

JMET PAPER: (13-12-2009)

SECTION 1: VERBAL COMMUNICATION (Questions 1 - 30)

Directions: Questions 1 to 4 relate to the passage given below:

Let us take a look at the pressures building up. To start off, there is the long term rise in the cost of energy. Every time the cost of transportation goes up, employers are compelled to increase wages accordingly. They may resist for a time, but if they want their workers to show up, they eventually have to provide a transportation subsidy. It is built right into the wage structure.

Next, the entire system of commuting implies hidden costs. Companies that bring employees to a central location wind up paying more for real estate; they pay higher taxes, maintenance costs and salaries. They often have to provide cafeterias, locker rooms, and in suburban locations, parking facilities - there is a whole infrastructure that supports the commuting process. All of these costs have been skyrocketing.

By contrast, as we all know, the cost of telecommunications and computing and video equipment, and other tools for "telecommuting" are plummeting. So you have two powerful economic curves about to intersect. But even more importantly, we all worry about productivity. Without doubt, the single most *anti productive* thing that we do is to shift millions of people back and forth across the landscape everyday. A waste of time, of human creativity, of millions of barrels of non-renewable fuel, a cause of pollution, crowding and god knows what else.

We worry about the human effects of home-work. But how human is commuting itself? For most workers commuting is the unpaid part of the job, being isolated for hours at a time. Commuting was important when most workers had to handle physical goods in factories. Today, as the Third Wave industries expand, many workers travel to work to handle information, ideas, numbers, programs, formulas, designs and symbols and it is a lot cheaper to move the information to the workers than the workers to the information.

There are all kinds of parallel cultural and value shifts as well that support the idea. The new emphasis on revived family life. The decentralist push - nothing is more decentralized than working at home. The resistance to forced mobility - you do not have to move your family when you change your job. Environmental concern - nothing pollutes more than centralized production.

Add all these pressures together, and you understand why this transfer of certain jobs into the home seems so likely. Moreover, you have to see this development not by itself, but as linked to the de-massification of production and distribution; decentralization towards the regions: rising importance of information; the appearance of wholly new, unprecedented industries; the breakdown of national tools for economic regulation or management, and the rising importance of co-production and non-market production.

We are restructuring the economy on all these fronts at once. No wonder our economic vocabulary is outdated. No wonder our economic maps no longer reflect the terrain. A new Third Wave economy is taking shape.

1. The above passage DOES NOT talk about: ---
- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| (A) The essential nature of commuting. | (B) Additive costs of commuting. |
| (C) Changing nature of social values | (D) Rise of the knowledge economy |

Ans. (C)

The focus of the passage is economic— that future work place is likely to be home. Cultural and value shifts like revived family have been mentioned only in connection with strengthening of the trend. Therefore, answer should be C. The essential nature of commuting is 'wastefulness and increased cost' as mentioned in the passage.

2. Which of the following can be the MOST APPROPRIATE title for the passage'?

- (A) To Commute or to Produce? (B) The future of work
(C) The "Third Wave Economy" (D) In support of "home-work"

Ans. (C)

The title of the passage must cover the central focus, i.e. the trend towards working from home. The best title should have been "The future work place". The next best is **(C)**.

3. Which of the following statements can be deduced from the given passage'?

- (A) Rise in transportation costs leads to loss in productivity.
(B) Commuting is the least productive aspect of today's economy.
(C) Renewed emphasis on family life is pushing down telecommuting costs.
(D) Physical production in factories has been replaced by information, design and symbols.

Ans. (A)

Option (B) appears to be quite attractive, but is rendered incorrect by the use of the extreme phrase "least". Commuting adds to the cost, apart from being wasteful. Therefore, rise in transportation cost leads to loss in productivity (A).

4. As per the passage, which of the following is NOT a reason for working from home'?

- (A) increasing energy costs (B) decreasing telecommuting costs
(C) increasing levels of social diversity (D) regional decentralization

Ans. (C)

Directions: for questions 5 and 6, choose the option that is CLOSEST in meaning to the capitalized words:

5. **ERUCT**

- (A) build (B) belch (C) blasé (D) blink

Ans. (B)

6. **COMETARY**

- (A) coming late (B) being comatose (C) of comets (D) being complacent

Ans. (C)

7. In the options given below, identify the one sentence which has an INCORRECT spelling:

- (A) Mental idiosyncrasies may sometimes act as quirky guides to solutions.
(B) The human mind is a wonderfully obtuse and circuitous instrument.
(C) Until the time of Galileo, astronomers believed that everything in the heavens is unchanging and incorruptable.
(D) Whole groups have suffered this fate as a consequence of prejudice rather than excoriation.

