रेल भर्ती बोर्ड / RAILWAY RECRUITMENT BOARD
सी ई एन - ०४/२०२५ - CEN - 04/2025
सेक्शन कंट्रोलर की भर्ती / Recruitment of Section Controller

RRB Section Controller 2025

Section Controller · CEN 04/2025 · CBT-1 · Logical — Topic-wise

English

5 Chapters · 78 Questions · Official Answer Key

About this Compilation

Every **Logical** question asked across all 4 shifts of the **RRB Section Controller 2025 CBT-1** examination (CEN 04/2025), regrouped by **chapter** instead of by shift, so you can revise one topic end to end. The correct option is marked as per the official answer key.

Sections. The saved Section Controller 2025 paper carries no section labels. In this book the questions of every shift are grouped into the three exam sections (Analytical and Mathematical, Logical incl. Reading Comprehension, Mental Reasoning), assigned from our topic tags, so the Logical / Mental Reasoning counts may differ slightly from the pattern (60 / 20 / 20). Questions are numbered from 1 in this book; the answers are the same official key as in our complete paper book.

How to use

- Use the **Index** to jump to any chapter (clickable).
- Within a chapter, questions on the same idea are placed together.
- The correct answer is highlighted in green with a tick.
- Each reading comprehension passage is printed on its own page together with all its questions.
- The same paper is also available complete and section-wise.



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Index — All Chapters (click to open)

1 **Blood Relations**
Verbal Reasoning · 4 Qs

2 **Series**
Verbal Reasoning · 9 Qs

3 **Statement & Conclusion**
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4 **Alphabet / Word Test**
Verbal Reasoning · 1 Qs

5 **Reading Comprehension**
Comprehension · 60 Qs

Verbal Reasoning 4 Questions • Answer Key

Q1 Blood relation

Suman has a brother,Tushar. Tushar's daughter is Urmi. Urmi is married to Vikram; Vikram has a son, Yash. How is Urmi related to Suman?

A. Sister's daughter

B. Daughter

C. Brother's daughter ✓

D. Wife

Q2 Blood relation

F is the sister of G. G is the brother of S. T is the father of V. V is the son of S. How is F related to T?

A. Wife's sister ✓

B. Wife's mother

C. Father's sister

D. Sister

Q3 Blood relation

In a certain code language,
A @ B means 'A is the sister of B'
A # B means 'A is the wife of B'
A ≠ B means 'A is the father of B'
A + B means 'A is the brother of B'
Based on the above, how is F related to V if 'F # G ≠ S @ T + V'?

A. Sister

B. Wife

C. Mother's mother

D. Mother ✓

Q4 Blood relation

In a certain code language,
A @ B means 'A is the daughter of B'
A # B means 'A is the son of B'
A ≠ B means 'A is the sister of B'
A + B means 'A is the father of B'
Based on the above, how is F related to V if 'F @ G + S ≠ T # V'?

A. Sister

B. Daughter ✓

C. Wife

D. Sister's daughter

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Q1 Element series counting

Refer to the following number-symbol series and answer the question that follows. Counting is to be done from left to right only. (Note: All numbers are single-digit numbers only)

(Left) 7 3 / 3 ^ $ 2 < * $ \ 8 ? + 3 @ 8 ^ @ \ < (Right)

How many such symbols are there each of which is immediately preceded by another symbol and also immediately followed by a number?

A. 1
B. 3 ✓
C. 2
D. 4

Q2 Element series counting

Refer to the following number-symbol series and answer the question that follows. Counting is to be done from left to right only. (Note: All numbers are single-digit numbers only)

(Left) 2 8 # $ 2 4 @ 5 7 5 9 @ 9 \ > & 7 9 @ > * ^ & (Right)

How many such numbers are there each of which is immediately preceded by a symbol and also immediately followed by a symbol?

A. Three
B. Zero
C. One ✓
D. Two

Q3 Element series counting

Refer to the following number series and answer the question that follows. Counting is to be done from left to right only. (All numbers are single-digit numbers only.)

(Left) 6 7 5 1 7 1 2 7 6 4 3 9 4 5 3 2 3 5 1 6 8 4 6 2 4 5 8 (Right)

How many such even numbers are there that are immediately preceded by an odd number and also immediately followed by an odd number?

A. Five
B. Four
C. Two
D. Three ✓

Q4 Element series counting

Refer to the following letter-symbol series and answer the question that follows. Counting is to be done from left to right only.

(Left) K @ % H U # A W N * Z Σ V F Ω L $ E P & M (Right)

How many such symbols are there each of which is immediately preceded by a vowel but not immediately followed by a vowel?

A. One
B. Three
C. None ✓
D. Two

Q5 Element series counting

Refer to the following number series and answer the question that follows. Counting is to be done from left to right only. (All numbers are single-digit numbers only.)

(Left) 2 6 4 6 2 6 7 3 8 6 3 1 8 6 1 9 8 9 1 7 7 6 3 7 5 5 2 (Right)

How many such odd numbers are there that are immediately preceded by an odd number and also immediately followed by an odd number?

