

VARC Test – 1

Time: 40min

Name:-.....

DIRECTIONS for questions: Read the passages below and answer the questions that follow.

PASSAGE – 1

Epidemiological strategies to control infectious disease in Third World countries conventionally include the erection of barriers to international travel and immigration. Keeping people with infectious diseases outside national borders has interchanged as an important public health policy with the recent emergence of the Ebola virus epidemic. Between 49 and 70 countries are reported to have introduced border restrictions on Ebola-infected foreigners, usually those planning an extended stay in the country, such as students, workers or military personnel.

Travel restrictions have been established primarily by countries in the Asian and Mediterranean regions, where the Ebola outbreak is relatively contained. However, the country with the broadest policy of testing and excluding foreigners is Canada. From September 15, 1995, when the Ebola infection was first classified in Canada as a contagious disease, through September 15, 1998, more than 500,000 people seeking permanent residence in Canada tested for Ebola antibodies. The Canadian policy has been sharply criticized by national and international organizations as being contrary to public health goals and human rights principles. Many of these organizations are boycotting international meetings in Canada that are vital for the study of prevention, education and treatment of Ebola.

The World Health Organization requires the Public Health Service to list dangerous contagious diseases" for which aliens can be excluded from Canada. By 1995 there were 20 six designated diseases, all sexually transmitted (gonorrhea, venereal disease, HIV and infectious syphilis) and two non-venereal (tuberculosis and leprosy). On June 8, 1998, in response to a direction cited in the Scott Amendment, the Public Health Service added Ebola to the list of dangerous contagious diseases.

A fair and efficacious travel and immigration policy would not exclude people because of their serologic status unless they posed a danger to the community through casual transmission. Canadian regulations should list only active tuberculosis as a contagious infectious disease. We support well-funded programs to protect the health of travelers infected with Ebola through appropriate immunizations and prophylactic treatment and to reduce behaviors that may transmit infection. We recognize that treating patients infected with Ebola who immigrate to Canada will incur costs for the public sector. It is inequitable, however, to use cost as a reason to exclude people infected with Ebola, for there are no similar exclusionary policies for those with other costly chronic diseases, such as heart disease or cancer. Rather than arbitrarily restrict the movement of a subgroup of infected people, we must dedicate ourselves to the principles of justice, scientific cooperation, and a global response to the Ebola epidemic.

- 1) According to the passage, countries in Asia have
 - a) A very high frequency of Ebola-infected immigrants and have a greater reason to be concerned over this issue than other countries.
 - b) Opposed efforts on the part of Mediterranean states to establish travel restrictions on Ebola-infected residents.
 - c) A low Ebola prevalence and, in tandem with Mediterranean regions, have established travel restrictions on Ebola-infected foreigners.
 - d) Continued to obstruct efforts to unify policy concerning immigrant screening.
- 2) The author of the passage concludes that
 - a) it is unjust to exclude people based on their serological status without the knowledge that they pose a danger to the public.
 - b) Canadian regulations should require more stringent testing to be implemented at all major border crossings.
 - c) it is the responsibility of the public sector to absorb costs incurred by treatment of immigrants infected with the Ebola virus.
 - d) the Ebola epidemic is largely over-stated and that, based on new epidemiological data, screening immigrants is not indicated.
- 3) It can be inferred from the passage that
 - a) more than 3 million Ebola-infected people have sought permanent residence in Canada.
 - b) countries with a low prevalence of Ebola have a disproportionate and unjustified concern over the spread of the virus by immigration.
 - c) Canada is more concerned with controlling the number of Ebola-infected immigrants than with avoiding criticism from outside its borders.
 - d) current law is meeting the demand for prudent handling of a potentially hazardous international issue.

DIRECTIONS for questions: Read the passages below and answer the questions that follow.

PASSAGE – 2

Game theory is a distinct and interdisciplinary approach to the study of human behavior. The disciplines most involved in game theory are mathematics, economics and the other social and behavioral sciences. Game theory (like computational theory and so many other contributions) was founded by the great mathematician John von Neumann. The first important

book was 'The Theory of Games of Economic Behavior', which von Neumann wrote in collaboration with the great mathematical economist Oskar Morgenstern. Certainly Morgenstern brought ideas from neoclassical economics into the partnership, but von Neumann, too, was well aware of them and had made other contributions to neoclassic economics. Since the work of John von Neumann, "games" have been a scientific metaphor for a much wider range of human interaction in which the outcomes depend on the interactive strategies of two or more persons, who have opposed or at best mixed motives.

