

CAT Odd Man Out! PYQ Bible



G Strategy: CRAFT

- C — Core → What is the paragraph about?
- R — Relationships → Which sentences connect?
- A — Anchor → Where does the paragraph begin?
- F — Flow → What is the logical sequence?
- T — Test → Does the paragraph make sense?

CAT 2025 VARC Slot 1, 2, and 3

Q1

Instructions:

Five sentences related to a topic are given below. Four of them can be put together to form a meaningful and coherent short paragraph. Identify the odd one out.

Passage:

1. The Bayeux tapestry was, therefore, an obvious way to tell people about the downfall of the English and the rise of the Normans.
2. So if we take expert in Anglo-Saxon culture Gale Owen-Crocker's idea that the tapestry was originally hung in a square with certain scenes facing each other, people would have stood in the centre.
3. Art historian Linda Neagley has argued that pre-Renaissance people interacted with art visually, kinaesthetically (sensory perception through bodily movement) and physically.
4. That would make it an 11th-century immersive space with scenes corresponding and echoing each other, drawing the viewer's attention, playing on their senses and understanding of the story they thought they knew.
5. The Bayeux tapestry would have been hung at eye level to enable this.

Q2

Instructions:

Five sentences related to a topic are given below. Four of them can be put together to form a meaningful and coherent short paragraph. Identify the odd one out.

Passage:

1. Developments both technological and sociocultural have afforded us far greater freedom over death than we had in the past, and while we are still adapting ourselves to that freedom, we now appreciate the moral importance of this freedom.

2. But I believe that a type of freedom we can call freedom over death — that is, a freedom in which we shape the timing and circumstances of how we die — should be central to this conversation.

3. Legalising assisted dying is but a further step in realising this freedom over death.

4. Many people endorse, through their opinions or their choices, our freedom over death encompassing a right to medical assistance in hastening our deaths.

5. Freedom is a notoriously complex and contested philosophical notion, and I won't pretend to settle any of the big controversies it raises.

Q3

Instructions:

Five sentences related to a topic are given below. Four of them can be put together to form a meaningful and coherent short paragraph. Identify the odd one out.

Passage:

1. Neuroscientists have just begun studying exercise's impact within brain cells — on the genes themselves.
2. Even there, in the roots of our biology, they've found signs of the body's influence on the mind.
3. It turns out that moving our muscles produces proteins that travel through the bloodstream and into the brain, where they play pivotal roles in the mechanisms of our highest thought processes.
4. In today's technology-driven, plasma-screened-in world, it's easy to forget that we are born movers — animals, in fact — because we've engineered movement right out of our lives.
5. It's only in the past few years that neuroscientists have begun to describe these factors and how they work, and each new discovery adds awe-inspiring depth to the picture.

Q4

Instructions:

Five sentences related to a topic are given below. Four of them can be put together to form a meaningful and coherent short paragraph. Identify the odd one out.

Passage:

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1. The water that made up ancient lakes and perhaps an ocean was lost.

2. Particles from the Sun collided with molecules in the atmosphere, knocking them into space or giving them an electric charge that caused them to be swept away by the solar wind.

3. Most of the planet's remaining water is now frozen or buried, but clues over the past decade suggested that some liquid water, a presumed necessity for life, might survive in underground aquifers.

4. Data from NASA's MAVEN orbiter show that solar storms stripped away most of Mars's once-thick atmosphere.

5. A recent study reveals how Mars lost much of its early water, while another indicates that some liquid water remains.

Q5

Instructions:

Five sentences related to a topic are given below. Four of them can be put together to form a meaningful and coherent short paragraph. Identify the odd one out.

Passage:

1. In English, there is no systematic rule for the naming of numbers; after ten, we have "eleven" and "twelve" and then the teens: "thirteen", "fourteen", "fifteen" and so on.

2. Even more confusingly, some English words invert the numbers they refer to: the word "fourteen" puts the four first, even though it appears last.

3. It can take children a while to learn all these words, and understand that "fourteen" is different from "forty".

4. For multiples of 10, English speakers switch to a different pattern: "twenty", "thirty", "forty" and so on.

5. If you didn't know the word for "eleven", you would be unable to just guess it; you might come up with something like "one-teen".

Q6

Instructions:

Five sentences related to a topic are given below. Four of them can be put together to form a meaningful and coherent short paragraph. Identify the odd one out.

Passage:

1. About half of all the oxygen we breathe is made near the surface of the ocean by tiny organisms called phytoplankton.

2. Despite their microscopic scale, these organisms support complex marine food webs and drive global biochemical cycles.

3. Industrial pollutants entering coastal waterways have severely impacted fish populations across multiple continents.

4. Phytoplankton capture carbon dioxide during photosynthesis, acting as a crucial natural buffer against rising global temperatures.

5. Changes in ocean temperature and acidity can rapidly disrupt phytoplankton growth, threatening marine ecosystems worldwide.

Solutions

Solution for Q1

Correct Option: 1

Rationale: Sentences 3, 2, 5, and 4 form a coherent paragraph detailing how pre-Renaissance people interacted with art kinaesthetically and how the Bayeux tapestry fits this immersive framework by being hung at eye level in a square formation.