A. Six
B. Five
C. Three
D. Four ✓

Q6 Element series counting

Refer to the given letter, symbol series and answer the question that follows. Counting to be done from left to right only.

(Left) # F * G W # C # Y R & @ W Z @ L & L N % # W (Right)

How many such letter are there, each of which is immediately preceded by a symbol and also immediately followed by a symbol?

A. 5
B. 4
C. 2
D. 3 ✓

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Q7 Element series counting

Refer to the following letter series and answer the question that follows.

(Left) M E Q A K Q G Z Y B R I S O V C P F U H D (Right)

How many letters are there in the English alphabetical series between the letter which is second from the right end and second from the left end of the series?

- **A.** Two ✓
- **B.** One
- **C.** None
- **D.** Three

Q8 Element series counting

Refer to the given letter series and answer the question that follows. Counting to be done from left to right only.

(Left) B E Q A K Q H Z Y M R I S O V D P F U G C (Right)

How many letters are there in the English alphabetical series between the letter that is fifth from the right end and fifth from the left end of the series?

- **A.** Six
- **B.** Four ✓
- **C.** Three
- **D.** Five

Q9 Element series counting

Refer to the following number series and answer the question that follows. Counting is to be done from left to right only. (All numbers are single-digit numbers only.)

(Left) 5 1 9 5 3 9 6 3 8 7 9 4 5 3 4 5 3 2 2 1 4 7 3 7 9 4 6 (Right)

How many such odd numbers are there that are immediately preceded by an even number and also immediately followed by an even number?

- **A.** Three
- **B.** Two ✓
- **C.** Four
- **D.** One

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Verbal Reasoning 4 Questions • Answer Key

Q1 Statement and conclusion

Read the given statements and conclusions carefully. Assuming that the information given in the statements is true, even if it appears to be at variance with commonly known facts, decide which of the given conclusions logically follow(s) from the statements.

Statements:
Some pen are lead.
Some lead are ruler.

Conclusions:
(I): Some pen are ruler.
(II): All ruler are lead.

A. Only conclusion (I) follows.
B. Only conclusion (II) follows.
C. Neither conclusion (I) nor (II) follows. ✓
D. Both conclusions (I) and (II) follow.

Q2 Statement and conclusion

Read the given statement(s) and conclusions carefully. Assuming that the information given in the statements is true, even if it appears to be at variance with commonly known facts, decide which of the given conclusions logically follow(s) from the statement(s).

Statements:
All vegetables are leeches.
All fruits are leeches.

Conclusions:
(I): Some vegetables are fruits.
(II): Some leeches are fruits.

A. Neither conclusion (I) nor (II) follows
B. Only conclusion (I) follows
C. Both conclusions (I) and (II) follow
D. Only conclusion (II) follows ✓

Q3 Statement and conclusion

Read the given statements and conclusions carefully. Assuming that the information given in the statements is true, even if it appears to be at variance with commonly known facts, decide which of the given conclusions logically follow(s) from the statements.

Statements:
Some cranes are marbles.
All marbles are balls.

Conclusions:
(I) Some cranes are balls.
(II) All balls are marbles.

A. Both conclusions (I) and (II) follow.
B. Only conclusion (I) follows. ✓
C. Neither conclusion (I) nor (II) follows.
D. Only conclusion (II) follows.

Q4 Statement and conclusion

Read the given statement(s) and conclusions carefully. Assuming that the information given in the statements is true, even if it appears to be at variance with commonly known facts, decide which of the given conclusions logically follow(s) from the statement(s).

Statements:
Some buckets are pictures.
Some pictures are chairs.

Conclusions:
(I): Some buckets are chairs.
(II): All chairs are pictures.

A. Both conclusions (I) and (II) follow
B. Neither conclusion (I) nor (II) follows ✓
C. Only conclusion (II) follows
D. Only conclusion (I) follows

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Verbal Reasoning
1 Question • Answer Key

Q1 Alphabet / word test

The position(s) of how many letters will remain unchanged if each letter in the word JOURNAL is arranged in the English alphabetical order?

A. 2
B. 1
C. 0 ✓
D. 3

Blackbook

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Comprehension 60 Questions • Answer Key

Read the passage and answer the questions.

Spiders inhabit every continent except Antarctica and play dual roles as predators and prey. They employ varied hunting tactics — spinning intricate webs to ensnare victims or ambushing them from concealment. Except for the herbivorous Bagheera kiplingi, these eight-legged carnivores subsist mainly on insects, though some consume lizards, birds, frogs, fish, or even snakes. Certain species prey on other spiders, while female widow spiders notoriously devour their mates. Spiders themselves fall victim to lizards, birds, scorpions, and even parasitic wasps that entomb them alive. In parts of the South Pacific and Southeast Asia, they are considered edible delicacies. Most spiders possess venom designed to immobilise prey, not humans. Only about 25 known species produce venom harmful to humans, and fatalities are exceedingly rare. The feared Sydney funnel-web spider has caused no deaths since the 1981 anti-venom. Hairy spiders such as tarantulas defend themselves by releasing urticating hairs that irritate skin and eyes. Spiders create multiple kinds of silk — some adhesive for trapping, others remarkably strong. Orb-weaver silk rivals steel in tensile strength, and scientists have replicated it synthetically for applications from artificial tissue to resilient sportswear. Despite their adaptability, spiders generally remain near their habitats; only 'ballooning spiders' travel long distances. Ironically, although many fear them, less than 2% of species are harmful to humans.

