

CAT Questions for Practice

Difficulty Level - Difficult

1. The passage given below is followed by four alternate summaries. Choose the option that best captures the essence of the passage.

In 1944, at age 15, Martin Luther King entered Morehouse College in Atlanta under a special wartime program intended to boost enrolment by admitting promising high-school students like King. Before beginning college, however, King spent the summer on a tobacco farm in Connecticut; it was his first extended stay away from home and his first substantial experience of race relations outside the segregated South. He was shocked by how peacefully the races mixed in the North. This summer experience in the North only deepened King's growing hatred of racial segregation.

A. Martin Luther King enrolled for a war time program in North which later opened his eyes towards racial segregation.

B. On his first extended stay away from home, Martin Luther King experienced a different summer in the North after spending some time in Connecticut.

C. Martin Luther King's summer in the North intensified his hatred of racial segregation because it was his first significant contact with race relations outside of the segregated South.

D. Before beginning college, Martin Luther King visited North and experienced race relations inside the segregated South and got frightened.

2. The passage given below is followed by four alternate summaries. Choose the option that best captures the essence of the passage.

The UN database is a mechanism to document, report, and engage primary interested parties. It does not have the mandate to adjudicate the responsibility of concerned parties, nor to act as a coercive tool of law enforcement. Thus, commentators who refer to it as a "blacklist" misrepresent it and undermine its legitimacy. To maximise its effectiveness, the database must be able to engage and cooperate with businesses that operate in the territories and their home states. It cannot afford to alienate its target audiences by operating as an adjudicative or coercive body. There is no doubt that the UN database will be embroiled in political turmoil. It may not be the first of its kind, but it could well become the first to function as a regulatory tool that gains support, and encourages compliance with international law.

A. The UN database acts as an instrument for documenting, reporting, and engaging interested parties, but it does not have the authority to adjudicate or operate as a coercive tool of law enforcement. It could be the first to serve as a regulatory tool.

B. The UN database acts as an instrument for documenting, reporting, and engaging interested parties, but it cannot afford to alienate its target audiences.

C. Though it has potential, the UN database despite being an mechanism for documenting, reporting, and engaging interested parties, cannot take the authority to operate as a coercive tool of law enforcement.

D. Many commentators refer the UN database as a “blacklist” and despite this allegation it is coming forward to become the first to function as a regulatory tool that might gain support of many people after it proves its authenticity.

3. The passage given below is followed by four alternate summaries. Choose the option that best captures the essence of the passage.

Adiyogi is generally worshipped in the country as Shiva. As per various iconographic proofs, he is said to have walked this land over 15,000 years ago. If we did not forget him for 15,000 years, he must have done something significant. Though it has largely turned into worship and rituals, you must understand that when Adiyogi came, the human intellect was generally not in a shape for human well-being and subjectivity to be handled in a scientific manner. So, not knowing how to use this technology for well-being that he offered, most people worshipped him. Only a few people made use of it.

A. If we did not forget Adiyoga for 15,000 years ago he might have achieved something significant in his life apart from constantly being worshiped for one or another reason.

B. Adiyogi who was worshipped as Shiva, became a prominent person who was worshipped for his gigantic personality though he could never expand the scientific knowledge in the nation.

C. Being worshipped as Shiva, Adiyogi came over 15,000 years ago at the time when scientific knowledge was not flourishing.

D. When Adiyogi arrived, the human intellect was not in a state that allowed human well-being and subjectivity to be dealt with scientifically, though he really wanted to do something significant.

4. The four sentences (labelled 1, 2, 3 and 4) below, when properly sequenced, would yield a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper sequencing of the order of the sentences and choose the correct option.

1. With every new North Korean missile – such as the one launched on Tuesday November 28 – or nuclear test, all eyes are on China.

2. For Washington, North Korea has become a top national security priority, in particular because of Pyongyang’s unexpectedly fast progress in developing intercontinental nuclear capabilities that may be able to reach the US mainland.

3. Since assuming office, Trump has made North Korea the main focus of US-China relations.

4. His main strategy has been to use trade issues as a bargaining chip to pressure China on North Korea, convinced that exerting enough economic pressure on Beijing will eventually force China to do what he wants.

A. 3241

B. 1234

C. 1324

D. 1243

5. The four sentences (labelled 1, 2, 3 and 4) below, when properly sequenced, would yield a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper sequencing of the order of the sentences and choose the correct option.