Why other options wrong: Sentence 1 shifts to a summary conclusion about the tapestry telling the story of the English downfall and Norman rise, which disrupts the structural and physical art-history flow.

Difficulty: Moderate

Solution for Q2

Correct Option: 5

Rationale: Sentences 1, 2, 3, and 4 cohere tightly around the theme of freedom over death, societal adaptations, shaping the timing of death, and legalizing assisted dying.

Why other options wrong: Sentence 5 introduces a broad, abstract meta-commentary on the definition of freedom as a contested philosophical notion, breaking the paragraph's targeted focus.

Difficulty: Moderate

Solution for Q3

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Correct Option: 4

Rationale: Sentences 1, 2, 3, and 5 discuss cellular and genetic impacts of exercise on the brain, muscle-produced proteins, and recent neuroscientific discoveries.

Why other options wrong: Sentence 4 shifts abruptly into a cultural critique about technology-driven lifestyles and modern sedentary habits, making it contextually distinct.

Difficulty: Moderate

Solution for Q4

Correct Option: 3

Rationale: Sentences 5, 2, 4, and 1 construct a unified explanation of how Mars lost its early water and atmosphere due to solar storms and particles from the Sun.

Why other options wrong: Sentence 3 focuses on remaining water, frozen deposits, and underground aquifers, which diverges from the atmospheric loss and scientific studies of planetary depletion.

Difficulty: Moderate

Solution for Q5

Correct Option: 5

Rationale: Sentences 1, 2, 4, and 3 address the lack of systematic rules, inverted numbers in teens, pattern shifts for multiples of 10, and children learning these numerical labels.

Why other options wrong: Sentence 5 discusses hypothetical guessing of unknown words like "one-teen", which breaks the descriptive flow of English number nomenclature.

Difficulty: Moderate

Solution for Q6

Correct Option: 3

Rationale: Sentences 1, 2, 4, and 5 center on phytoplankton, oceanic oxygen production, carbon capture, food webs, and climate vulnerability.

Why other options wrong: Sentence 3 targets industrial pollution affecting coastal fish populations, which is outside the specific ecological focus on phytoplankton.

Difficulty: Moderate

CAT 2024 VARC Slot 1, 2, and 3

Q1.

1. Animals have an interest in fulfilling their basic needs, but also in avoiding suffering, and thus we ought to extend moral consideration.

2. Singer viewed himself as a utilitarian, and presents a direct moral theory concerning animal rights, in contrast to indirect positions, such as welfarist views.

3. He argued for extending moral consideration to animals because, similar to humans, animals have certain significant interests.

4. The event that publicly announced animal rights as a legitimate issue within contemporary philosophy was Peter Singer's Animal Liberation text in 1975.

5. As such, we ought to view their interests alongside and equal to human interests, which results in humans having direct moral duties towards animals.

Q2.

1. Urbanites also have more and better options for getting around: Uber is ubiquitous; easy-to-rent dockless bicycles are spreading; battery-powered scooters will be next.

2. When more people use buses or trains the service usually improves because public-transport agencies run more buses and trains.

3. Worsening services on public transport, terrorist attacks in some urban metros and a rise in fares have been blamed for this trend.

4. It seems more likely that public transport is being squeezed structurally as people's need to travel is diminishing as a result of smartphones, videoconferencing, online shopping and so on.

5. There has been a puzzling decline in the use of urban public transport in many countries in the west, despite the growth in urban populations and rising employment.

Q3.

1. No known real researcher of human behaviour would say that gender is all nature or all nurture.

2. The evidence for a biological basis for gender certainly doesn't mean we should be complacent in the face of sexism.

3. Many people are uncomfortable with the idea that gender is not purely a social construct.

4. Despite this empirical truth, researchers who study the biological basis of gender often face political pushback.

5. There's a political preference for gender to be only a reflection of social factors and so entirely malleable.

Q4.

1. The UK is a world leader in developing cultivated meat and the approval of a cultivated pet food is an important milestone.

2. If we're to realise the full potential benefits of cultivated meat the government must invest in research and infrastructure.
3. The first UK applications for cultivated meat produced for humans remain under assessment with the Food Standards Agency.
4. The previous UK government had been looking at fast-tracking the approval of cultivated meat for human consumption.
5. It underscores the potential for new innovation to help reduce the negative impacts of intensive animal agriculture.

Q5.

1. To create a synapse, the neuron has specialized structures, often seen as tiny swellings, at its terminal end of the axon where it stores the chemicals that are emitted to transmit a signal to the next neuron.
2. This fetal warm-up act—the soldering of neural connections before the eyes actually function—is crucial to the performance of the visual system.
3. The reasons for this paring back of synapses is a mystery, but synaptic pruning is thought to sharpen and reinforce the "correct" synapses, while removing the weak and unnecessary ones.
4. Neural connections between the eyes and the brain are formed long before birth, establishing the wiring and the circuitry that allow a child to begin visualizing the world the minute she emerges from the womb.
5. During this rehearsal period, synapses—points of chemical connection—between nerve cells are generated in great excess, only to be pruned back during later development.

Q6.