Q1 Reading comprehension

Which title best encapsulates the passage?

- A. Deadly Predators of the Insect World
- B. Arachnophobia: A Human Weakness
- C. Spiders: Fearsome Yet Fascinating Creatures ✓
- D. Webs of Death and Silk of Steel

Q2 Reading comprehension

Which spider is known to have caused no fatalities since the anti-venom's development in 1981?

- A. Sydney funnel-web spider ✓
- B. Orb-weaver spider
- C. Tarantula
- D. Widow spider

Q3 Reading comprehension

What does the passage suggest about the perception versus reality of spiders?

- A. They are responsible for widespread disease.
- B. They survive best in Arctic conditions.
- C. Though generally feared, almost 98 percent of spider species are harmless to humans. ✓
- D. They are far more dangerous than people realise.

Q4 Reading comprehension

According to the passage, spider silk replication is significant because _____.

- A. it can eliminate natural predators
- B. it enables scientists to produce a material with exceptional tensile strength. ✓
- C. it allows mass spider farming
- D. it may replace metal in construction

Q5 Reading comprehension

Identify the synonym of the word 'replicated' as used in the passage.

- A. Modified
- B. Copied ✓
- C. Destroyed
- D. Tested

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Read the given passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

The Peloponnesian War, chronicled by the ancient historian Thucydides, was sparked by the rise of Athens and the fear this instilled in the established power, Sparta. This dynamic—when a rising power threatens to displace a ruling power—has been termed the 'Thucydides's Trap' by political scientist Graham Allison. The central argument is that such structural shifts in the balance of power create a high risk of conflict, not necessarily because of deliberate aggression, but often through a combination of fear, misunderstanding, and the friction of third-party events. The ruling power, fearing the loss of its privileged position, may resort to preemptive action, while the rising power, emboldened by its new strength, may become more assertive in claiming what it perceives as its rightful place. Allison's research points to a sobering historical precedent: in 12 of 16 cases over the last 500 years where a major nation rose to challenge an established one, the result was war. However, the trap is not an iron law of history. Whether the trap is 'sprung' depends heavily on the choices, strategies, and diplomatic skill of the leaders involved. The concept serves not as a prediction of inevitable conflict, but as a potent analytical lens and a stark warning for contemporary statecraft in an era of great power transition.

Q6 Reading comprehension

Which of the following is the most suitable title for the passage?

- A. The Complete History of Ancient Greece
- B. A Biography of Graham Allison
- C. The Economics of Modern China
- D. The Thucydides's Trap: The Inevitability of Hegemonic War? ✓

Q7 Reading comprehension

What is the central theme of this passage?

- A. The passage is based upon the historical dynamic where the rise of a new power creates a high risk of conflict with an established power, and the factors that influence this outcome. ✓
- B. It is a detailed military analysis of the Peloponnesian War.
- C. It claims that economic factors are the only cause of war.
- D. It argues that war between a rising and ruling power is completely inevitable and unavoidable.

Q8 Reading comprehension

Which of the following is a fact explicitly stated in the passage?

- A. According to the passage, war occurred in all 16 historical cases studied.
- B. The passage states that the actions and choices of leaders are irrelevant to the outcome.
- C. The 'Thucydides's Trap' is a concept invented by a biologist.
- D. The concept is named after the historian who chronicled the Peloponnesian War. ✓

Q9 Reading comprehension

Based on the passage, which inference can logically be drawn?

- A. The passage implies that diplomacy is useless in preventing hegemonic conflict.
- B. It can be inferred that Thucydides himself coined the term 'Thucydides's Trap'.
- C. One can infer that the concept is used today to analyze the strategic relationship between the United States and China. ✓
- D. The author of the passage believes that war between a rising and ruling power is 100% certain.

Q10 Reading comprehension

Which of the following best describes the tone of the passage?

- A. Panicked and alarmist.
- B. Analytical and cautionary. ✓
- C. Joyful and optimistic.
- D. Dismissive and sarcastic.

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Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

To succeed in today's competitive world, businesses must regularly review their methods and look for new ways to improve. Innovation means introducing fresh ideas, improving products or services, and finding more efficient ways to work. It helps companies boost profits, reduce costs, and satisfy customers. Technology can make products or services better, but it should be used wisely. Businesses must ensure that new tools or systems truly benefit their customers. For example, companies producing cars or appliances often have research teams to improve product quality and performance. Listening to customer feedback helps companies understand what people want. When McDonald's noticed that customers wanted healthier meals, it added salads and fruit to the menu and removed the "super-size" option. Sometimes innovation means creating new products for new markets. For instance, Nintendo expanded its audience in 2006 by launching the Wii, which appealed not only to boys but also to girls and older adults through games like Cooking Mama and Brain Training. Modern lifestyles demand convenience. Many people now prefer online banking, home deliveries, or mobile services instead of visiting stores or offices. Although not every innovation succeeds, trying new ideas allows businesses to grow, adapt, and better understand their customers.

