

ODD MAN OUT

All but one sentence in the options, when correctly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Which of the following sentence does not fit into the context?

1.
 - a) We must also correctly judge the probability that these will or will not occur.
 - b) The unlucky gambler falls victim to one of the worst errors the human mind can make.
 - c) Weighing the pros and cons involves more than simply balancing the relative importance of various factors and outcomes.
 - d) Since every decision contains elements of risk, those who understand the odds generally make the best bets and vice versa.
2.
 - a) The high standards demanded by Socrates separated sharp-minded thinking from its dull counterparts.
 - b) All sharp thinking depends on clarity.
 - c) Just as unclear language leads to miscommunication so unclear thoughts result in misconception and misjudgment.
 - d) Without it, thinking deteriorates into ambiguity and confusion.
3.
 - a) It is blessed with cascading waterfalls, tennis courts, pools, and a Spanish-style villa.
 - b) In the early 2000s private islands were the trophy of choice for millionaires but the recession sapped demand.
 - c) Despite such enticing features, the island languished on the market for three years, before, selling in July for a mere 14.5million- half the original asking price.
 - d) Just off the west coast of Florida lies the sun-drenched island of Little Bokeelia.
4.
 - a) Every object, every particle, every packet of light energy in the universe acts as a carrier of some information, it is a storehouse of its own physical particulars.
 - b) Black holes are the sites of wholesale gravitational collapse: stellar remnants fold in on themselves, reaching a density so extreme that it pokes an incomprehensible little hole in the fabric of space itself.
 - c) But even that simple formulation comes with a paradoxical wrinkle that has had theorists pulling their hair out for four decades, what is the kerfuffle all about?
 - d) The resulting gravitational pull is so great, the story goes, that anything that crosses a point of no return- the vent horizon-is lost, in its entirety forever.
5.
 - a) "Wall street got drunk" was George W bush's typically incisive take on the main cause of the emerging financial crisis in July 2008.
 - b) Politicians on the campaign trail have been forced to watch their every word since the 2006 congressional elections.
 - c) But perhaps the wrong intoxicant was being blamed.
 - d) two years later, the governor of the Bank of England, Mervyn King, explained in his Mansion House speech that "the role of a central bank in monetary policy is to take the punch bowl away just as the party gets going" (something that he admitted had not occurred)
6.
 - a) Journalists have a responsibility to keep digging and prodding the powerful.
 - b) In many countries, the chief barrier to free expression is no longer censorship but cash i.e good journalism costs money.
 - c) They have to go into the community and find out what happened and how it affects people's lives keeping in mind that getting influenced is relatively easy but their job is to present the truth as it is.
 - d) The job of a journalist may not require elaborate training but neither is it very facile.
7.
 - a) Two songs can have the same tempo but feel very different.
 - b) Songs with fast tempos tend to be regarded as happy, and songs with slow tempos as sad.
 - c) Although this is an oversimplification about the complex effect of music, it holds true in a remarkable range of circumstances and across many cultures.
 - d) The tempo of music is a major factor in conveying emotion.
- 8.

- a) The eastern one – the limestone shores of Dalmatia and Albania – is a four-hundred-mile stretch as the crow flies, but so deeply crenellated with sheltering coves, indents, offshore islands, reefs and shoals that it comprises two thousand miles of intricate coast.
- b) Geology has made the two coasts of the Adriatic Sea quite distinct.
- c) At its most northern point is the enormous curved bay of the Gulf of Venice, where the water is a curious blue-green colour due to alluvial deposits from the River Po.
- d) The western, Italian shore is a curved, low-lying beach, which provides poor harbours but ideal landing spots for would-be invaders

9.

- a) These storms are all the same phenomenon, just given different names depending on where they form on our world; generically, they're known as tropical cyclones.
- b) This is why tropical storms like hurricanes, typhoons and cyclones only form along the equatorial regions of the world; the water simply isn't hot enough elsewhere, given the other conditions on Earth.
- c) The most destructive storms to occur on Earth – although they're not limited to Earth – are hurricanes, typhoons and cyclones.
- d) Strong, sustained winds coupled with torrential rain often bring with them severe flooding, property damage and, quite frequently, death tolls that rise into the thousands.

10.

- a) It can herald a mindset change in the Indian judicial system that's much needed.
- b) There are over three crore pending cases in various courts, all of which cannot be attributed to a shortage of judges.
- c) This move will usher in transparency, better case management and improve public behaviour within the courts.
- d) The Supreme Court's order directing high courts to install CCTV cameras inside courtrooms in two districts of every state and union territory within three months is a welcome move.