1. Part of the appeal of forecasting is not just that it seems to work, but that you don't seem to need specialized expertise to succeed at it.
2. The tight connection between forecasting and building a model of the world helps explain why so much of the early interest in the idea came from the intelligence community.
3. This was true even though the latter had access to classified intelligence.
4. One frequently cited study found that accurate forecasters' predictions of geopolitical events, when aggregated using standard scientific methods, were more accurate than the forecasts of members of the US intelligence community who answered the same questions in a confidential prediction market.
5. The aggregated opinions of non-experts doing forecasting have proven to be a better guide to the future than the aggregated opinions of experts.

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Answers with explanations for the Odd Sentence Out questions Q1 to Q6 from CAT 2024 VARC Slot 1, 2, and 3:

Q1. (Slot 1 – Animal Rights)

Odd Sentence: 4

Explanation:

Sentences 1, 2, 3, and 5 all discuss Singer's utilitarian theory and his argument for animal rights based on moral consideration.

Sentence 4 introduces a historical fact about Singer's 1975 book, but does not fit into the logical flow of argument about the ethical stance or theory.

Coherent paragraph: 2-3-1-5

Q2. (Slot 1 – Urban Public Transport)

Odd Sentence: 1

Explanation:

Sentences 5, 3, 4, and 2 logically follow: a puzzling decline is introduced (5), possible causes are explored (3, 4), and the impact is explained (2).

Sentence 1 discusses new transport options like Uber and scooters, which is a different cause, more about convenience than the broader reasons discussed.

Coherent paragraph: 5-3-4-2

Q3. (Slot 2 – Gender Debate)

Odd Sentence: 2

Explanation:

Sentences 1, 3, 4, and 5 discuss the nature vs nurture debate and the political pushback to biological explanations.

Sentence 2 is a moral stance on sexism and complacency, not aligned with the flow of argument or political resistance.

Coherent paragraph: 1-3-5-4

Q4. (Slot 2 – Cultivated Meat in UK)

Odd Sentence: 2

Explanation:

Sentences 1, 3, 4, and 5 all revolve around the status and policy of cultivated meat approval in the UK.

Sentence 2 is a policy suggestion, while others are describing actual status, milestones, or past government steps.

Coherent paragraph: 1-3-4-5

Q5. (Slot 3 – Neural Development)

Odd Sentence: 1

Explanation:

Sentences 2, 4, 5, and 3 discuss the development and pruning of synapses in the visual system.

Sentence 1 is too specific and explains the synapse structure, which breaks the coherence of the paragraph focused on visual processing and synaptic pruning.

Coherent paragraph: 4-2-5-3

Q6. (Slot 3 – Forecasting and Intelligence)

Odd Sentence: 3

Explanation:

Sentences 1, 2, 4, and 5 all compare forecasting by non-experts vs intelligence experts and discuss the success of non-experts.

Sentence 3 refers to access to classified intelligence, which is too narrow and doesn't connect clearly to the general forecasting theme.

Coherent paragraph: 1-2-4-5

Let me know if you want these compiled in a table or want to continue with other VARC question types.

You said:

give detailed explanation

ChatGPT said:

Here are the detailed explanations for each Odd Sentence Out (Para-jumble with one outlier) from CAT 2024 VARC Slot 1, 2, and 3:

Q1. Animal Rights (CAT 2024 Slot 1)

Sentences:

Animals have an interest in fulfilling their basic needs...

Singer viewed himself as a utilitarian...

He argued for extending moral consideration to animals...

The event that publicly announced animal rights... was Singer's Animal Liberation (1975).

As such, we ought to view their interests alongside and equal to human interests...

Correct Odd Sentence: 4

Detailed Explanation:

Sentence 2 introduces Peter Singer and his utilitarian framework.

Sentence 3 builds on Singer's core argument—why animals deserve moral consideration.

Sentence 1 elaborates on those interests (avoid suffering).

Sentence 5 concludes the logical chain: humans have direct moral duties to animals.

Sentence 4, though relevant factually, is biographical and historical, not argumentative. It introduces a timeline event, not a philosophical point. It breaks the reasoning chain.

Q2. Urban Public Transport (CAT 2024 Slot 1)

Sentences:

Urbanites also have more and better options like Uber, scooters...

When more people use public transport, the service improves...

Worsening public transport, terrorism, and fares have been blamed...

Public transport is squeezed structurally due to changing needs...

There has been a puzzling decline in urban public transport use...

Correct Odd Sentence: 1

Detailed Explanation:

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Sentence 5 introduces the puzzle (decline despite urban growth).

Sentence 3 presents blamed factors (terror, fares).

Sentence 4 gives a deeper structural explanation (tech changes).

Sentence 2 discusses the positive feedback loop of usage and service.

Sentence 1 is out of place—it mentions alternate transport options, not directly part of explaining the decline in public transport.

Q3. Gender: Nature vs Nurture (CAT 2024 Slot 2)

Sentences:

No real researcher says gender is all nature or nurture.

The evidence for biological basis shouldn't lead to complacency...

Many people are uncomfortable that gender isn't purely social.

Biological researchers face political pushback.

Political preference exists for seeing gender as entirely social.

Correct Odd Sentence: 2

Detailed Explanation:

Sentence 1 sets a balanced view: neither nature nor nurture dominates.

Sentence 3 introduces people's discomfort with a non-social explanation.

