

Mock Test 2

Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension VARC Set-2

Question 1 :

The following question consist of a paragraph each followed by four summaries. Choose the option that best captures the essence of the paragraph. Type in the option number in the space provided below the question.

Plato and Aristotle get a bad rap these days for their rejection of democracy. But the substance of their objections were spot-on, and not just because they saw that majority opinion is not the same as wisdom. For Aristotle, democracy's fatal problem is that it divides society by pitting the majority – however slender – against the minority. We're seeing this playing out in America, where the divide between Republican and Democrat has never been wider, but in elections the winner takes all. We're also seeing this in Britain, where cosmopolitan liberal cities and conservative communitarian towns and villages view each other with incomprehension.

- a) The modern day political reality of America and Britain prove Aristotle and Plato's objection to democracy correct.
- b) The widening divisiveness of the politics in America and Britain reinforce the validity of Aristotle's criticism of democracy.
- c) Plato and Aristotle were right in rejecting the synonymous treatment of majority opinion with wisdom.
- d) People are wrong in criticizing Plato and Aristotle as the two were spot on in their rejection of the inherent divisiveness of democracy.

Question 2:

The following question consists of a set of four sentences. These sentences need to be arranged in a coherent manner to create a meaningful paragraph. Type in the correct order of the sentences in the space provided below the question.

- a) This coolness arises partly from opponents who have the law on their side and partly from the incredulity of men
- b) The best way to fully appreciate the scope of challenge we face in shifting to a Clean Energy System is to read Machiavelli's The Prince.
- c) The innovator has for enemies all those who have done well under the old conditions and lukewarm defenders in those who may do well under the new.
- d) It ought to be remembered that there is nothing more perilous than to take a lead in introducing a new order of things.

Question 3:

The following question consists of a paragraph followed by four summaries. Choose the option that best captures the essence of the paragraph. Type in the option number in the space provided below the question.

Post-structuralist' is a non- or even anti-name ...the name pins the writer down, makes it possible to speak species, and offers a bootstrap by which talk about the new theory can raise itself above the old. But this name also begs the question of another, previous name: ...'structuralism' ... Post-structuralism offered structuralism its last chance to make a science out of theorizing literature. It is as though the post structuralists represented the culmination and the grand

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finale of all previous attempts to produce a scientific theory of literature; in this case, no 'new structuralism' was possible. Perhaps post-structuralism more usefully describes what happened next; it hints, among other things, at both the dangerously over-productive parent and the contentiously illegitimate offspring. But even this seems too closely to confine, or even to exclude its subject. In the event we have the equally graphic 'post-structuralism', a term that seems not to name what we do in the present at all, but rather to re-name structuralism itself, as what we used to do in the past. It provides a post to which structuralism is then hitched, confining it by means of the shortest tether the language has to offer".

- a) The concepts 'structuralism' and 'post-structuralism' take on a relationship in which the outmoded 'structuralism' has been redrafted by the improved 'post-structuralism'.
- b) 'Post-structuralism' is a body of work that followed structuralism, and sought to comprehend a world irrevocably dissected into several small parts, just like in deconstruction.
- c) The terms 'structuralist' and 'post-structuralist' are labels imposed for a heterogeneous array of often conflicting or divergent theoretical positions.
- d) 'Post-structuralism', unlike 'structuralism', destabilizes traditional unities of the text and the subject.

Question 4:

In the questions below, rearrange the given set of statements and type in the right sequence as your answer.

1. When one considers our distant, pre-human ancestors, answers begin to take shape. 2 We need a restful sleep – would it not be more beneficial if the brain went totally 'comatose' until that rest was achieved? 3. But why would our brains enter into such a mixed state, representative of neither wakefulness nor sleeping? 4. For aeons, the safety provided by the spot where our predecessors chose to lay their heads for the night was, in many ways, compromised compared with the safety of our current bedroom spaces.

Question 5:

The following question consist of a paragraph each followed by four summaries. Choose the option that best captures the essence of the paragraph. Type in the option number in the space provided below the question.

A key 'negative principle' of twentieth-century conservatism has been opposition to socialism with its progressive and rationalist approach, and to the totalitarian excesses of communism. The threats posed by radical creeds reinforce the conservative conviction that traditional social institutions like private property and the family must be upheld. Conservatives do not harbour any utopian expectation that human beings can become perfect, and so their hope for a well-ordered society is based on the control of the darker side of human nature and damage limitation through strong legal controls and a non-permissive moral culture.

- a) Conservatives are inherently sceptical of the ability of humans to be perfect.
- b) Conservatives believe in social institutions and, hence, they try to protect these by not harbouring any utopian expectation of human perfection.