Q11 Reading comprehension

Identify the central theme of the passage.

- A. The role of innovation in sustaining business growth and relevance ✓
- B. The growing disconnection between companies and their consumers
- C. The decline of traditional business models in the digital era
- D. The dangers of relying excessively on technology

Q12 Reading comprehension

Which of the following facts is explicitly stated in the passage?

- A. Companies should abandon technology to maintain authenticity
- B. Nintendo failed to reach new audiences through its Wii console
- C. McDonald's added salads and fruit to meet consumer demand for healthier meals ✓
- D. Businesses must prioritize expansion over customer satisfaction

Q13 Reading comprehension

Which of the following best reflects the connection to real-life business situations?

- A. Technological innovation alone guarantees profitability
- B. Rigid adherence to traditional practices ensures stability
- C. Businesses that anticipate and respond to social trends maintain long-term success ✓
- D. Ignoring customer preferences strengthens brand loyalty

Q14 Reading comprehension

Identify the tone of the passage.

- A. Analytical and optimistic ✓
- B. Satirical and mocking
- C. Pessimistic and cautionary
- D. Indifferent and detached

Q15 Reading comprehension

Identify the antonym of the word 'adapt'.

- A. Resist ✓
- B. Create
- C. Expand
- D. Observe

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Read the given passage and answer questions that follow.

The Ajanta and Ellora caves, nestled in the rugged hills of Maharashtra, stand as monumental testaments to India's artistic and spiritual legacy. Carved meticulously between the 2nd century BCE and the 10th century CE, these rock-cut sanctuaries embody the seamless blend of devotion, architecture, and aesthetic mastery. The Ajanta caves, primarily Buddhist, depict the evolution of Buddhist thought through exquisite murals, sculptures, and chaitya halls that narrate the Jataka tales—the stories of the Buddha's previous lives. Their walls come alive with vibrant frescoes that capture both divine and human emotions, executed with natural pigments that have withstood centuries. Ellora, located a short distance away, is celebrated for its religious plurality—housing Buddhist, Hindu, and Jain monuments within a single complex. The crowning jewel, the Kailasa Temple (Cave 16), carved from a single basalt rock, is a marvel of engineering and imagination. Dedicated to Lord Shiva, it replicates Mount Kailasa and symbolizes the cosmic centre of creation. The intricate carvings, soaring pillars, and multi-tiered structures reflect a synthesis of art and devotion unparalleled in world architecture. Together, Ajanta and Ellora transcend time, offering insight into India's cultural harmony and artistic brilliance. They are not merely monuments but living galleries—chiselled by faith, guided by precision, and preserved as echoes of an era where art was prayer and stone became scripture.

Q16 Reading comprehension

According to the passage, which feature of the Ajanta caves is directly responsible for conveying the evolution of Buddhist thought?

A. The execution of frescoes using natural pigments that endured over time

B. The chaitya halls and sculptural programs narrating the Jataka tales

C. The depiction of divine and human emotions through mural techniques ✓

D. The chronological span of cave excavation from the 2nd century BCE onward

Q17 Reading comprehension

What specific aspect of the Kailasa Temple is presented as evidence of its architectural and symbolic ambition?

A. Its location within a complex containing monuments of multiple faiths

B. Its dedication to Lord Shiva as a sacred embodiment of Mount Kailasa

C. Its intricate carvings and soaring pillars reflecting artistic devotion

D. Its excavation from a single basalt rock forming a multi-tiered structure ✓

Q18 Reading comprehension

The author's description of Ajanta and Ellora as "living galleries" most plausibly implies that these sites:

A. Functioned as static repositories of religious artefacts

B. Were primarily designed for public exhibition rather than worship

C. Remain dynamic conveyors of cultural and spiritual meaning ✓

D. Continue to attract modern artistic reinterpretations

Q19 Reading comprehension

From the passage's treatment of Ellora's religious plurality, one may reasonably infer that the creators of the complex endorsed:

A. Sequential religious dominance reflected through architectural change

B. A neutral artistic agenda detached from theological significance

C. Competitive religious expression within a shared geographic space

D. An integrative cultural framework accommodating multiple belief systems ✓

Q20 Reading comprehension

The frescoes of Ajanta are described as "vibrant". Which option best conveys the **antonym** of this term **in the given context**?

A. Murals that evoke divine and human emotion through colour

B. Walls whose imagery lacks visual vitality and expressive force ✓

C. Paintings rendered with pigments resilient to time

D. Frescoes preserved as evidence of artistic mastery

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Read the given passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Waste is among the most pressing environmental issues in India. As the world's second-most populous nation with nearly 1.4 billion people, India inevitably generates a staggering 277 million tonnes of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) annually. Experts estimate that by 2030, MSW is likely to reach 387.8 million tonnes and will more than double the current value by 2050. India's rapid urbanisation makes waste management extremely challenging. Currently, about 5% of the total collected waste is recycled, 18% is composted, and the remaining is dumped at landfill sites.