11.

- a) Capitalism and socialism have, traditionally, been considered exclusively as opposing economic-political systems.
- b) What opposing moral premises are implicit in the doctrines of capitalism and socialism, and of individualism and collectivism?
- c) Certainly each system does embody a mutually exclusive theory of the proper function of government and the legitimate operation of an economy, but if one examines their tenets, one will discover at the root of their specific and practical doctrines, a more basic and divisive clash between them.
- d) It is therefore in terms of economic and political tenets that the battle between them has been fought.

12.

- a) Federer has had all of the qualities that sportsmen treasure in a champion: he is humble, gracious, tenacious, kind, caring, competitive and an extremely hard worker.
- b) As of the 2011 U.S. Open, Federer has appeared in an unprecedented 23 Grand Slam finals and has reached the quarter-finals of 30 consecutive Grand Slams – another record.
- c) These numbers not only show Federer's excellence, they are a tribute to his endurance and amazing fitness.
- d) Several players have the talent to reach 30 consecutive Grand Slam quarter-finals, but all of them other than Federer tend to sit out a tournament or two due to injury, or injure themselves while playing in one of these high-pressure draws.

13.

- a) The round trip will be a three-year enterprise and since carrying a sufficient weight of ready-made meals is impractical, the crew will grow their own vegetables, courtesy of a Bio regenerative Life Support System (BLSS) that NASA has been developing since the 1980s.
- b) Neither cereals nor pulses can match its generosity: the potato is the best all-round bundle of nutrition known.
- c) The BLSS is a self-sustaining system that recycles the output of one generation of crops into the production of the next; it will offer astronauts a veritable 'salad bar' of fresh produce, including radishes, onions, lettuce, tomatoes, peppers and strawberries, but when it comes to providing dietary mainstays – both in space and on Mars – the potato will be especially prominent.
- d) If the future of the potato stretches to Mars, its origins are firmly rooted in the Andes.
- e) When astronauts venture beyond the Earth's orbit to colonize Mars, potatoes, freshly harvested, will be a regular feature of their meals.

14.

- a) In Pakistan further sites have been found, not only in Sind and Punjab (where at Fort Derawar on the desert frontier with India a third major city stood), but as far away as the Iranian frontier in Baluchistan and in the North-West Frontier Province.
- b) At numerous sites to the west of the Indus in Baluchistan and Afghanistan, as well as in the Indus valley itself, sufficient pre-Harappan and Early Harappan settlements have been found to establish a local progression from

hunter-gatherer to urban dweller by way of all the various stages of pastoralism, agricultural settlement, technological advance and cultural refinement.

- c) With Mohenjo-daro and Harappa nearly six hundred kilometres apart, it is obvious that the 'Indus valley' civilization was more extensive than its contemporaries – Egypt's Old Kingdom and Mesopotamia's Sumeria.
- d) India itself, not to be outdone, now boasts an important cluster of sites in Gujarat, another in Rajasthan, and more scattered settlements in the states of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, and Jammu and Kashmir.
- e) The Indus valley, however, has proved to be only the core area: subsequent to the discovery of its two principal sites (Mohenjo-daro in Sind and Harappa in Punjab), knowledge of the Harappan civilization has been steadily expanding by more than a province a decade.

15.

- a) Just before leaving the court, the magistrate complained of giddiness
- b) Media representatives had gathered in huge numbers at the main entrance with their cameras ready. But, police used a man
- c) But before proceeding with the remand process, judicial magistrate held discussions with judicial officers in the Madras high court
- d) and was taken to the Tirupur government hospital for treatment.
- e) with his head covered as a decoy to divert the attention of the media and took the magistrate through a back entrance.

16.

- a) Post-acquisition Nokia Siemens Networks (NSN) will become a wholly owned subsidiary of Nokia
- b) Nokia will continue to consolidate NSN for financial reporting purposes as well as to strengthen the company
- c) that was expected to be completed during the third quarter,
- d) The boards of both companies have approved the deal
- e) Pending approval from regulatory authorities.

17.