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- c) Conservatives, in the 20th century, try to protect their belief from radical threats by legal controls and a strict moral code.
- d) Conservatives oppose the inherent violence of socialism and take the help of legal controls and a strict moral code to protect their interest.

Question 6:

There is a sentence 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: Dana White (UFC boss) had offered to make this a legit competition for charity. Paragraph:

1. Mark Zuckerberg has said he is moving on from a rumoured cage fight with Elon Musk, claiming the Tesla boss “isn’t serious”. 2. The rival billionaire tech bosses seemingly agreed to a brawl in June when Musk tweeted that he was “up for a cage fight”. Zuckerberg, who manages Facebook and Instagram, took a screenshot of Musk’s tweet, replying “send me location”. However, on Sunday he said on social media platform Threads: “I think we can all agree Elon isn’t serious and it’s time to move on.” 3. “I offered a real date.” 4.

Question 7:

The following question consists of a set of five sentences. These sentences need to be arranged in a coherent manner to create a meaningful paragraph. Type in the correct order of the sentences in the space provided below the question.

1. To this end, individuals at the helm of powerful societies are “standing athwart history, yelling Stop”. 2. Ours is an age awash in reactionary fever. 3. Words by influential political figures borrow from vocabularies of patriotism to provoke and incite in the name of ‘return to greatness’. 4. Many have mistakenly diagnosed this as a rise or a return of conservatism. 5. They promise to halt change, reset the clock, and if need be abolish history itself.

Question 8:

There is a sentence 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:

When doctors prescribe a medicine for fever, for example, they will have to give paracetamol, not drugs such as Panadol or Calpol. Paragraph: 1. Indian doctors have been told they can no longer prescribe branded drugs for their patients, provoking vehement protest from the Indian Medical Association [IMA]. 2. New government guidelines demand a wider use of generic drugs, which are 30%-80% cheaper, reducing the cost of medicines for millions. 3. Doctors liken this to “running trains without tracks” because the quality of generic drugs cannot be guaranteed. 4. “Quality control is very weak,” said the IMA in a statement.

Question 9-12:

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

Passage - To summarise 2.5 million years of economic history in brief: for a very, very long time not much happened; then all of a sudden, all hell broke loose. ... [O]ver 97 percent of humanity’s wealth was created in just the last 0.01 percent of our history. As the economic historian David Landes describes it, ‘The Englishman of 1750 was closer in

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material things to Caesar's legionnaires than to his own great-grand-children.' How can something as complex and highly structured as the economy be created and work in a self-organised and bottom-up way? And, why does there appear to be a correlation between the complexity of an economy and its wealth? Why has the growth in wealth and complexity been sudden and explosive rather than smooth? Any theory that seeks to explain what wealth is and how it is created must answer these questions. While we know the historical narrative of what has happened for example, the advent of settled agriculture, the Industrial Revolution, and so on, we still need a theory of how and why it happened. Modern science provides just such a theory. Wealth creation is the product of a simple, but profoundly powerful, three-step formula – differentiate, select, and amplify – the formula for evolution. The same process that has driven the growing order and complexity of the biosphere has driven the growing order and complexity of the 'econsphere'. We are accustomed to thinking of evolution in a biological context, but modern evolutionary theory views evolution as something much more general – evolution is an algorithm; it is an all-purpose formula for innovation, a formula that through its special brand of trial and error, creates new designs and solves difficult problems. Evolution can perform its tricks not just in the substrate of DNA but in any system that has the right information processing and information-storage characteristics. In short, evolution's simple recipe of 'differentiate, select, and amplify' is a type of computer program to create novelty, knowledge, and growth. Economics and evolutionary theory have a long history together, and one of its criticisms is that there has been too much analogizing about how the economy might be like an evolutionary system. For example, one might say that computer industry is like an ecological niche, with different species of players such as chip designer, hard-drive manufacturers, software providers, and so on, engaged in a 'survival of the fittest' struggle. Paul Krugman calls such metaphorical comparisons of economic and biological systems 'biobabble', which is neither good science nor very illuminating. If the economy is truly an evolutionary system, and there are general laws of the latter, then it follows that there are general laws of economics – a controversial notion for many. Saying that there are laws of economics doesn't imply that we will ever be able to make perfect predictions about the economy, but it does imply that we might someday have a far deeper understanding of economic phenomena than we do today. It also means that economics in the future may be able to make prescriptive recommendations about business and public policy.

Question 9:

Which of the following are not assumptions made by the author in the last para of the passage? I. If there exist general laws, it will help in a deeper understanding of phenomena. II. We do not have a good understanding of economic phenomena currently. III. The existence of laws doesn't necessarily make a system predictable.

- a) Only I and II
- b) Only II
- c) Only II and III
- d) Only III

Question 10:

Which of the following explains the author's purpose in quoting what the historian David Landes said: 'The Englishman of 1750 was closer in material things to Caesar's legionnaires than to his own great-grand-children'?