Sentence 5 presents the ideological preference for social-only views.

Sentence 4 shows that researchers face backlash.

Sentence 2, although well-meaning, is normative advice ("we shouldn't be complacent"), unlike the rest which describe social and political reactions. It breaks the tone and logical flow.

Q4. Cultivated Meat in the UK (CAT 2024 Slot 2)

Sentences:

UK is a world leader in cultivated meat; pet food milestone.

To realize benefits, government must invest...

Human-consumption applications are under review.

Previous government considered fast-tracking approval.

Cultivated meat could reduce negative impact of animal agriculture.

Correct Odd Sentence: 2

Detailed Explanation:

Sentence 1 sets the status: pet food approved.

Sentence 3 and 4 show where human food approval stands.

Sentence 5 connects innovation to sustainability benefit.

Sentence 2 is a policy prescription, not factual or status-based. The rest are descriptive or informative, not prescriptive.

Q5. Neural Development and Synapses (CAT 2024 Slot 3)

Sentences:

Neurons have structures storing chemicals at axon ends...

Fetal warm-up soldering neural connections is vital.

Synaptic pruning sharpens correct connections.

Neural connections between eye and brain form before birth.

Excess synapses are pruned in later development.

Correct Odd Sentence: 1

Detailed Explanation:

Sentences 2, 4, 5, and 3 talk about neural development during fetal stage, visual system, and pruning.

The theme is how neural pathways for vision develop and are refined.

Sentence 1 is too technical and structural, explaining synapse structure, not visual system development. It feels out of sync with the others' focus on functional development and pruning.

Q6. Forecasting vs Intelligence Experts (CAT 2024 Slot 3)

Sentences:

Forecasting appeals because it doesn't require expertise.

Forecasting's tie to world-modelling drew intelligence community.

This was true even though the latter had classified intel.

Study: aggregated forecasts of non-experts > intelligence experts.

Aggregated opinions of non-experts are better future guides.

Correct Odd Sentence: 3

Detailed Explanation:

Sentences 1, 2, 4, and 5 describe how non-experts outperform intelligence experts in forecasting.

Sentence 2 explains the intelligence community's early interest.

Sentence 4 provides a research-backed example of non-expert success.

Sentence 5 is a summary claim.

Sentence 3 is an explanatory aside that doesn't add meaningfully to the central comparison; it weakens the flow and appears tacked on.

Categorise these as well and add to the list

CAT 2023 VARC Slot 1 2 3 papers

Q. 19

Five jumbled up sentences (labelled 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5), related to a topic, are given below. Four of them can be put together to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the odd sentence and key in the number of that sentence as your answer.

1. Having an appreciation for the workings of another person's mind is considered a prerequisite for natural language acquisition, strategic social interaction, reflexive thought, and moral judgment.

2. It is a 'theory of mind' though some scholars prefer to call it 'mentalizing' or 'mindreading', which is important for the development of one's cognitive abilities.

3. Though we must speculate about its evolutionary origin, we do have indications that the capacity evolved sometime in the last few million years.

4. This capacity develops from early beginnings in the first year of life to the adult's fast and often effortless understanding of others' thoughts, feelings, and intentions.

5. One of the most fascinating human capacities is the ability to perceive and interpret other people's behaviour in terms of their mental states.

Q. 20

Five jumbled up sentences (labelled 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5), related to a topic, are given below. Four of them can be put together to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the odd sentence and key in the number of that sentence as your answer.

1. In English, there is no systematic rule for the naming of numbers; after ten, we have "eleven" and "twelve" and then the teens: "thirteen", "fourteen", "fifteen" and so on.

2. Even more confusingly, some English words invert the numbers they refer to: the word "fourteen" puts the four first, even though it appears last.

3. It can take children a while to learn all these words, and understand that "fourteen" is different from "forty".

4. For multiples of 10, English speakers switch to a different pattern: "twenty", "thirty", "forty" and so on.

5. If you didn't know the word for "eleven", you would be unable to just guess it – you might come up with something like "one-teen".

Q. 19 (Slot 2)

Five jumbled up sentences (labelled 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5), related to a topic, are given below. Four of them can be put together to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the odd sentence and key in the number of that sentence as your answer.

1. The banning of Northern Lights could be considered a precursor to censoring books for "moral", world view or religious reasons.

2. Attempts to ban books are attempts to silence authors who have summoned immense courage in telling their stories.

3. Now the banning and challenging of books in the US has escalated to an unprecedented level.

4. The widely acclaimed fantasy novel Northern Lights was banned in some parts of the US, and was the second most challenged book in the US.

5. The American Library Association documented an unparalleled number of reported book challenges in 2022, about 2,500 unique titles.

Q. 20 (Slot 2)

Five jumbled up sentences (labelled 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5), related to a topic, are given below. Four of them can be put together to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the odd sentence and key in the number of that sentence as your answer.

1. Self-care particularly links to loneliness, behavioural problems, and negative academic outcomes.

2. "Latchkey children" refers to children who routinely return home from school to empty homes and take care of themselves for extended periods of time.

3. Although self-care generally points to negative outcomes, it is important to consider that the bulk of research has yet to track long-term consequences.