The plastic crisis in India is one of the worst on the planet. According to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), India currently produces more than 25,000 tonnes of plastic waste every day on average, which accounts for almost 6% of the total solid waste generated in the country. India stands second among the top 20 countries having a high proportion of riverine plastic emissions, both nationally and globally. The Indus, Brahmaputra, and Ganges rivers are known as the 'highways of plastic flows' as they carry and drain most of the plastic debris in the country. Together with ten other topmost polluted rivers, they leak nearly 90% of plastics into the sea globally.

To tackle this issue, in 2020, the government announced that it would ban the manufacture, sale, distribution, and use of single-use plastics from July 1, 2022, onwards.

Q21 Reading comprehension

Which of the following most accurately states the main idea of the passage?

A. The high rate of plastic waste generation (25,000 tonnes daily) and India's second-place ranking in riverine pollution.

B. The catastrophic effect of riverine plastic emissions from the Ganges, Indus, and Brahmaputra on global oceans.

C. The vast scale and specific challenges of municipal solid waste and plastic pollution in India. ✓

D. Expert estimates show the massive projected increase in India's Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) production by 2030 and 2050.

Q22 Reading comprehension

Which is the best description of the tone of the passage?

A. Optimistic and celebratory

B. Serious and cautionary ✓

C. Casual and conversational

D. Humorous and entertaining

Q23 Reading comprehension

What is the synonym of the word 'dumped' from the passage?

A. Protected

B. Domesticated

C. Decorated

D. Discarded ✓

Q24 Reading comprehension

Which of the following represents the structure of the passage?

A. Definition

B. Problem-Solution ✓

C. Compare-Contrast

D. Chronological

Q25 Reading comprehension

What is the ANTONYM of the word 'challenging'?

A. Manageable ✓

B. Frequent

C. Tolerable

D. Uninspiring

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Read the given passage and answer questions that follow.

Tuesday, September 11, 2001, began like any other late-summer morning in the eastern United States — mild, sunlit, and calm. The sky over New York City was an unbroken blue, reflecting off the glass façades of its skyscrapers. Across the country, millions stirred into their daily rhythm — parents preparing children for school, commuters boarding trains, and office workers hurrying toward another routine day. In Lower Manhattan, thousands made their way into the Twin Towers, the proud centerpiece of the World Trade Center complex, unaware that history was quietly converging upon them.
In Arlington, Virginia, the Pentagon's corridors filled with the measured pace of military precision, while across the Potomac River, Congress reconvened in session, its agenda focused on domestic policy and budgetary matters. At the White House, tourists gathered expectantly for their morning tours, cameras ready to capture an ordinary day in the capital.
Farther south, in Sarasota, Florida, President George W Bush began his day with an early jog before visiting a local school to discuss education reform. Air traffic across the nation operated under perfect conditions — clear skies and steady winds, ideal for flying. Among the countless travellers navigating airports that morning were two men, Mohamed Atta and Abdul Aziz al-Omari, who arrived quietly at Portland International Jetport in Maine.
No one yet knew that within hours, this serene morning would fracture into one of the darkest days in modern history — when calm skies became witnesses to unimaginable tragedy.

Q26 Reading comprehension

According to the passage, what was the primary focus of Congress on the morning of September 11, 2001?

- A. It was meeting to review intelligence reports and defence strategies.
- B. It was reconvened to discuss domestic policy and budgetary concerns. ✓
- C. It was addressing emergency legislation related to military preparedness.
- D. It was engaged in debates on foreign policy and national security matters.

Q27 Reading comprehension

In which sequence of locations does the passage most clearly trace the morning's unfolding across the United States?

- A. New York → Virginia → Washington, D.C. → Florida → Maine ✓
- B. Washington, D.C. → Maine → New York → Florida
- C. Maine → New York → Florida → Virginia
- D. Florida → Virginia → Maine → New York

Q28 Reading comprehension

What can be inferred about the narrative perspective from the way the events are presented?

- A. It mirrors the dispassionate tone of a news report.
- B. It adopts the tone of an official government statement.
- C. It imitates the viewpoint of an eyewitness at the scene.
- D. It reflects the hindsight of a chronicler aware of the disaster's magnitude. ✓

Q29 Reading comprehension

What main idea does the passage convey by showing an ordinary morning before the attacks?

- A. That peaceful normalcy can hide approaching danger ✓
- B. That political activity was the focus of the morning
- C. That weather conditions caused travel problems
- D. That life in America was dull and repetitive

Q30 Reading comprehension

In the context of the phrase 'an ordinary day in the capital', which term expresses the opposite meaning of 'ordinary'?

- A. Monumental ✓
- B. Routine
- C. Predictable
- D. Civil

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Read the given passage and answer the questions that follow.