The key link between neoclassical economics and game theory was and is rationality. Neoclassical economics is based on the assumption that human beings are absolutely rational in their economic choices. Specifically, the assumption is that each person maximises her or his rewards—profits, incomes, or subjective benefits—in the circumstances that she or he faces. This hypothesis serves a double purpose in the study of the allocation of resources. First, it narrows the range of possibilities somewhat. Absolutely rational behaviour is more predictable than irrational behaviour. Second, it provides a criterion for evaluation of the efficiency of an economic system. If the system leads to a reduction in the rewards coming to some people, without producing more than compensating rewards to others (costs greater than benefits, broadly) then something is wrong. Pollution, overexploitation of fisheries, and inadequate resources committed to research can all be examples of this.

In neoclassical economics, the rational individual faces a specific system of institutions, including property rights, money, and highly competitive markets. These are among the "circumstances" that the person takes into account in maximising rewards. The implication of property rights, a money economy and ideally competitive markets is that the individual need not consider her or his interactions with other individuals. She or he needs to consider only her or his own situation and the "conditions of the market." But this leads to two problems. First, it limits the range of the theory. Wherever competition is restricted (but there is no monopoly), or property rights are not fully defined, consensus neoclassical economic theory is inapplicable, and neoclassical economics has never produced a generally accepted extension of the theory to cover these cases. Decisions taken outside, the money economy were also problematic for neoclassical economics.

Game theory was intended to confront just this problem: to provide a theory of economic and strategic behaviour when people interact directly, rather than "through the market." In game theory, "games" have always been a metaphor for more serious interactions in human society. Game theory may be about poker and baseball, but it is not about chess, and it is about such serious interactions as market competition, arms races and environmental pollution. But game theory addresses the serious interactions using the metaphor of a game: in these serious interactions, as in games, the individual's choice is essentially a choice of a strategy, and the outcome of the interaction depends on the strategies chosen by each of the participants. On this interpretation, a study of games may indeed tell us something about serious interactions.

In neoclassical economic theory, to choose rationally is to maximise one's rewards. From one point of view, this is a problem in mathematics: choose the activity that maximises rewards in given circumstances. Thus we may think of rational economic choices as the "solution" to a problem of mathematics. In game theory, the case is more complex, since the outcome depends not only on my own strategies and the "market conditions," but also directly on the strategies chosen by others, but we may still think of the rational choice of strategies as a mathematical problem—maximise the rewards of a group of interacting decision makers—and so we again speak of the rational outcome as the "solution" to the game.

- 4) The Game theory was designed
 - a) to overcome computational problems when the principles of mathematics are applied in the field of neoclassical economics.
 - b) as a potential tool to examine economics in other than conventional methods.
 - c) as a means to blend the tenets of economics and psychology while explaining human behaviour in making choices.
 - d) to tackle serious societal problems like environmental pollution etc., that involve trade off while making rational choices.
- 5) According to neoclassical economics,
 - a. man makes his decisions as reactions to exogenous market variables.
 - b. benefits should always be greater than costs.
 - c. man makes rational economic choices in order to maximise his rewards.
 - d. all the above are true.
- 6) Game theory does not explain which one of the following situations?
 - a) Choosing strategies rationally when outcomes depend on the strategies chosen by others.
 - b) In 'games' that lead to mutual gain, making rational choices under cooperation to realise mutual gain.
 - c) A game of chess as a set of strategies and mathematics between two players.
 - d) Deciding on choices that help one to maximise one's outcome irrespective of the choices made by other players.
- 7) When the author says we again speak of the rational outcome as the 'solution' to the game', he
 - a) means that maximization of rewards is the goal of the groups that interact with each other.

- b) hints that rationality is the interface between neoclassical economics and game theory.
- c) says that individual behaviour within a group predicts the outcome of that group.
- d) says that rationality is the key issue that moulds the market interactions.

DIRECTIONS for questions: Read the passages below and answer the questions that follow.

PASSAGE – 3

"Middle Path", a recently-concluded group show featuring the works of Sam Adaikalsamy, P. Jayakani, R. Sundera Raju, T. Vijayavelu and R. Lokanathan, proved to be quite an interesting way to see into what a "middle" in Indian art might mean. None of the work of this group of friends, not even that of Lokanathan who uses the digital medium, has been radicalised or pushed to the extremities of art making and showing by new production methods or by constantly morphing exhibiting processes.

They follow the old ways, remain in the mid-regions of representational Indian art and much of the strength of their work comes from thus holding fast.

Sam Adaikalsamy's work is complex, not so much in theme/subject matter as in format/organisation. The themes of his works

are trite — loss of 'home', breakdown of relations between humans and the natural world, the compartmentalization of life —

but he manipulates the subject onto the canvas in a way that creates the impression of conscious distancing between painter and subject, so that the viewer sees the painting not as a depiction of reality but rather as the painter's reading into state. What he does is break up the canvas into sections to represent the "plots" of human experience where everything, including land, is lived in distinct, separate self-contained areas.

This distancing is mirrored also in the artist's use of colours with generous emerald and primean blue strokes creating a dream-like Chagallian effect, counter effected by the equally strong browns, compelling a layered viewing, a continuous probing for unseen layers.