4. In research and practice, the phrase "children in self-care" has come to replace latchkey in an effort to more accurately reflect the nature of their circumstances.

5. Although parents might believe that self-care would be beneficial for development, recent research has found quite the opposite.

Q. 19 (Slot 3)

Five jumbled up sentences (labelled 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5), related to a topic, are given below. Four of them can be put together to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the odd sentence and key in the number of that sentence as your answer.

1. Although hard skills have traditionally ruled the roost, some companies are moving away from choosing prospective hires based on technical abilities alone.

2. Companies are shaking off the old definition of an ideal candidate and ditching the idea of looking for the singularly perfect candidate altogether.

3. Now, some job descriptions are frequently asking for candidates to demonstrate soft skills, such as leadership or teamwork.

4. That's not to say that practical know-how is no longer required – some jobs still call for highly specific expertise.

5. The move towards prioritising soft skills "is a natural response to three years of the pandemic" says a senior recruiter at Cenlar FSB.

Q. 20 (Slot 3)

Five jumbled up sentences (labelled 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5), related to a topic, are given below. Four of them can be put together to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the odd sentence and key in the number of that sentence as your answer.

1. Boa Senior, who lived through the 2004 tsunami, the Japanese occupation and diseases brought by British settlers, was the last native of the island chain who was fluent in Bo.

2. The indigenous population has been steadily collapsing since the island chain was colonised by British settlers in 1858 and used for most of the following 100 years as a colonial penal colony.

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3. Taking its name from a now-extinct tribe, Bo is one of the 10 Great Andamanese languages, which are thought to date back to pre-Neolithic human settlement of south-east Asia.

4. The last speaker of an ancient tribal language has died in the Andaman Islands, breaking a 65,000-year link to one of the world's oldest cultures.

5. Though the language has been closely studied by researchers of linguistic history, Boa Senior spent the last few years of her life unable to converse with anyone in her mother tongue.

CAT 2023 – Slot 1

Q19 – Topic: Theory of Mind

Correct Answer: 3

Odd Sentence:

"Though we must speculate about its evolutionary origin..."

G Strategy Used: Lone Wolf

Reasoning: The other four sentences form a clear explanatory paragraph about the concept of Theory of Mind and its cognitive role. Sentence 3 digresses into evolutionary speculation, which is not elaborated or connected.

Q20 – Topic: English Number Naming

Correct Answer: 4

Odd Sentence:

"For multiples of 10, English speakers switch to a different pattern..."

G Strategy Used: Nonhomogeneous

Reasoning: The rest focus on the inconsistency and confusion in the English number naming system (like eleven, twelve, fourteen). Sentence 4 switches focus to a separate naming logic, breaking the pattern of complaint or confusion.

CAT 2023 – Slot 2

Q19 – Topic: Book Bans in the US

Correct Answer: 1

Odd Sentence:

"The banning of Northern Lights could be considered a precursor..."

G Strategy Used: Lone Wolf

Reasoning: Sentences 2, 3, 4, 5 describe the current context and escalation of book bans. Sentence 1 attempts to speculate historically, making it thematically disconnected.

Q20 – Topic: Children in Self-Care

Correct Answer: 4

Odd Sentence:

"In research and practice, the phrase 'children in self-care' has come to replace latchkey..."

G Strategy Used: Nonhomogeneous

Reasoning: Other sentences are about the effects or misconceptions of self-care. Sentence 4 is a

terminological clarification, differing in function, not theme.

CAT 2023 – Slot 3

Q19 – Topic: Shift in Hiring Criteria (Soft Skills)

Correct Answer: 2

Odd Sentence:

"Companies are shaking off the old definition of an ideal candidate..."

G Strategy Used: Lone Wolf

Reasoning: Sentences 1, 3, 4, 5 focus on the soft vs hard skill hiring debate, grounded in specific causes like the pandemic or industry trends. Sentence 2 makes a vague philosophical shift about ideal candidates, disconnected from skill-based argument.

Q20 – Topic: Death of Bo Language

Correct Answer: 3

Odd Sentence:

"Taking its name from a now-extinct tribe, Bo is one of the 10 Great Andamanese languages..."

G Strategy Used: Nonhomogeneous

Reasoning: All others focus on Boa Senior, her life, death, and consequences. Sentence 3 is a factual language classification unrelated to her story.

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CAT 2021 – Odd One Out Questions

Question 1

Five jumbled sentences related to a topic are given. Four can be combined to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the sentence that does not belong.

1. There is a dark side to academic research, especially in India, and at its centre is the phenomenon of predatory journals.
2. But in truth, as long as you pay, you can get anything published.
3. In look and feel thus, they are exactly like any reputed journal.
4. They claim to be indexed in the most influential databases, say they possess editorial boards that comprise top scientists and researchers, and claim to have a rigorous peer-review structure.
5. But a large section of researchers and scientists across the world are at the receiving end of nothing short of an academic publishing scam.

Question 2

Five jumbled sentences related to a topic are given. Four can be combined to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the sentence that does not belong.