Ans. (C)

Directions: Questions 8 to 11 relate to the passage given below:

In the evolution of philosophical thought the following question has played a major role: is there any knowledge that arises solely out of pure thought, without any effect of sense perception? If not, what precisely is the relation between our knowledge and the raw material furnished by our sense perceptions? An almost boundless chaos of philosophical opinions corresponds to these questions. Nevertheless there is visible in this process of relatively fruitless but heroic endeavours a systematic trend of development, namely an increasing skepticism concerning every attempt by means of pure thought to learn something about the "objective world". Be it said parenthetically that quotation marks are used here to introduce an illegitimate concept which the reader is asked to permit for the moment, although the concept is suspect in the eyes of the philosophical police.

During philosophy's childhood it was rather generally believed that it is possible to find everything which can be known by means of mere reflection. It was an illusion which anyone can easily understand if he discusses what he has learned from later philosophy and from natural science. He will not be surprised to find that Plato ascribed a higher reality to "ideas" than to empirically experienceable things. This more aristocratic illusion concerning the unlimited penetrative power of thought has as its counterpart the more plebeian illusion of naive realism. This is also the point of departure in all of the sciences, especially of the natural sciences.

Russell has characterized this process in a concise fashion... "we all start from naive realism, i.e., the doctrine that things are what they seem. We think that grass is green and stones are hard and that snow is cold. But physics assures us that the greenness of grass, the hardness of stones and the coldness of snow are not the greenness, hardness and coldness that we know in our own experience, but something very different. Observing a stone, is really, if physics is to be believed, observing the effects of the stone upon himself. Thus science seems to be at war with itself. When it most wants to be objective it finds itself plunged into subjectivity against its will. Naive realism leads to physics and physics, if true, shows that naive realism is false. Therefore, naive realism, if true, is false: therefore it is false".

8. Which of the following options BEST captures the essence of the passage'?
- (A) Early philosophy and its evolution
 - (B) Theory of knowledge and philosophy
 - (C) Evolution of philosophical thought
 - (D) An enquiry into the nature and meaning of knowledge

Ans. (D)

The focus of the passage is not how philosophy evolved over time (although the word evolution has been used), but whether knowledge arises solely out of pure thought, without any effect of sense perception. So, the answer is (D)

9. Which of the following statements CANNOT be deduced from the given passage'?
- (A) Several philosophical opinions exist on the relationship between knowledge and sense impressions.
 - (B) The belief in the power of knowledge separates philosophy from the physical and natural sciences.
 - (C) Plato, being a philosopher gave more importance to ideas than to things that can be experienced.
 - (D) Subjectivity is part of science.

Ans. (B)

10. The word "parenthetically" in the given passage means:
- (A) With special reference (B) Stated within brackets
(C) As parents would say (D) Within quotation marks

Ans. (B)

11. The last sentence of the passage implies that:
- (A) To believe in naive realism is to acknowledge the existence of green grass and cold snow.
(B) Naive realism leads to observations that are true in their form but are false perceptions of existence.
(C) Illusion and knowledge have a strong relationship.
(D) Observation of stone and grass is possible through naive realism.

Ans. (B)

Directions: In Question 12, select the pair of words from the given options that best expresses a relationship SIMILAR to the pair in capital letters:

12. **POWER : POLITICS**
- (A) Heat : Physics (B) Earth surface : Geography
(C) Equations : Mathematics (D) Wars : History

Ans. (B)

Directions: Questions 13 to 15 refer to the passage given below:

Neither misery nor folly seems to me any part of the inevitable lot of man. And I am convinced that intelligence, patience and eloquence can, sooner or later, lead the human race out of its self imposed tortures provided it does not exterminate itself meanwhile.

On the basis of this belief, I have always had a certain degree of optimism, although, as I have grown older, the optimism has grown more sober and the happy issues more distant. But I remain completely incapable of agreeing with those who accept fatalistically the view that man is born to trouble. The causes of unhappiness in the past and in the present are not difficult to ascertain. There have been poverty, pestilence, and famine, which were due to man's inadequate mastery of nature. There have been wars, oppressions and tortures which have been due to men's hostility to their fellow men. And there have been morbid miseries, fostered by gloomy creeds, which have led men into profound inner discords that made all outward prosperity of no avail. All these are unnecessary. In regard to all of them, means are known by which they can be overcome. In the modern world, if communities are unhappy, it is because they chose to be so. Or to speak more precisely, because they have ignorance, habits, beliefs, and passions which are dearer to them than happiness or even life. I find many men in our dangerous age who seem to be in love with misery and death and grow angry when hopes are suggested to them.