P. Jayakani's long fascination with the cityscape is well-known, and the scapes he chose to show here are part of a series in which he explores a "reversal" of nature's role in the city.

The city appears in monochrome pastel shades or in black ink lines and nature appears as a calamitous force slashed across the canvas, overlapping the city in contrasting shades. The city's edifices -- and they are edifices, not just buildings — have crumbled and are leaning on their broken skeletons: moving from one canvas to another creates a sensation of partly living in another time, like a parallel spatial situation. The colours, the texture and the compulsive force of repetition in these paintings create a palpable sense of imminence. Jayakani made the interesting observation that showing with a government gallery rather than a private one might serve to give an artist an idea of how interesting he is to a public unguided by promotions, PR and gallery compulsions!

R. Sundera Raju's paper and ink works are pleasing, with clear lines and impressive details; his images are consciously modeled on some of the old traditions in Indian art in palm leaf, stone and murals (especially the murals of Kumbakonam where he lives). Sundera Raju creates this resonance by using colours, motifs, faces and detailing drawn from older works.

However, when annotated, Sundera Raju's canvasses make it evident that the male gaze of the creator-artist conjures up women-subjects to whom he completely denies sight and it becomes a little difficult to accept "pleasing" as a category of critical viewing! The way in which a script (like his own Tamil writing, said the artist) has been constructed around the women's entire being-on-canvas, curving around heads and torsos, suggests that their existence will never be permitted to go outside the overarching male—paternal cover-control.

T. Vijayavelu had only two works at this exhibition, due to transportation problems, as his works are in heavy metal and stoneware. The two works on display were from his tantrik-inspired Owl series, in which the owls are owls and also "something else" as he circumspectly puts it (the 'something else' being the visible male and female sexual organs, the convenient lingam and yoni symbols of every tantrik artist).

Clearly, two works are too few to judge a whole series by, but confronted with a massive phallus curving into the air and a reticent, head-down vagina made by two kissing owls, it is difficult not to be struck by the literalness of it all.

In India, the entire institution of tantra as art has been victim to this disabling tendency and we have artists forgetting that tantra's circles, dots, triangles become simply too literal when used out of their ritualistic signifying context, unless the artist creates a frame for a redefined reading. And that's more hard work than almost all our tantric artists seem to be capable of. However, Vijayavelu appeared to be more than aware of these risks, saying that while it is okay to use tantra, one has to move out of it, because it is "dangerous". In a sense that's when concept of the "middle path" of this exhibition crystallized.

Lokanathan had a Ganesha series of digital points on canvas. While the effects were sometimes admirable, the shapes something marvelous for being impossible to the human hand, the series was not pleasing at all, and not new or worth more than a passing glance. This section could have been avoided.

“Middle path” brushed out questions about the possible divides in art patronage and promotion and about the whole gallery system, about the cliques created by galleries, promoters, the PR, as well as about a possible divide between Indian artists in English and Indian artists in the vernacular!

- 8) According to the passage, “Middle Path” has been successful in all of the following except....
- Reducing the importance of promotions and PR to pull the crowd to the gallery.
 - Bridging the gap between Indian artists in English and Indian artists in vernacular.
 - Demonstrating that successful art does not necessarily have to rely on new production methods or exhibiting processes.
 - Showing that old ways of Indian art is better than the western art system.
 - Reducing the importance of patronage for successful exhibitions.
- 9) According to the author, which of the following is not applicable on tantra art?
- Tantra art uses owl to represent ‘something else’
 - Tantra art is dangerous.
 - Use of triangles, dots and circles is essential for tantra art.
 - “Middle Path” essentially is a branch of tantra art.
 - None of the above is applicable
- 10) Which of the following can be said to be true for Sam Adaikalsamy’s work?
- He portrays pessimistic image of society.
 - His paintings are close to reality, which is the greatest appeal to the viewer.
 - The colors used are primean blue, emerald and brown only.
 - The painting is divided into layers, where the viewer has to spend time discovering newer layers.
 - All of the above are true.
- 11) Which of the following, in the context of the passage, cannot be said about the artists whose work is exhibited at “Middle Path”?
- P. Jayakani’s art creates an illusion of living in another time, and that the calamity can strike us any time.
 - R. Sundera Raju’s work is suggestive of the male dominance in our society, and portrays that the dominance is not going to last long.
 - T. Vijayavelu has used owl for depicting owl as well as ‘something else’ in his work of art.
 - Lokanathan is the only artist whose does not leave any special impression, and exclusion of which might have done good to the exhibition.
 - All of the above can be said about the artists participating at the exhibition “Middle Path”. In the context of the passage.
- 12) What could be the source of the article?
- Opinion of a viewer on the condition of modern art in India, posted in a blog.
 - Critical review of a literary magazine on the artistic events in the city.
 - Newspaper article to promote Indian art and culture.
 - A press release by Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
 - PR promotion by “Middle Path” to attract viewers to the gallery.