Vincent van Gogh was a Dutch painter, generally considered the greatest after Rembrandt van Rijn, and one of the greatest of the Post-Impressionists. The striking colour, emphatic brushwork, and contoured forms of his work powerfully influenced the current of Expressionism in modern art. Van Gogh's art became astoundingly popular after his death when his work sold for record-breaking sums at auctions around the world and was featured in blockbuster touring exhibitions. Van Gogh, the eldest of six children of a Protestant pastor, was born and reared in a small village in the Brabant region of the southern Netherlands. He was a quiet, self-contained youth, spending his free time wandering the countryside to observe nature. At 16, he was apprenticed to The Hague branch of the art dealers Goupil and Co., of which his uncle was a partner. Van Gogh worked for Goupil in London and in Paris. Daily contact with works of art aroused his artistic sensibility, and he soon formed a taste for Rembrandt, Frans Hals, and other Dutch masters, although his preference was for two contemporary French painters, Jean-François Millet and Camille Corot, whose influence was to last throughout his life. Van Gogh disliked art dealing. Moreover, his approach to life darkened when his love was rejected by a London woman in 1874. His burning desire for human affection thwarted, he became increasingly solitary. He worked as a language teacher and lay preacher in England and, in 1877, worked for a bookseller in Dordrecht, Netherlands.

Q31 Reading comprehension

What is the central theme of the passage?

- **A.** The formative influences and later recognition of Van Gogh's art ✓
- **B.** The tragic and melancholic love life of Vincent Van Gogh
- **C.** The role of French painters in Dutch culture
- **D.** The religious background of Dutch painters

Q32 Reading comprehension

What is the ANTONYM of 'solitary' as used in the passage?

- **A.** Lonely
- **B.** Reserved
- **C.** Sociable ✓
- **D.** Thoughtful

Q33 Reading comprehension

Which of the following is a fact stated in the passage?

- **A.** Van Gogh was never influenced by French artists.
- **B.** He worked as a lay preacher in England. ✓
- **C.** He enjoyed his work as an art dealer.
- **D.** He was the youngest of six children.

Q34 Reading comprehension

Which title best captures the essence of the passage?

- **A.** A Short History of Dutch Paintings and their influence
- **B.** The Art Dealers of Paris and London
- **C.** Van Gogh: A Miserable Life
- **D.** The Early Life and Lasting Influence of Van Gogh ✓

Q35 Reading comprehension

What best describes the tone of the passage?

- **A.** Admiring and informative ✓
- **B.** Melancholic and bitter
- **C.** Critical and sceptical
- **D.** Humorous and playful

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Read the passage and answer the questions.
In 2011, violent riots erupted across London and several English cities. Petrol bombs were hurled, properties vandalised, and shops looted. Despite extensive CCTV footage, most images were unclear, with rioters masking their faces. Gary Collins, an off-duty police officer, was watching the riots on television when he recognised several individuals. Interrupting his holiday, he spent six months meticulously examining CCTV footage and successfully identified 190 offenders—many solely by their eyes. His extraordinary contribution proved invaluable, especially since facial-recognition software identified only one person from 200,000 hours of film. Collins is a super-recogniser, a rare individual capable of recalling faces with exceptional precision. Coined in 2009, the term refers to the 1–2% of people who remember up to 95% of faces they encounter, in contrast to the average person's 20%. Inspired by Collins's achievement, London's Metropolitan Police established the world's first super-recogniser unit in 2015. This small team of six officers has since been responsible for nearly a quarter of all identifications in London, despite the presence of over 30,000 officers. Their success, amplified by Britain's extensive CCTV network, has aided in convicting criminals ranging from petty thieves to murderers. Though rarely sole evidence, their findings often direct investigations, with many culprits pleading guilty upon recognition.

Q36 Reading comprehension

Which of the following is the most suitable title for the passage?

- A. Convicting the Criminals: How to Recognise Faces
- B. The Evolution of CCTV Technology
- C. Artificial Intelligence in Criminal Detection
- D. Faces Behind the Masks: The Rise of Super-Recognisers ✓

Q37 Reading comprehension

Identify the tone of the passage.

- A. Dramatic and emotional
- B. Factual and explanatory ✓
- C. Humorous and casual
- D. Persuasive and critical

Q38 Reading comprehension

What percentage of people are estimated to be super-recognisers?

- A. 20–25%
- B. 1–2% ✓
- C. 15–18%
- D. 5–10%

Q39 Reading comprehension

What does the passage imply about human versus machine recognition?

- A. Machines outperform humans in identifying subtle facial traits.
- B. Human memory is unreliable in criminal investigations.
- C. Both perform equally well under pressure.
- D. Humans remain superior in complex facial identification tasks. ✓

Q40 Reading comprehension

The phrase "exceptional precision" most nearly means _____.

- A. minor detail
- B. average accuracy
- C. unusual clarity ✓
- D. frequent confusion

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Read the given passage and answer the questions that follow.