At first I imagined that the task of awaking people to the dangers of the Nuclear Peril should not be very difficult. I shared the general belief that the motive of self preservation is a very powerful one which, when it comes into operation, generally overrides all others. I thought that people would not like the prospect of being fried with their families and their neighbours and every living person that they had heard of. I thought that it would be necessary to make the danger known and that, when this had been done, men of all parties would unite to restore previous safety. I found that this is a mistake. There is a motive which is stronger than self preservation: it is the desire to get the better of the other fellow.

13. Which of the following options BEST describes the gist of the passage?
- (A) Unhappiness is a matter of personal choice and is not external to oneself.
 - (B) Happiness lies in acknowledging future possibilities of gloom.
 - (C) Unhappiness lies in the discovery of self-belief and assessment.
 - (D) Happiness comes from facing unpleasant possibilities.

Ans. (A)

14. From the line "And there have been morbid miseries ,fostered by gloomy creeds, which have led men into profound inner discords that made all outward prosperity of no avail ", it can be deduced that:
- (A) Prosperity has vanished due to people's greed and desire for destruction.
 - (B) Man-made unhappiness makes people view wealth and material comforts as worthless.
 - (C) Sadness has led to severe miseries.
 - (D) Hostility towards one's own kind can destroy inner peace.

Ans. (B)

15. In the passage, the word 'fatalistically' refers to:
- (A) pre-assessed
 - (B) pre-viewed
 - (C) pre-ordained
 - (D) pre-fixed

Ans. (C)

Directions: For Questions 16 and 17, choose the option that BEST completes the relationship indicated in capitalized pair:

16. **ANGULAR : GEOMETRY:: ? : WINTER**
- (A) Wither
 - (B) Weather
 - (C) Hibernial
 - (D) Holiday

Ans. (C)

17. **BIOLOGY : CELLS:: ? : CROP**
- (A) Agriculture
 - (B) Farm
 - (C) Seed
 - (D) Harvest

Ans. (A)

Directions: For Questions 18 and 19, choose the option that is OPPOSITE in meaning to the capitalized words:

18. **NESCIENCE**
- (A) awareness
 - (B) ignorance
 - (C) generosity
 - (D) miserliness

Ans. (A)

19. **PRECONIZE**
- (A) announce
 - (B) predict
 - (C) conceal
 - (D) negate

Ans. (C)

Directions: The direct speech in Question 20 is rewritten as reported speech (indirect form) in the given options. Identify the grammatically CORRECT option:

20. "Who is visiting the house?", he asked. "I saw the groom rubbing down four black horses."
- (A) He asked who was visiting the house as he had seen the groom rubbing down four black horses.

- (B) He asked who is visiting the house and whether the groom is rubbing down four black horses.
- (C) He asked who visited the house since the groom rubbed down four black horses.
- (D) He asked as to who was visiting the house as because he saw the groom rubbing down four black horses.

Ans. (A)

Directions: In Question 21, choose the option which is CLOSEST in meaning to the sentence given below:

21. From that memorable night, I dismissed forever my chanel apprehensions, and with them vanished the cataleptic disorders, of which, perhaps, they had been less the consequence than the cause.
- (A) My cataleptic disorders which caused the chanel apprehensions disappeared from that memorable night.
 - (B) My cataleptic disorders were dismissed from my chanel apprehensions forever on that memorable night. x
 - (C) My chanel apprehensions dismissed the cataleptic disorders from my memorable night forever.
 - (D) My chanel apprehensions and consequent cataleptic disorders disappeared from that night onwards.

Ans. (D)

Directions: Questions 22 to 24 relate to the passage given below:

Evolutionary relationships are also genealogical, not primarily functional. We all understand that whales are mammals by history of common descent, not fishes because they swim in the ocean. In genealogical terms, closeness is defined by position in a sequence of branchings - what Darwin called "propinquity", or relative nearness. I may look and act more like my cousin Bob than my brother Bill, but Bill is still closer to me by genealogy. Function and appearance need not correlate strongly with genealogical propinquity. Evolutionists have described the genealogical relationships among trout, lungfishes and cows in the following manner. Terrestrial vertebrates branched off the line of early fishes at a point near the ancestry - of modern lungfishes; trout evolved much later from a persisting earlier lines of fishes. Therefore, if we chose to classify purely by genealogy, lung fishes and cows must be placed together in a group separate from trout. Many of us rebel against such an idea because our conventional classifications mix functional and strictly genealogical relationship. We may say, "A lungfish looks like a fish, swims like a fish, acts like a fish, and tastes like a fish. Therefore it is a fish." Perhaps so; but by propinquity, lungfishes are closer to cows.

This issue now pervades the science of systematics as the great debate about "cladism". Cladists advocate classification by pure genealogy (branching order), with no attention what so ever to traditional concepts of similarity in function or biological role. However, we need only carry away the lesson that genealogical and functional similarity are different concepts, and that we can be terribly fooled when we make a mistaken equation - particularly when we assume a closeness in branching (propinquity) from evidence of common appearance or behavior.