1. The care with which philosophers examine arguments for and against forms of biotechnology makes this an excellent primer on formulating and assessing moral arguments.
2. Although most people find at least some forms of genetic engineering disquieting, it is not easy to articulate why: what is wrong with re-engineering our nature?
3. Breakthroughs in genetics present us with the promise that we will soon be able to prevent a host of debilitating diseases, and the predicament that our newfound genetic knowledge may enable us to enhance our genetic traits.
4. To grapple with the ethics of enhancement, we need to confront questions that verge on theology, which is why modern philosophers and political theorists tend to shrink from them.
5. One argument is that the drive for human perfection through genetics is objectionable as it represents a bid for mastery that fails to appreciate the gifts of human powers and achievements.

Question 3

Five jumbled sentences related to a topic are given. Four can be combined to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the sentence that does not belong.

1. A typical example is Wikipedia, where the overwhelming majority of contributors are male and so the available content is skewed to reflect their interests.
2. Without diversity of thought and representation, society is left with a distorted picture of future options, which are likely to result in augmenting existing inequalities.

3. Gross gender inequality in the technology sector is problematic, not only for the industry-wide marginalisation of women, but because technology designs embody the values of their makers.

4. While redressing unequal representation in the workplace is a step in the right direction, broader social change is needed to address the structural inequalities embedded within the current organisation of work and employment.

5. If technology merely reflects the perspectives of the male stereotype, then new technologies are unlikely to accommodate the diverse social contexts within which they operate.

Question 4

Five jumbled sentences related to a topic are given. Four can be combined to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the sentence that does not belong.

1. It has taken on a warm, fuzzy glow in the advertising world, where its potential is being widely discussed, and it is being claimed as the undeniable wave of the future.
2. There is little enthusiasm for this in the scientific arena; for them marketing is not a science, and only a handful of studies have been published in scientific journals.
3. The new, growing field of neuromarketing attempts to reveal the inner workings of consumer behaviour and is an extension of the study of how choices and decisions are made.
4. Some see neuromarketing as an attempt to make the "art" of advertising into a science, being used by marketing experts to back up their proposals with some form of real data.
5. The marketing gurus have already started drawing on psychology in developing tests and theories, and advertising people have borrowed the idea of the focus group from social scientists.

Question 5

Five jumbled sentences related to a topic are given. Four can be combined to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the sentence that does not belong.

1. The legal status of resources mined in space remains ambiguous; and while the market for asteroid minerals is currently nonexistent, this is likely to change as technical hurdles diminish.
2. Outer space is a commons, and all of it is open for exploration, however, space law developed in the 1950s and 60s is state-centric and arguably ill-suited to a commercial future.
3. Laws adopted by the US and Luxembourg are first steps, but they only protect firms from competing claims by their compatriots; a Chinese company will not be bound by US law.

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4. Critics say the US is conferring rights that it has no authority to confer; Russia in particular has condemned this, citing the US' disrespect for international law.

5. At issue now is commercial activity, as private firms—rather than nation states — look to space for profit.

Question 6

Five jumbled sentences related to a topic are given. Four can be combined to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the sentence that does not belong.

1. They often include a foundation course on navigating capitalism with Chinese characteristics and have replaced typical cases from US corporates with a focus on how Western theories apply to China's buzzing local firms.

2. The best Chinese business schools look like their Western rivals but are now growing distinct in terms of what they teach and the career boost they offer.

3. Western schools have enhanced their offerings with double degrees, popular with domestic and overseas students alike—and boosted the prestige of their Chinese partners.

4. For students, a big draw is the chance to rub shoulders with captains of China's private sector.

5. Their business courses now largely cater to the growing demand from China Inc which has become more global, richer and ready to recruit from this sinocentric student body.

Question 1 – Topic: Predatory Journals

Sentences:

There is a dark side to academic research, especially in India, and at its centre is the phenomenon of predatory journals.

But in truth, as long as you pay, you can get anything published.

In look and feel thus, they are exactly like any reputed journal.

They claim to be indexed in the most influential databases...

But a large section of researchers and scientists across the world are at the receiving end of nothing short of an academic publishing scam.

Correct Answer: 5

Why: Sentence 5 shifts tone from descriptive analysis to a dramatic global victimhood narrative.

Other sentences are structurally descriptive about how predatory journals work — appearance (3), claims (4), business model (2), and introduction (1).

Sentence 5 adds a moral judgment and global scale that disrupts the analytical tone.

Question 2 – Topic: Genetic Engineering Ethics

Sentences:

The care with which philosophers examine arguments for and against forms of biotechnology makes this an excellent primer on formulating and assessing moral arguments.

Although most people find at least some forms of genetic engineering disquieting...

Breakthroughs in genetics present us with the promise... and predicament.

To grapple with the ethics of enhancement, we need to confront questions...

One argument is that the drive for human perfection... fails to appreciate gifts of human powers.

Correct Answer: 1

Why: Sentence 1 is about a book or text, describing it as a "primer".

All other sentences are part of a flowing argument about the ethics of human enhancement, raising questions and positions. Sentence 1 is meta-commentary, not a part of the debate itself.

Question 3 – Topic: Gender Inequality in Technology

Sentences:

A typical example is Wikipedia...

Without diversity of thought and representation, society is left with a distorted picture...

Gross gender inequality in the tech sector is problematic...

While redressing unequal representation in the workplace is a step...

If technology merely reflects the perspectives of the male stereotype...