1. Exposure to pet cats also appeared to cut down the risk of developing food allergies, especially egg, wheat and soybean allergies.
2. Besides this, the researchers found that allergy rates were not significantly different among the kids who grew up with dogs kept outside.
3. The study showed that kids who grew up with indoor dogs were significantly less likely to develop food allergies than those who did not, particularly egg, milk and nut allergies.
4. This study is based on the hygiene hypothesis, which suggests that pet exposure is effective in preventing allergic disease

A. 3214

B. 1234

C. 1243

D. 4312

6. The four sentences (labelled 1, 2, 3 and 4) below, when properly sequenced, would yield a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper sequencing of the order of the sentences and choose the correct option.

1. The German army was radically downsized and the nation forbidden to have submarines or an air force. "We shall squeeze the German lemon until the pips squeak!" explained one British official.
2. Hitler rose to power through the Nazi Party, an organization he forged after returning as a wounded veteran from the annihilating trench warfare of World War I.
3. He and other patriotic Germans were outraged and humiliated by the harsh terms of the Treaty of Versailles, which the Allies compelled the new German government, the Weimar Republic, to accept along with an obligation to pay \$33 billion in war reparations.
4. Germany also had to give up its prized overseas colonies and surrender valued parcels of home territory to France and Poland.

A. 1423

B. 1234

C. 2341

D. 4312

7. The four sentences (labelled 1, 2, 3 and 4) below, when properly sequenced, would yield a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper sequencing of the order of the sentences and choose the correct option.

1. On 17 August 2017, three leading activists, aged 19 to 24, who had served their community service sentences for civil disobedience, were imprisoned following the Hong Kong government's unprecedented appeal of the ruling.
2. Hong Kong's version of "Occupy Wall street", the Umbrella movement against Beijing politics was the most important protest in recent years, lasting three months.
3. As hundreds paid homage to the 2014 protests on September 29 in Hong Kong, the challenges facing the new generation of activists are not how to mobilise mass protests, but how to wrestle with the state's innovative strategy to manage society.
4. But three years later, Hong Kong's democracy is still kept at bay.

A. 1423

B. 1234

C. 4123

D. 2431

8. Four jumbled up sentences, related to a topic, are given below. Three of them can be put together to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the odd one out.

1. Migration distances vary considerably depending on environmental conditions, during a prolonged dry season in Africa, elephant migration distances were recorded to extend over 100 km (62 mi.).
2. Studies documenting Asian elephants in deciduous forests of southern India, with numerous water sources, reported elephant migration to extend between 20 and 50 km (12 and 31 mi.).
3. Elephants are known for their distinctively large ears and long trunks, which they use to feed, drink water, and communicate with one another.
4. Both Asian and African elephants migrate and generally follow the same migratory routes annually.

A. Option 1

B. Option 2

C. Option 3

D. Option 4

9. Four jumbled up sentences, related to a topic, are given below. Three of them can be put together to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the odd one out.

1. Apart from some unaccented monosyllabic or disyllabic terms of minor importance, each word is marked by an accent (the highest tone within the word) on one of the vowels (one of the last three vowels, if the word has more than three syllables).
2. Short vowels, if they carry the accent, have only a rising tone; long vowels or diphthongs may have either a rising tone (noted by the acute accent) or a rising tone followed by a falling tone (noted by the circumflex).
3. When a word carrying an acute accent on the vowel of the final syllable is followed by another word within the same phrase, its accent is noted by the sign of the grave accent, in order to indicate that its tone is lower than that of the vowel of the initial syllable of the next word.
4. Knowing non-native languages has evolved to become extremely beneficial in facilitating social and business interactions.

A. Option 1

B. Option 2

C. Option 3

D. Option 4

10. There is a sentence that is missing in the paragraph below. Look at the paragraph and decide in which blank (option 1, 2, 3, or 4) the following sentence would best fit.

Sentence: Such earthquakes are related to industrial activities.

The Pawnee earthquake followed the dramatic increase of seismic events in the central United States beginning in 2009, associated with the increase of underground wastewater disposal by oil and gas

operators. (1)_____. This and other events in the area raised public concerns and led governmental agencies to shut down injection wells and establish new regulations regarding wastewater injections. (2)_____. While human-caused earthquakes have been documented for more than a century, their increasing number reported worldwide has drawn much scientific, social and political attention. (3)_____. Some of the examples are mining, construction of water dams, injection of liquids such as waste water and carbon dioxide, and extractions associated with oil and gas exploitation. (4)_____. With the ever-increasing demand for energy and mineral supplies worldwide, the number of human-caused earthquakes is expected to rise in the upcoming years.

A. Option 1

B. Option 2

C. Option 3

D. Option 4

11. There is a sentence that is missing in the paragraph below. Look at the paragraph and decide in which blank (option 1, 2, 3, or 4) the following sentence would best fit.

Sentence: This regime of direct taxes is manned by a cadre of Indian Revenue Services (IRS).