If we call a whale a fish, we make a simple error by misunderstanding the evolutionary phenomenon of "convergence". The fish like characters of whales evolved separately and independently in a line derived from fully terrestrial vertebrates. But the fishy similarities of trout and lungfishes are genuine evolutionary marks of common ancestry. These similarities do not forge a closer genealogical bond between lungfish and trout than between lungfish and cow because such shared features are

common characters of *all* early vertebrates; propinquity is marked by shared characters of later derivation. For example, the character "five fingers" cannot be used to unite humans and dogs while placing seals in another group for dogs and seals are genealogically close as members of the order Carnivore. The position of five fingers is a shared character of all ancestral mammals; such traits cannot help us make divisions *within* later mammalian evolution.

22. As per the given passage, a "Cladist" is one who:
- (A) Acknowledges the distinction between genealogical and functional similarities.
 - (B) Debates at length on the science of systematics.
 - (C) Groups animals by propinquity.
 - (D) Describes genealogical relationships between mammals and fish.

Ans. (C)

23. Which of the following options is NOT TRUE as per the above passage?
- (A) Evolutionary relationships have their basis in functional similarities.
 - (B) Lungfishes and trouts belong to the same common ancestry.
 - (C) Genealogical branching gives rise to propinquity.
 - (D) Dogs and seals are genealogically closer compared to lungfish and trout.

Ans. (C)

Genealogical branching is what Darwin calls propinquity. So, one defines the other. One is not the cause for the other. Evolutionary relationships have their base as much in functional similarities as in genealogical branching. So, (A) is true and can't be the answer.

24. Which of the following options can be BEST deduced from the passage'?
- (A) There is no such thing as functional similarity.
 - (B) Behavioral similarities in the animal kingdom point to a common ancestry.
 - (C) The phenomenon of "convergence" can best explain the basis of all evolutionary relationships.
 - (D) Genealogical propinquity need not follow from functional similarity.

Ans. (D)

Directions: Question 25 consists of four groups of jumbled phrases, of which only one is grammatically correct. Identify the CORRECT option:

25. (A) when I am beginning a new habit / both summoning and manipulating at will / processions of images that I can / my hypnagogic visions are intricate
- (B) at his or her offspring who at seven or ten years of age / how many times recently have we / is busily programming a computer / heard a parent or grandparent marvel
- (C) account for the error I have / committed in my measurements / but my soul took a wildly interested / trifles and I busied in endeavors
- (D) leading a regular life / the doctors assured him it is not dangerous / and talked as little as possible and / merely advising him not to get excited

Ans. (B)

Directions: In Question 26, choose the correct option for the phrase "as Russell saw it", to make a grammatically CORRECT sequel to the phrase given below:

26. There is a close relationship between competitive recreation and the society that endorses it.
- (A) As Russell saw it, this relationship is reciprocal.
 - (B) This is reciprocal relationship, as Russell saw it.
 - (C) This relationship is reciprocal, as Russell saw it.
 - (D) This relationship, as Russell saw it, is reciprocal.

Ans. (D)

27. "It followed my footsteps with a pertinacity which the reader will find difficult to comprehend".

Pertinacity in the above sentence refers to:

- (A) Devotion
- (B) Strength
- (C) Importance
- (D) Stubbornness

Ans. (D)

28. Identify the grammatically CORRECT option:

- (A) You must not kill your neighbour, whom perhaps you genuinely hate.
- (B) You must not kill your neighbour, even if you are genuinely hating him
- (C) You may genuinely be hating your neighbour, but do not kill him.
- (D) You hate your neighbour but you must not kill him perhaps.

Ans. (A)

Directions: In Question 29, fill in the blanks with the option that has the MOST APPROPRIATE set of words:

29. The _____ displayed on the pages which follow is not intended, however, to be _____ for its own sake.
- (A) anger, good
 - (B) anxiety, funny
 - (C) humour, amusing
 - (D) anguish, droll

Ans. (C)

Directions: In Question 30, choose the correct option for the word "indeed", to make a grammatically CORRECT sequel to the phrase given below:

- 30 Satisfaction of self-esteem leads to a feeling of self confidence.
- (A) As one social psychologist concluded, indeed, "...few psychologists would disagree that self-esteem is essential to emotional well-being".
 - (B) As one social psychologist concluded, "...few psychologists would disagree that self esteem is essential to emotional well-being", indeed.
 - (C) As one social psychologist, indeed, concluded, "...few psychologists would disagree that self-esteem is essential to emotional well-being".
 - (D) Indeed, as one social psychologist concluded, "...few psychologists would disagree that self-esteem is essential to emotional well-being".

Ans. (D)