- a) To show that Englishmen of the 18th century were more attached to material things than the present generation.

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- b) To demonstrate that while Englishmen were descendants of Caesar's troops, they're utterly different.
- c) To highlight that not all Englishmen have managed to uncouple themselves from history and modernise themselves.
- d) To indicate that more economic advancement has taken place during recent times than in all the time before that.

Question 11:

Which of the following is NOT a question that needs to be answered by a theory that seeks to explain what wealth is?

- a) Why has there been an exponential growth in wealth in the last 0.01 percent of history?
- b) Why is wealth proportional to the complexity of an economy?
- c) How does the three-step formula of differentiate, select and amplify help create wealth?
- d) How does the economy work in a structurally organised way despite its complexity?

Question 12:

Which of the following best represents the 'biobabble' referred to by Paul Krugman?

- a) Chip designers, hard-drive manufacturers, and software providers engaged in a 'survival of the fittest' struggle.
- b) The metaphorical description of the computer industry as an ecological chamber evolving on its own.
- c) The metaphorical parallels drawn between economic and evolutionary systems.
- d) Any comparison between economic and biological systems which cannot be classified as good science.

Question 13:

There is a sentence 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:

Its design included oversized bolts and antenna, and windows shaped like cartoonish eyes. Paragraph: A Bangkok landmark known as the "robot building" has been stripped of its identity, heritage campaigners have said, as they called for the city's distinctive architecture to be preserved.1. The building – in the form of a giant robot made up of stacks of cubes and inspired by the architect watching his son play with a toy – has loomed over one of Bangkok's busiest commercial districts for decades._2. The building's owner, the Thai arm of the Singaporean multinational United Overseas Bank (UOB), is renovating the structure, however, and its distinctive features have been altered or removed. The building, which is mentioned in many guides of the city, was completed in 1986 and was previously the headquarters of Bank of Asia.3. The architect, Dr Sumet Jumsai na Ayudhya, who sought to reflect the computerisation of banking, wanted to create a building that was futuristic.4.

Question 14-16:

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

Passage - Referendums are supposed to get citizens engaged in politics and make governments responsive. If they worked, Europeans ought to be feeling particularly satisfied with their democracies. For referendums are on the rise... Despite this direct democracy, Europeans are alienated from politics and furious with their governments. Referendum-mania has not slowed the rise of populist, Eurosceptic parties which attack the establishment as corrupt and out of touch. Plebiscites meant to settle thorny issues instead often aggravate them: after Scotland's independence referendum failed in 2014, membership of the Scottish National Party quadrupled, suggesting another confrontation is coming. Referendums, it turns out, are a tricky instrument. They can bring the alienated back into politics, especially where the issues being voted on are local and clear. On rare occasions they can settle once-in-a-generation national questions, such as whether a country should be part of a larger union. But, much of the time, plebiscites lead to bad politics and bad policy. The most problematic are those on propositions that voters do not understand or subjects which are beyond governments' control. In 2015 Alexis Tsipras, prime minister of Greece, called a referendum on the bail-out offered by his country's creditors. His citizens – many of whom did not realise that refusal meant default – voted no. Mr Tsipras had to take the deal anyway, exacerbating the public's cynicism about politics. Plebiscites that ask a country's voters what they think of a policy set by other countries often disappoint. The Dutch rejected the EU-Ukraine agreement, but may be stuck with much of it unless the EU's other 27 members agree to changes. Switzerland does domestic referendums well, but is in hot water over one that restricts immigration from the EU. That requires changes to its trade deal with the EU; Brussels will not budge. Because referendums treat each issue in isolation, they allow voters to ignore the trade-offs inherent in policy choices and can thus render government incoherent... A second danger is that fringe groups or vested interests use referendums to exercise outsized influence, particularly if few signatures are needed to call one and voter turnout is low. These dangers can be mitigated. Requiring minimum turnouts can guard against the tyranny of the few. But the bigger point is that plebiscites are a worse form of democracy than representative government. James Madison was right when he wrote that democracies in which citizens voted directly on laws would be torn apart by factions...

Question 14:

Which of the following reasons can explain the rise in the membership of the Scottish National Party after Scotland's independence referendum?

- a) The referendum settled a once-in-a-generation issue of national importance.
- b) The referendum sparked an interest in the people who were out-of-touch with the issue of Scotland's independence.
- c) The referendum allowed the people to vote on an issue which they did not understand.
- d) Among the people who voted, the majority of them were against Scotland gaining independence.