In India, like any other country, the government draws its income from two heads: tax revenue and non-tax revenue. (1)_____. Tax revenue has two components: direct tax which comprises Income Tax and Corporate Tax; and Indirect Taxes which has GST, Customs and other taxes.

(2)_____. The Income Tax Department in India collects the direct taxes portion of the tax revenue for the government of India. (3)_____. Most of these are highly technical, professional and tech-savvy cadre. However, the services rendered by the IRS in the nation-building hardly gets recognised. The work of an IRS officer is quite challenging and interesting. They are the earner of the nation-family. (4)_____. IRS recruits enter the cadre at Assistant Commissioner Level through the civil services examination.

A. Option 1

B. Option 2

C. Option 3

D. Option 4

The passage below is accompanied by a set of questions. Choose the best answer to each question.

Mirabai was a great saint and devotee of Sri Krishna. Despite facing criticism and hostility from her own family, she lived an exemplary saintly life and composed many devotional bhajans. Historical information about the life of Mirabai is a matter of some scholarly debate. The oldest biographical account was Priyadas's commentary in Nabhadas' Sri Bhaktammal in 1712. Nevertheless there are many aural histories, which give an insight into this unique poet and Saint of India.

Mira was born around the start of the 16th Century in the Chaukari village in Merta, Rajasthan. Her father was Ratan Singh a descendent of Rao Rathor, the founder of Jodhpur. When Mirabai was only 3 years old, a wandering Sadhu came to her family's home and gave a doll of Sri Krishna to her father. Her father took this as a special blessing, but was initially unwilling to give it to her daughter, because she felt she would not appreciate it. However Mira had, at first sight, become deeply enamoured with this doll. She refused to eat until the doll of Sri Krishna was given to her. To Mira, this figure of Sri Krishna, embodied his living presence. She resolved to make Krishna her lifelong

friend, lover, and husband. Throughout her turbulent life she never wavered from her youthful commitment.

On one occasion when Mira was still young she saw a wedding procession going down the street. Turning to her mother she asked in innocence, "Who will be my husband?" Her mother replied, half in jest, half in seriousness. "You already have your husband, Sri Krishna." Mira's mother was supportive of her daughter's blossoming religious tendencies, but she passed away when she was only young.

At an early age Mira's father arranged for her to be married to Prince Bhoj Raj, who was the eldest son of Rana Sanga of Chittor. They were an influential Hindu family and the marriage significantly elevated Mira's social position. However, Mira was not enamoured of the luxuries of the palace. She served her husband dutifully, but in the evening, she would spend her time in devotion and singing to her beloved Sri Krishna. Whilst singing devotional bhajans, she would frequently lose awareness of the world, entering into states of ecstasy and trance.

However, her new family did not approve of her piety and devotion to Krishna. To make things worse Mira refused to worship their family deity Durga. She said she had already committed herself to Sri Krishna. Her family became increasingly disapproving of her actions, but the fame and saintly reputation of Mirabai spread throughout the region. Often, she would spend time discussing spiritual issues with Sadhus and people would join in the singing of her bhajans. However, this just made her family even more jealous. Mira's sister-in-law Udabai started to spread false gossip and defamatory remarks about Mirabai. She said Mira was entertaining men in her room. Her husband, believing these stories to be true, tore into her room with sword in hand. However, he saw Mira only playing with a doll. No man was there at all. Yet throughout these hysterical slanders Mirabai remained unmoved by both the criticism and praise of the world.

12. The passage mainly deals with

- A. Glimpses into Mirabai's life based on oral tradition.
- B. An autobiography of Mirabai
- C. Difficulties faced by Mirabai
- D. Conflicts in the historical interpretations of Mirabai's life

13. Which of the following statements is TRUE according to the passage?

- A. Marriage with the Hindu prince significantly elevated Mira's social position and she was enamoured by the luxuries of the kingdom.
- B. Prince Bhoj Raj was the youngest son of Rana Sanga of Chittor.
- C. Mirabai's new family did not approve of her piety and devotion to Krishna.
- D. After her marriage, Mirabai took interest in the matters of the kingdom and participated in political discussions.

14. Mirabai was gifted the doll of Shri Krishna by –

- A. Her mother
- B. A Sadhu
- C. Her father

D. Prince Bhoj Raj

15. What made Mirabai's in-laws family more jealous?

- A. She was spending more time with Sadhus.
- B. Her refusal to worship their family deity.
- C. Her choice of clothes in the public place.
- D. She was not following the family rules.

The passage below is accompanied by a set of questions. Choose the best answer to each question.