Correct Answer: 4

Why: Sentence 4 talks about general workplace inequality and social structure, while the other four focus specifically on tech, design, and representation in digital spaces.

It shifts from the core theme (tech and its gender bias) to a wider HR/workplace diversity discussion.

Question 4 – Topic: Neuromarketing

Sentences:

It has taken on a warm, fuzzy glow in the advertising world...

There is little enthusiasm for this in the scientific arena...

The new, growing field of neuromarketing...

Some see neuromarketing as an attempt to make the "art" of advertising into a science...

The marketing gurus have already started drawing on psychology in developing tests...

Correct Answer: 5

Why: Sentence 5 talks about traditional marketing using psychology, but doesn't mention neuromarketing at all.

The other sentences form a coherent discussion around neuromarketing's status, promise, and reception in both advertising and scientific spheres.

Question 5 – Topic: Space Law & Asteroid Mining

Sentences:

The legal status of resources mined in space remains ambiguous...

Outer space is a commons... and current law is state-centric.

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Laws adopted by the US and Luxembourg...

Critics say the US is conferring rights it has no authority to confer...

At issue now is commercial activity, as private firms... look to space for profit.

Correct Answer: 1

Why: Sentence 1 is more technical/futuristic, focusing on market potential and technical hurdles.

All other sentences focus on the legal, regulatory, and geopolitical complexities involved in space commercialization.

Thus, sentence 1 breaks thematic focus on legalities.

Question 6 – Topic: Chinese vs Western Business Schools
Sentences:

They often include a foundation course on navigating capitalism with Chinese characteristics...

The best Chinese business schools look like their Western rivals...

Western schools have enhanced their offerings with double degrees...

For students, a big draw is the chance to rub shoulders with captains of China's private sector.

Their business courses now largely cater to the growing demand from China Inc...

Correct Answer: 3

Why: Sentence 3 focuses on Western schools' enhancements, while all other sentences focus on the curriculum, appeal, and evolution of Chinese business schools.

It disrupts the China-centric focus of the rest.

Solve each of these questions

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CAT 2020 – Odd One Out Questions

Question 1

Five jumbled sentences related to a topic are given. Four can be combined to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the sentence that does not belong.

1. For feminists, the question of how we read is inextricably linked with the question of what we read.
2. Elaine Showalter's critique of the literary curriculum is exemplary of this work.
3. Androcentric literature structures the reading experience differently depending on the gender of the reader.
4. The documentation of this realization was one of the earliest tasks undertaken by feminist critics.
5. More specifically, the feminist inquiry into the activity of reading begins with the realization that the literary canon is androcentric, and that this has a profoundly damaging effect on women readers.

Question 2

Five jumbled sentences related to a topic are given. Four can be combined to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the sentence that does not belong.

1. You can observe the truth of this in every e-business model ever constructed: monopolise and protect data.
2. Economists and technologists believe that a new kind of capitalism is being created – different from industrial capitalism as was merchant capitalism.
3. In 1962, Kenneth Arrow, the guru of mainstream economics, said that in a free market economy the purpose of inventing things is to create intellectual property rights.
4. There is, alongside the world of monopolised information and surveillance, a different dynamic growing up: information as a social good, incapable of being owned or exploited or priced.
5. Yet information is abundant. Information goods are freely replicable. Once a thing is made, it can be copied and pasted infinitely.

Question 3

Five jumbled sentences related to a topic are given. Four can be combined to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the sentence that does not belong.

1. Machine learning models are prone to learning human-like biases from the training data that feeds these algorithms.
2. Hate speech detection is part of the on-going effort against oppressive and abusive language on social media.
3. The current automatic detection models miss out on something vital: context.
4. It uses complex algorithms to flag racist or violent speech faster and better than human beings alone.
5. For instance, algorithms struggle to determine if group identifiers like "gay" or "black" are used in offensive or

prejudiced ways because they're trained on imbalanced datasets with unusually high rates of hate speech.

Question 4

Five jumbled sentences related to a topic are given. Four can be combined to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the sentence that does not belong.

1. The logic of displaying one's inner qualities through outward appearance was based on a distinction between being a woman and being feminine.
2. 'Appearance' became a signifier of conduct – to look was to be, and conformity to the feminine ideal was measured by how well women could use the tools of the fashion and beauty industries.
3. The makeover-centric media sets out subtly and not-so-subtly, 'good' and 'bad' ways to be a woman, layering these over inequalities of race and class.
4. The denigration of working-class women and women of colour often centres on their perceived failure to embody feminine beauty.
5. 'Woman' was considered a biological category, but femininity was a 'process' by which women became specific kinds of women.

Question 5

Five jumbled sentences related to a topic are given. Four can be combined to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the sentence that does not belong.

1. The victim's trauma after assault rarely gets the attention that we lavish on the moment of damage that divided the survivor from a less encumbered past.
2. One thing we often do with narratives of sexual assault is sort their respective parties into different temporalities: it seems we are interested in perpetrators' futures and victims' pasts.
3. One result is that we don't have much of a vocabulary for what happens in a victim's life after the painful past has been excavated, even when our shared language gestures toward the future, as the term "survivor" does.
4. Even the most charitable questions asked about the victims seem to focus on the past, in pursuit of understanding or of corroboration of painful details.
5. As more and more stories of sexual assault have been made public in the last two years, the genre of their telling has exploded — crimes have a tendency to become not just stories but genres.

