken at the conference and no policies are agreed. However, the secrecy surrounding the conferences has given rise to numerous conspiracy theories. Right-wing critics believe that the Bilderberg Group is a shadowy global government, with some conspiracy theorists holding the Group responsible for organising events including the overthrow of Margaret Thatcher, the Bosnian War and the invasion of Iraq. Left-wing activists, who call for greater transparency, accuse the Group of being an unelected capitalist cabal controlling world finance. While opponents view the Group as undemocratic, supporters argue that modern democracies depend on cooperation between banking and politics, and that organisations such as the Bilderberg Group help ensure their success.

Q1 The Bilderberg Group has critics on both sides of the ideological spectrum.

True

False

Cannot say

True - summarises the 8th and 9th sentences. Right-wing critics being one side and left-wing activists being the other.

Q2 Representatives from the media are not allowed to attend the Bilderberg Group conference.

True

False

Cannot say

False - while the fourth sentence states that "reporters, however, are not invited" the second sentence states that conference participants include "newspaper editors".

Q3 The Bilderberg Group was created as a private forum to set Europe and America's political and financial agenda.

True

False

Cannot say

False - while many conspiracy theories promote this idea, the fifth and sixth sentences state that the Group was established to promote understanding and does not set policy.

Q4 Topics discussed at Bilderberg Group conferences have included the invasion of Iraq.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say - as the conferences are private, there is no way of knowing what was discussed.

Q5 Because its delegates are not elected, the Bilderberg Group's activities are widely believed to be undemocratic.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say - both sides of the argument are argued in the last sentence. We are not told either way if this view is "widely believed".

Although today used to describe any movement to claim back territory for ethnic, linguistic, geographical or historical reasons, the term irredentism originally came from the Italian nationalist movement Italia irredenta. Meaning “unredeemed Italy”, Italian irredentism was an opinion movement rather than a formal organisation. It sought to unify ethnically Italian territories, such as Trieste, Trentina, and Istria, that were outside of Italian borders at the time of the unification of Italy in 1866. The annexation of these Italian territories from Austria provided Italy with its strongest motive for participating in World War I. The Treaty of Versailles in 1919 satisfied most of Italy’s irredentist claims, however new borders delineated by the treaty gave rise to new irredentist claims. Dividing the German Empire into separate nations created German minority populations in the new countries of Poland and Hungary. German irredentist claims to these territories, as well as to Austria, resulted in the Second World War. The Treaty of Versailles created Yugoslavia to be a Slavic homeland, but ethnic and religious differences between Bosnians, Serbs and Croats eventually led to war in the 1990s. The artificial political states created by the Treaty of Versailles in East Africa failed to take tribal boundaries into account, and thus remain subject to irredentist claims. Similarly, borders drawn up in the Near East are still contentious today.

Q6 Trieste, Trentina and Istria were reunified with Italy following the Treaty of Versailles.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say – while the third sentence lists these areas as Italian territories, and the fifth sentence states that the Treaty of Versailles “satisfied most of Italy’s irredentist claims” the passage does not expressly state that these territories became part of Italy.

Q7 Borders imposed in 1919 by the Treaty of Versailles resulted in twentieth century conflicts.

True

False

Cannot say

True - both World War II and the Bosnian War were the result of irredentist claims over borders.

Q8 Irredentist movements advocate the annexation of territories only on the grounds of prior historical possession.

True

False

Cannot say

False – there are a variety of reasons given in the first sentence.

Q9 Yugoslavia was created following the Second World War to provide a homeland for Bosnians, Serbs and Croats.

True

False

Cannot say

False - Yugoslavia was created after the First World War. All the examples in the second half of the passage pertain to the Treaty of Versailles.

Q10 Although originally an Italian movement, irredentist claims are now being made in other countries.

True

False

Cannot say

True - the last two sentences mention irredentist claims in East Africa and the Near East.