We are aware that adolescence brings striking physical changes, but profound neurological transformations also occur. To understand them, we must first grasp the brain's composition. The brain contains about 100 billion neurons—nerve cells that communicate through intricate networks. Each neuron transmits electrical impulses along an axon, which then leap across minute synapses to the dendrites of another neuron, forming a vast circuit of communication. Although infants possess nearly all their neurons at birth, they have few connections, limiting their abilities. Rapid synaptic growth in early childhood enables skills such as walking and speaking. Contrary to earlier beliefs, brain development continues throughout life, with adolescence marking the most intense period of restructuring. During puberty, neural connections proliferate before undergoing "pruning," much like trimming a plant to promote healthy growth. Frequently used connections strengthen, while unused ones fade, illustrating why repetition enhances proficiency—validating the adage practice makes perfect. Thus, teenagers actively sculpt their own neural architecture through chosen activities, from mastering instruments to acquiring languages. Interestingly, the frontal cortex—the region governing judgment, self-control, and reasoning—matures last. Until then, adolescents rely heavily on the brain's emotional centre for decision-making. Hence, impulsive or risk-prone teenage behaviour, often attributed to hormones, may stem more from neurological development than from mood alone.

Q41 Reading comprehension

Identify the most appropriate title for the passage.

- A. The Adolescent Brain: A Work in Progress ✓
- B. Understanding Early Childhood Development
- C. The Hormonal Havoc of Adolescence
- D. Emotional Turbulence in Teenage Years

Q42 Reading comprehension

The tone of the passage can best be described as _____.

- A. analytical and informative ✓
- B. persuasive and argumentative
- C. nostalgic and emotional
- D. critical and disapproving

Q43 Reading comprehension

According to the passage, which part of the brain matures last?

- A. The hippocampus
- B. The cerebellum
- C. The limbic system
- D. The frontal cortex ✓

Q44 Reading comprehension

Which statement best captures the author's viewpoint?

- A. Emotional decisions are superior to logical ones.
- B. The adolescent brain provides an ideal period for skill refinement. ✓
- C. Teenagers' brains are fixed and resistant to change.
- D. Brain connections weaken with practice.

Q45 Reading comprehension

The word 'pruning' as used in the text suggests _____.

- A. neglecting connections
- B. adding new structures
- C. cutting down to enhance growth ✓
- D. planting new ideas

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Read the following passage carefully and choose the best answer to each question out of the four alternatives.

The rate of biodiversity loss is alarming, with recent estimates showing that species extinctions are currently 10 to 100 times higher than the natural baseline. This is largely due to human activities like deforestation, habitat fragmentation, and climate change. This loss threatens essential ecosystem services, including pollination, soil fertility, and water purification, with direct consequences for human health. For example, the degradation of wetlands, which filter freshwater, has led to a 35% decline in global wetland coverage since 1970, thus increasing waterborne diseases and reducing water availability for over 2 billion people.

Biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation are becoming major health concerns. When ecosystems are disrupted, services like clean air, water, and food can be affected. Additionally, we lose valuable natural resources – like plants and animals – that may hold untapped benefits for health and medicine.

Biodiversity serves as the foundation of healthy, sustainable food systems. It directly influences the availability and nutritional value of food, as a diverse range of plant and animal species, ecosystems, and genetic resources contribute to healthier, more resilient food production. Access to enough nutritious and varied food is a fundamental determinant of health.

Nutrition and biodiversity are interconnected at various levels, from ecosystems that provide food to the genetic diversity within species. This diversity affects the nutritional composition of food, including micronutrient availability. Healthy diets with adequate nutrient intake depend on high biodiversity.

Q46 Reading comprehension

Which of the following options most accurately states the main idea of the passage?

A. The degradation of global wetlands has directly led to a 35% decline in coverage since 1970, increasing waterborne diseases.

B. The critical role of biodiversity in supporting essential ecosystem services, human health, and sustainable food systems. ✓

C. Nutrition and biodiversity are interconnected at various levels, impacting the micronutrient availability in food.

D. Biodiversity loss is occurring 10 to 100 times faster than the natural baseline due to deforestation and climate change.

Q47 Reading comprehension

Which is the best description of the tone of the passage?

A. Highly emotional and dramatic

B. Analytical and detached

C. Humorous and casually descriptive

D. Urgent and cautionary ✓

Q48 Reading comprehension

What is the synonym of the word ‘alarming‘ from the passage?

A. resilient

B. dramatic

C. essential

D. disturbing ✓

Q49 Reading comprehension

Which of the following options represents the structure of the passage?

A. Enumeration

B. Generalisation–Example

C. Chronological

D. Problem-Cause-Effect ✓

Q50 Reading comprehension

What is the antonym of the word 'fragmentation'?

A. complexity

B. separation

C. destruction

D. integration ✓

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Read the given passage and answer the questions that follow.

Traditionally, the study of history has had fixed boundaries and focal points—periods, countries, dramatic events, and great leaders. It also has had clear and firm notions of scholarly procedure: how one inquires into a historical problem, how one presents and documents one's findings, what constitutes admissible and adequate proof. Anyone who has followed recent historical literature can testify to the revolution that is taking place in historical studies. The currently fashionable subjects come directly from the sociology catalogue: childhood, work, leisure. The new subjects are accompanied by new methods. Where history once was primarily narrative, it is now entirely analytic. The old questions "What happened?" and "How did it happen?" have given way to the question "Why did it happen?" Prominent among the methods used to answer the question "Why" is psychoanalysis, and its use has given rise to psychohistory. Psychohistory does not merely use psychological explanations in historical contexts. Historians have always used such explanations when they were appropriate and when there was sufficient evidence for them. But this pragmatic use of psychology is not what psych-historians intend. They are committed, not just to psychology in general, but to Freudian psychoanalysis. This commitment precludes a commitment to history as historians have always understood it.