The photographs of prisoner abuse from Abu Ghraib shocked most Americans. But social psychologist Philip Zimbardo had seen it all 30 years before in the basement of the psychology building at Stanford University, where he randomly assigned college students to be “guards” or “prisoners” in a mock prison environment. The experiment was to last two weeks but was terminated after just six days, when these intelligent and moral young men were transformed into cruel and sadistic guards or emotionally shattered prisoners.

As he watched the parade of politicians proclaim that Abu Ghraib was the result of a few bad apples, Zimbardo penned a response he calls the Lucifer Effect (also the title of his new book from Random House), namely, the transformation of character that leads ordinarily good people to do extraordinarily evil things. “Social psychologists like myself have been trying to correct the belief that evil is located only in the disposition of the individual and that the problem is in the few bad apples,” he says.

But, I rejoin, there are bad apples, no? Yes, of course, Zimbardo concedes, but most of the evil in the world is not committed by them: “Before we blame individuals, the charitable thing to do is to first find out what situations they were in that might have provoked this evil behaviour. Why not assume that these are good apples in a bad barrel, rather than bad apples in a good barrel?”

How can we tell the difference? Compare behaviour before, during and after the evil event in question. “When I launched my experiment at Stanford, we knew these students were good apples because we gave them a battery of tests and every one of them checked out normal,” Zimbardo explains. “So, on day one they were all good apples. Yet within days the guards were transformed into sadistic thugs and the prisoners were emotionally broken.” Likewise at Abu Ghraib. Zimbardo notes that before going to Iraq, Staff Sergeant Ivan “Chip” Frederick—the military police officer in charge of the night shift on Tiers 1A and 1B, the most abusive cell blocks at Abu Ghraib—“was an all-American patriot, a regular churchgoing kind of guy who raises the American flag in front of his home, gets goose bumps and tears up when he listens to our national anthem, believes in American values of democracy and freedom, and joined the army to defend those values.”

Before Abu Ghraib, Frederick was a model soldier, earning numerous awards for merit and bravery. After the story broke and Frederick was charged in the abuses, Zimbardo arranged for a military clinical psychologist to conduct a full psychological assessment of Frederick, which revealed him to be average in intelligence, average in personality, with “no sadistic or pathological tendencies.” To Zimbardo, this result “strongly suggests that the ‘bad apple’ dispositional attribution of blame made against him by military and administration apologists has no basis in fact.” Even after he was shipped off to Fort Leavenworth to serve his eight-year sentence, Frederick wrote Zimbardo: “I am proud to

say that I served most of my adult life for my country. I was very prepared to die for my country, my family and friends. I wanted to be the one to make a difference.”

Two conclusions come to mind. First, it is the exceedingly patriotic model soldier— not a rebellious dissenter—who is most likely to obey authorities who encourage such evil acts and to get caught up in believing that the ends justify the means. Second, in *The Science of Good and Evil* (Owl Books, 2004), I argued for a dual dispositional theory of morality—by disposition we have the capacity for good and evil, with the behavioural expression of them dependent on the situation and whether we choose to act. Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, who knew a few things about the capacity for evil inside all of our hearts of darkness, explained it trenchantly in *The Gulag Archipelago*: “If only there were evil people somewhere insidiously committing evil deeds, and it were necessary only to separate them from the rest of us and destroy them. But the line dividing good and evil cuts through the heart of every human being. And who is willing to destroy a piece of his own heart?”

16. What is the central idea of the passage?

- A. Abu Ghraib torture is not an exception but the norm
- B. Evil is not so much about disposition as about context and circumstances
- C. Evil is located only in the disposition of the individual
- D. Role of psychology in clarifying misconceptions

17. Who said, “I wanted to be the one to make a difference”?

- A. Zimbardo
- B. Frederick
- C. Solzhenitsyn
- D. Prisoner

18. Which of the following statements is NOT true according to the passage?

- A. Staff Sergeant Ivan — “was an all-American patriot, a regular churchgoing kind of guy.
- B. “Lucifer Effect” refers to the unexpected bad behaviour.
- C. Social psychologists contend that it is primarily one’s disposition that decides one’s good or bad behaviour.
- D. Frederick was a model soldier; he earned numerous awards for merit and bravery.

19. According to the dual dispositional theory of morality;

- A. Both good and evil coexist in an individual, its expression being dependant on what one chooses.
- B. Either good or evil dominates an individual’s personality, it’s expression being dependant on the situation.
- C. An individual may be good or bad depending on what he chooses and the situational variables.
- D. It is difficult to decide what is good and what is bad. It depends on how one interprets it?

20. Why Zimbardo arranged for a military clinical psychologist to conduct a full psychological assessment of Frederick?

- A. Because he was charged in the abuses.
- B. Because he was a model soldier.
- C. Because he was responsible for reckless behaviour.
- D. Because he won many awards by wrong methods.