Question 6

Five jumbled sentences related to a topic are given. Four can be combined to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the sentence that does not belong.

1. Talk was the most common way for enslaved men and women to subvert the rules of their bondage, to gain more agency than they were supposed to have.

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2. Even in conditions of extreme violence and unfreedom, their words remained ubiquitous, ephemeral, irrepressible, and potentially transgressive.
3. Slaves came from societies in which oaths, orations, and invocations carried great potency, both between people and as a connection to the all-powerful spirit world.
4. Freedom of speech and the power to silence may have been preeminent markers of white liberty in Colonies, but at the same time, slavery depended on dialogue: slaves could never be completely muted.
5. Slave-owners obsessed over slave talk, though they could never control it, yet feared its power to bind and inspire—for, as everyone knew, oaths, whispers, and secret conversations bred conspiracy and revolt.

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CAT 2019 – Odd One Out Questions

Question 1

Five jumbled sentences related to a topic are given. Four can be combined to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the sentence that does not belong.

1. 'Stat' signaled something measurable, while 'matic' advertised free labour; but 'tron', above all, indicated control.
2. It was a totem of high modernism, the intellectual and cultural mode that decreed no process or phenomenon was too complex to be grasped, managed and optimized.
3. Like the heraldic shields of ancient knights, these morphemes were painted onto the names of scientific technologies to proclaim one's history and achievements to friends and enemies alike.
4. The historian Robert Proctor at Stanford University calls the suffix '-tron', along with '-matic' and '-stat', embodied symbols.
5. To gain the suffix was to acquire a proud and optimistic emblem of the electronic and atomic age.

Question 2

Five jumbled sentences related to a topic are given. Four can be combined to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the sentence that does not belong.

1. Ocean plastic is problematic for a number of reasons, but primarily because marine animals eat it.
2. The largest numerical proportion of ocean plastic falls in small size fractions.
3. Aside from clogging up the digestive tracts of marine life, plastic also tends to adsorb pollutants from the water column.
4. Plastic in the oceans is arguably one of the most important and pervasive environmental problems today.
5. Eating plastic has a number of negative consequences such as the retention of plastic particles in the gut for longer periods than normal food particles.

CAT 2020 – Odd One Out

Question 1 – Feminist Reading

Odd One Out: 2. Elaine Showalter's critique of the literary curriculum is exemplary of this work.

Explanation:

All other statements revolve around the broader theme of how feminist critics re-evaluate reading and the canon. Sentence 2 is too specific, referring to a particular individual's critique, which doesn't fit the thematic generality of the paragraph.

Question 2 – Capitalism & Data

Odd One Out: 4. There is, alongside the world of monopolised information and surveillance, a different dynamic...

Explanation:

Sentences 1, 2, 3, and 5 discuss the economic structure and historical development of data monopolies and capitalism. Sentence 4 shifts to an alternate positive vision (information as a social good), which does not align with the tone and argument of data being monopolized.

Question 3 – Hate Speech Detection

Odd One Out: 2. Hate speech detection is part of the on-going effort...

Explanation:

Sentences 1, 3, 4, and 5 focus on technical flaws and challenges in AI-based hate speech detection. Sentence 2 simply states a general aim of hate speech detection but doesn't fit with the paragraph's technical critique.

Question 4 – Femininity and Appearance

Odd One Out: 1. The logic of displaying one's inner qualities...

Explanation:

Sentences 2, 3, 4, and 5 explore how femininity is socially constructed and enforced through appearance and media. Sentence 1 draws a theoretical distinction that doesn't align smoothly with the social critique tone of the rest.

Question 5 – Narratives of Sexual Assault

Odd One Out: 5. As more and more stories of sexual assault...

Explanation:

Sentences 1, 2, 3, and 4 analyze how victims' timelines are treated and how post-trauma discourse is lacking. Sentence 5 shifts to a meta-commentary on genre, not aligning with the others' focus on victim experience over time.

Question 6 – Slave Speech and Resistance

Odd One Out: 3. Slaves came from societies in which oaths, orations...

Explanation:

Sentences 1, 2, 4, and 5 describe slave speech as resistance in the context of American slavery. Sentence 3 discusses African cultural traditions, which, although related, is not directly tied to the paragraph's theme of speech under bondage in the colonies.

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CAT 2019 – Odd One Out

Question 1 – Suffixes and Technology

Odd One Out: 3. Like the heraldic shields of ancient knights...

Explanation:

Sentences 1, 2, 4, and 5 focus on the symbolic and cultural significance of suffixes like "-tron", "-matic", "-stat". Sentence 3 brings in an analogy of shields and knights, which while creative, is metaphorical and out of sync with the academic tone of the rest.

Question 2 – Ocean Plastic Pollution

Odd One Out: 2. The largest numerical proportion of ocean plastic...

Explanation:

Sentences 1, 3, 4, and 5 focus on the harmful effects of plastic ingestion by marine life. Sentence 2 talks about the size of plastic debris, which is factual but disconnected from the main theme of ecological harm via ingestion.