- a) They would be the one place where disputes are most often quickly and amicably resolved by mutual empathetic engagement.
- b) Gottschall's claim is that we human beings are natural storytellers, that we can't help telling stories, and that we turn things that aren't really stories into stories because we like narratives so much.
- c) Surely if there were any truth in the notion that stories greatly increase our capacity for empathy then college English departments, which have by far the densest concentration of fiction readers in human history, would be legendary for their absence of back-stabbing, competitive ill-will, factional rage and egocentric self-promoters.
- d) The claim that stories increase our empathy, and make societies work better by encouraging us to behave ethically, seems too absurd to even argue with.

18.

- a) In the twentieth century, Edwin Hubble's 60- and 100-inch telescopes on Mt. Wilson provided enough seeing power for the first time for astronomers to distinguish individual stars in other galaxies, thus proving that those fuzzy objects called nebulae that we thought were in our own galaxy were actually separate galaxies, and thereby reshaping our theories about the size of the universe.
- b) The equipment used in an experiment often determines the conclusion.
- c) In the nineteenth century, instruments to measure intelligence were crude and all that could be measured was brain size, so intelligence was thought of in terms of having a large brain; today intelligence is measured by a subtler instrument, the IQ test, and is therefore thought of in more complex terms.
- d) Hubble is also known for demonstrating that the recessional velocity of a galaxy increases with its distance from the earth, implying the universe is expanding

19.

- a) Unilever's interest in HUL is only the latest in what is proving to be a trend of large multinationals hiking stakes in their Indian arms.
- b) That certificate has already come, in the form of a cheque worth a staggering \$5.4 billion, signed by the bosses of Unilever, the Anglo-Dutch giant.
- c) The money will enable Unilever to buy a dominant 75% stake in its Indian counterpart, HUL.
- d) India does not require a certificate from the IMF or discredited credit-rating agencies.

20.

- a) And just because something is bad for modern humans does not necessarily mean that it was bad for their hunting and gathering ancestors.
- b) For most of homo sapiens's 200000- year history, it shared the planet with several.
- c) Unless creatures such as yeti and bigfoot turn out to be real, the only kind of human in the modern world is Homo sapiens.
- d) The most famous were the Neanderthals, who were larger and heavier and who lived in Europe and Central Asia.
- e) But that is only recently true.

21.

- a) The Congress claims to have introduced a new discourse on good governance with the introduction of economic reforms, the BJP is projecting governance to induce growth, prosperity and higher GDP as a solution to many evils plaguing the nation and the newly formed AamAdmi Party says it as introduced a post-identity and post ideology politics to strengthen democracy by way of foregrounding corruption as an issue concerning all castes, classes and regions.
- b) Identity politics entrenches patron-client relations in between the social elites of the identity groups and the rest of the population belonging to those identities.
- c) One of the key issues that occupy voter imagination with regard to the coming elections is the tension between identity and governance in Indian democracy.
- d) Most of the political parties, especially national parties are claiming to have moved to a governance paradigm as against the mobilization of social groups on the basis of a narrow identity.

22.

- a) The shooting of a man-eating tiger invariably polarizes public opinion.
- b) caught in the middle, officials have to confront increasingly angry mobs, while authorities in Delhi insist on elaborate "operating procedures"
- c) Attempts at darting a tiger with a tranquilizing gun often fail, and the big cat continues to kill people.
- d) Locals, whose lives are at risk, want man-eaters shot, while animal lovers, on the other hand, demand their "safe capture"

23.

- a) Thus India has lost its leadership role mainly because it has been left behind in the race to develop the economy.
- b) Having once been the champion of the Asian voice in the United Nations, India now languishes as its poor cousin.
- c) The size and growth of India's economy is impressive.
- d) This is because its GDP per capita is pitifully low compared to that of the Asian powerhouses, the price of food too high in relation to capita income, and the fruits of its much-vaunted high growth in recent years are poorly distributed.

24.

- a) As more people shop from home, physical stores are being closed and shop assistants laid off.
- b) The British do a great share of their retail spending online than anyone else.
- c) And in spite of the prospect of Brexit, the industry has been growing fast this year.
- d) Britain, Napoleon once supposedly scoffed was a nation of "shopkeepers".
- e) Nowadays it is a nation of online shoppers.

Answer Key:

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| 1. B | 2.A | 3.C | 4. D | 5.B |
| 6. B | 7.A | 8.C | 9. B | 10.B |
| 11. B | 12.A | 13.D | 14. B | 15.C |
| 16. B | 17.B | 18.D | 19. A | 20.A |
| 21. B | 22.C | 23.C | 24. A | |