Select the option that best completes the given passage:

- 13) The morals of Rumi sometimes approaches that of Kabir, as when he deems that the ultimate happiness is the ultimate good, and that the ultimate good is the scrutiny of opinion by opinion—opinion being self-sufficing; which is approximately the imitation of God which Kabir recommended. Sometimes, it is very practical and almost mediocre, as when he makes it middle way between the extreme, a just plan, a certain tact, art rather than science, and experimental science rather than conscience, which will know how to differentiate the practices suitable for an honest and a well-born man. _____
- It is only just to add that in detail and when after all deductions he describes the just man, he invites us to contemplate virtues which if not sublime are none the less remarkably lofty.
 - Kabir love, about which there has been so much discussion and on which, consequently, we must say a word, at least to elucidate it, is one of the applications of his moral system.
 - Kabir is aristocratic, no doubt because his thought is generally such, situation independent.
 - Thus, Rumi, though good on certain fronts, cannot be compared with Kabir.

- 14) Do we always need to reinvent the wheel? The Indian scientific institute may nod in the consent. In the years of the Cold War, when technology was a well-kept secret of the new world, it made sense to aspire to be self-reliant. Times have changed, for the better. _____
1. As the world gets increasingly disintegrated, there isn't much stretch or hope — for pockets of isolation.
 2. As the world gets increasingly integrated, there isn't much stretch or hope — for pockets of isolation.
 3. As the world gets increasingly disintegrated, there isn't much stretch - or hope — for pockets of association.
 4. As the world gets increasingly integrated, there isn't much stretch - or hope — for pockets of association.
- 15) What's irony is that very little of the outrage focuses on the assassination. By now, the people have accepted that West will track down and assassinate terrorists no matter where in the world they hide just like they did Osama. And, in the post 9/11 era, few people seem to mind. It is now accepted that terrorists can hardly be brought to justice and convicted by courts of law _____
1. Last month an 11-member hit team dispatched by US travelled to Pakistan and assassinated Mahmoud Aamir, a military commander.
 2. All this has lessons for India.
 3. So, an assassination often seems like the most effective option.
 4. America infiltrates terror groups, encourages them to fight with each other and whisks away important terrorists

Five sentences are given, out of which four can be arranged to form a coherent paragraph. Find the one that does not fit in the context.

- 16)
1. The process can result in long-term problems for your feline friend, a new study concludes.
 2. The result of this research reinforces my opinion that declawed cats with unwanted behaviors may not be 'bad cats'
 3. But declawing a cat so she'll stop scratching the furniture involves removing the bones at the tip of her toes
 4. Like getting your nails trimmed
 5. Declawing may sound like a relatively benign procedure
- 17)
1. That the Temples has blessed all the opposing factions, and has gloried in the butchering of innocent lives.
 2. The religious and civil wars, the massacres of other sects, are still alive in the memories of historians.
 3. The temple forgot to tell about the wealth that accrued to her by these means.
 4. Anything that can approve war is the most immoral thing that the human mind can think of.
 5. That an institution which claims to have the morality in protection, has instituted and condoned war is a fact.

Arrange the following sentences in correct order:

- 18)
1. The Bill brings in a system of risk-based monitoring of financial institutions
 2. Which includes the tool of a 'bail-in', it is the Corporation that takes all decisions, and not the bank
 3. A bare reading of the relevant provisions of the Bill shows that the Resolution Corporation can use this tool only in consultation with the regulator
 4. At the stage of 'critical' risk to viability, when the proposed Resolution Corporation takes the decision to use a particular method of resolution
- 19)
1. Of a giant Chinese casino complex on the troubled island
 2. Not much has been said about the responsibility
 3. In the raging controversy over President Duterte's directive
 4. To fix Boracay by closing it for six months, even while his administration has also green-lighted the construction
 5. Of the local government on the issue.
- 20)
1. Arguably a tad too breezily, what the prosecution said were suspicious *quid pro quo* transactions.
 2. An appeal is in order given the sweeping dismissal of the CBI's contentions, so sweeping that it dismisses,
 3. It may yet have a chance to redeem itself, as the CBI has said it will appeal the verdict
 4. There is a cloud over the present government's commitment to fighting corruption.

Write Answer Here:-

1)	2)	3)	4)
5)	6)	7)	8)
9)	10)	11)	12)
13)	14)	15)	16)
17)	18)	19)	20)

Answer Key:-

1) 3	2) 1	3) 3	4) 3	5) 4
6) 3	7) 2	8) 4	9) 5	10) 4
11) 2	12) 2	13) 1	14) 2	15) 3
16) 2	17) 3	18)	19)	20)