Q51 Reading comprehension

Which of the following statements presents a fact explicitly mentioned in the passage?

A. Psychohistory emerged as a minor branch of literature in modern psychology.

B. Freudian psychoanalysis has strengthened the documentary basis of history.

C. Traditional history followed fixed methods and focused on periods and leaders. ✓

D. Historians today completely reject the use of analytical or causal explanation.

Q52 Reading comprehension

Which of the following best describes the structure of the passage?

A. It contrasts the traditional framework of history with the emerging trends of psychohistory. ✓

B. It traces the chronological evolution of historical events across different civilisations.

C. It evaluates the failures of classical historiography through psychological examples.

D. It summarises the key achievements of historians who adopted Freudian theories.

Q53 Reading comprehension

Select the main theme of the passage.

A. The shift of historical study from traditional narrative to analytic and psychoanalytic approaches. ✓

B. The growing influence of Freudian theory in interpreting anthropological phenomena.

C. The development of historical inquiry across different societies and chronological periods.

D. The continued emphasis on documentation and evidence in classical historical research.

Q54 Reading comprehension

Which of the following best summarises the passage?

A. The study of history continues to examine events and societies using structured methods.

B. Historical study has shifted from narrative accounts to analytic methods including psychohistory. ✓

C. Historians have followed traditional methods while sometimes adopting new analytic approaches.

D. Psychohistory uses Freudian theory in historical research while challenging old methods.

Q55 Reading comprehension

Which of the following statements best describes the most appropriate connection of the passage to real-life situations?

A. The passage shows how historical analysis can predict future events using modern theories.

B. The passage shows how traditional approaches are always superior to new analytic methods.

C. The passage shows how every field must strictly follow narrative methods for credibility.

D. The passage shows how professional fields evolve by adopting new methods and perspectives. ✓

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Read the given passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Until about five years ago, the very idea that peptide hormones might be made anywhere in the brain besides the hypothalamus was astounding. Peptide hormones, scientists thought, were made by endocrine glands and the hypothalamus was thought to be the brains' only endocrine gland. What is more, because peptide hormones cannot cross the blood-brain barrier, researchers believed that they never got to any part of the brain other than the hypothalamus, where they were simply produced and then released into the bloodstream. But these beliefs about peptide hormones were questioned as laboratory after laboratory found that antiserums to peptide hormones, when injected into the brain, bind in places other than the hypothalamus, indicating that either the hormones or substances that cross-react with the antiserums are present. The immunological method of detecting peptide hormones by means of antiserums, however, is imprecise. Cross-reactions are possible and this method cannot determine whether the substances detected by the antiserums really are the hormones, or merely close relatives. Furthermore, this method cannot be used to determine the location in the body where the detected substances are actually produced. New techniques of molecular biology, however, provide a way to answer these questions. It is possible to make specific complementary DNA's (cDNA's) that can serve as molecular probes to seek out the messenger RNA's (mRNA's) of the peptide hormones.

Q56 Reading comprehension

According to the passage, what was the traditional belief about peptide hormones in the brain?

A. Peptide hormones could freely cross the blood-brain barrier to reach all brain regions.

B. Peptide hormones were widely produced throughout the brain in multiple locations.

C. Peptide hormones were made only by endocrine glands and the hypothalamus. ✓

D. Peptide hormones were involved in cognitive processes rather than endocrine functions.

Q57 Reading comprehension

Select the option that the passage is primarily based upon.

A. The established and standardized methods used to synthesize peptide hormones in laboratory conditions.

B. The discovery and study of peptide hormones in regions of the brain beyond the hypothalamus. ✓

C. The traditional and classical role of endocrine glands in regulating hormones throughout the body.

D. The effects of peptide hormones on cognitive and behavioral functions and activities in humans.

Q58 Reading comprehension

Which of the following best describes the structure of the passage?

A. It compares peptide hormones with other hormones in terms of production and activity.

B. It evaluates the effects of peptide hormones on behavior and cognitive processes in animals.

C. It traces the discovery of peptide hormones and explains their known functions in the brain.

D. It presents traditional beliefs about peptide hormones and introduces modern detection methods. ✓

Q59 Reading comprehension

Which of the following inferences can be drawn from the passage?

A. Peptide hormones have no significant role in brain function beyond endocrine signaling.

B. Peptide hormones may be produced in multiple brain regions, not just the hypothalamus. ✓

C. All detection methods for peptide hormones are precise and without limitations.

D. Traditional beliefs about hormones in the brain were accurate and need no revision.

Q60 Reading comprehension

Which of the following is the most appropriate connection of the passage to real-life situations?

A. All hormones in the human body function exactly as initially believed by scientists and require no further study.

B. Scientific understanding evolves as new methods reveal that earlier assumptions may be inaccurate. ✓

C. Laboratory methods are always perfectly precise and do not need improvements for biological research.

D. Peptide hormones have no direct relevance to medicine or understanding of brain function in humans.

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