Many organisations predict that the global water crisis presents this century's biggest threat. Today 84% of people in developing countries have access to clean water, 2 billion more than in 1990. However, millions still lack clean water for drinking and sanitation, posing a major health threat. In the developed world, water consumption is unsustainably high, doubling every twenty years. Agriculture accounts for 70% of the world's fresh water use, and an increasing population to feed means this demand will only increase. Groundwater sources, used to irrigate crops, are running dry because of overuse. While limiting the use of groundwater is a possible solution, it would have a financial impact on farmers and result in lower yields. While climate change has resulted in increased precipitation in some areas, it is contributing to water shortages in other regions. Rising temperatures have caused the Himalayan glaciers, the source for all of Asia's major rivers, to retreat. A reservoir for nearly half of the world's fresh water, these glaciers are predicted to lose four-fifths of their area by 2040. The solution to the global water crisis lies predominantly in new technologies. Desalination plants, which convert seawater into fresh water, have now been built in countries including Israel and Singapore. The process's high costs however limit its widespread adoption. Organising bodies and treaties are also needed to ensure that cross-border water sources are managed properly and do not become a source of conflict.

Q11 The global water crisis has resulted in less of the world's population having access to fresh water

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say – the second sentence tells us that more people in developing countries have access to clean water than before (2 billion more than in 1990), however we are not told if more or fewer people in developed countries have access to fresh water. So we are not given the whole picture and therefore we cannot say.

Q12 The irrigation of crops comprises the majority of groundwater usage.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot Say - the passage states that 70% of the world's freshwater use is for agriculture and that groundwater is used to irrigate crops. It does not follow that 70% of groundwater is used for farming.

Q13 Despite increasing rainfall in some areas, climate change is the main cause of the global water crisis.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say – the passage does not cite a primary cause for the crisis.

Q14 The main impediment to desalination is expense.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot Say – the passage states that “The process’s high costs however limit its wide-spread adoption”. However it does not follow that this is the main impediment.

Q15 Both technological innovation and diplomacy are needed to tackle the world’s water crisis.

True

False

Cannot say

True – the 11th sentence says “The solution to the global water crisis lies predominantly in new technologies”. The last sentence goes on to say that “Organising bodies and treaties are also needed...”. So we are told that both technology and diplomacy (organising bodies and treaties) are needed.

Esperanto is an artificial language constructed in 1887 by the eye specialist Dr Ludovic Zamenhof. Having experienced ethnic divisions and language barriers growing up in Poland, he aimed to create an easy-to-learn second language that could transcend cultural and political differences and further international peace. Although Zamenhof's goal of a universal auxiliary language was not realized, today there are 1.6 million Esperanto speakers in more than 90 different countries. Using an alphabet comprised of five vowels and 23 consonants, Esperanto is based on Indo-European languages. Its grammar has logical rules with no irregular verbs, and its spellings are phonetic, making Esperanto about five times easier for a native English speaker to learn than French or Spanish. While some Esperanto speakers still advocate the adoption of the language worldwide, other proponents see its value primarily as a language-teaching tool. Esperanto is on the curriculum in countries including China and Hungary, but it is not taught in British schools because it lacks an associated culture. Its lack of culture is a common criticism levied at Esperanto, yet its neutrality was intended to foster equality between speakers. Detractors also argue that Esperanto's linguistic roots give an unfair advantage to speakers of European languages. The newer constructed language Loglan is based on logic and uses the world's six most widely spoken languages – Arabic, Mandarin, English, Hindi, Russian and Spanish – as its vocabulary's source.

Q16 One of the advantages of Esperanto is that it is universally easy to learn.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say – because it is based on European languages it is indeed easier for speakers of European languages to learn Esperanto, however we are not told if others find it “easy” or not.

Q17 Dr Zamenhof's goal was to replace ethnic languages with the universal language of Esperanto.

True

False

Cannot say

False - the third sentence refers to Zamenhof's goal of an “international auxiliary language” – he did not aim to replace ethnic languages.

Q18 Esperanto's lack of an associated culture or homeland can be viewed as both an asset and a disadvantage.

True

False

Cannot say

True - as stated in the 8th sentence.

Q19 Contemporary Esperanto speakers do not share a common vision of the language's purpose.

True

False

Cannot say True -

the sixth sentence describes two different visions for Esperanto.

Q20 Loglan is a more logically constructed language than Esperanto.

True

False

Cannot say

Cannot say – while the last sentence states that Loglan is based on logic, the fifth sentence describes Esperanto's grammar as having "logical rules" and the two languages are not directly compared. We cannot say which of the two are the most logically constructed.