Question 15:

Which of the following examples of referendums mentioned in the passage are on subjects beyond government's control? I. Greece's referendum on the bailout offered by Greece's creditors II. Dutch referendum on EU-Ukraine agreement III. Scotland's referendum on Scottish independence IV. Switzerland's referendum on restrictions on immigration from the EU

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- a) Only I
- b) Only I and Only III
- c) Only I, II and IV
- d) Only I, III and IV

Question 16:

Which of the following risks inherent in referendums can best be mitigated by the measure(s) suggested by the author in the last paragraph of the passage?

- a) Voters ignore the trade-offs inherent in the issues that are to be voted on.
- b) Minority groups may exercise disproportional influence through referendums to further their interests.
- c) Voters believe that the government is not paying heed to their opinion.
- d) Voters may not select the course of action which is beneficial to the current government.

Question 17-20:

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

Passage - It seems indisputable that there are holes. ... But what are holes and what are they made of? This issue is discussed in the paper 'Holes' (1970) by the American philosophers Stephanie and David Lewis, which contains a dialogue between the characters Argle and Bargle. Argle is a materialist, that is, someone who rejects the existence of anything immaterial. ... Bargle, on the other hand, challenges Argle's materialism by introducing two further plausible positions, namely, that holes exist and that such holes are immaterial objects. It is plausible that holes exist: we seem to perceive holes; we refer to them in our language... It is also plausible that holes are immaterial things since our intuitive view of holes is that they are not tangible objects but rather seem more like gaps, and so are not material things themselves but are rather where the material things are not. Argle and Bargle's debate is therefore over which of the following individually plausible but collectively inconsistent claims to reject:

There are no immaterial objects.

There are holes.

Holes are immaterial objects.

...So which should we reject? We could reject (1), which says that there are no immaterial objects, and instead hold that there are immaterial things in the world, including holes. But this option is not available to Argle, since Argle is a committed materialist and so doesn't want to say that any immaterial things exist. What about rejecting (2), then, which says that there are holes? The problem with this is that we say things such as: 'There's a hole in my bucket, dear Liza,' and so we refer to holes. When we utter such a sentence, our words point to the hole in the bucket. If there are no holes, and so no such hole for our words to point at, then we need to reinterpret such sentences without making reference to holes. [D]oes the eliminability of the word in our language really provide us with evidence regarding the thing's actual existence? Ordinarily, we do not think that, by simply not talking about something, it ceases to exist.... As

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for (3), which says that holes are immaterial objects: can that be rejected? Could holes be material rather than immaterial? Well, this was our central issue. If holes are material, which material thing are they?... Could they be part of the host, perhaps the lining of the hole? Maybe. But how thick is the lining for the hole? Should we take one millimetre thickness of the doughnut around the hole as constituting the hole? Or the entire width of the doughnut, namely, the entire host?... There are so many candidate linings of the hole, and it seems there is no reason to choose one over another, leaving it an arbitrary matter as to which lining we define and identify the hole with. And if we did not pick one of the linings, leaving a multitude of linings, then there would be a multitude of holes, one per each lining, all somewhere within the one doughnut. ... For example, we do not think that we eat the hole of a doughnut when we eat the host lining of dough, do we? Again, this is further food for thought. But why does all this matter? Because a better understanding of where holes lie on the material/immaterial and thing/nothing divides fills a gap in our knowledge of reality.

Question 17:

Which of the following can be inferred about the author's discussion of the three claims mentioned in the passage?

- a) The author believes that all the three claims must be accepted.
- b) The author is inclined to accept the second and third claims
- c) The author does not question the first claim, considers the second claim difficult to reject and the third claim difficult to accept.
- d) The author considers the first claim to be true and the other two to be false.

Question 18:

Which of the following statements will Argle most likely agree with?

- a) Holes exist and are immaterial objects.
- b) Holes are immaterial objects but they are imaginary.
- c) There are immaterial objects but holes are not immaterial.
- d) There are no material objects and holes are immaterial objects.

Question 19:

Consider the statement "After eating the dough surrounding the hole in a doughnut without eating the hole, nothing remains." Applying the arguments mentioned in the passage in the context of this statement, which of the three claims can most likely be rejected?

- a) Claim (1)
- b) Claim (2)

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- c) Claim (3)
- d) Claim (2) And Claim (3)

Question 20:

Which of the following issues does the author face when discussing the lining of the hole to be the material aspect of a hole?

- a) It is difficult to decide the thickness of the lining of a hole if there are a multitude of holes in an object.
- b) If the lining of a hole is considered a part of the hole, then the lining will become an immaterial object.
- c) If the thickness of the lining of the hole is defined, the hole may become a material object.
- d) It is difficult to reasonably decide the thickness of the lining of the hole, which constitutes the material aspect of the hole.

Question 21-24:

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

Passage - The outlook for Welsh education is gloomy. Many date the country's difficulties back to changes made after the devolution of some political powers, including control of all education policy bar teachers' pay, from Westminster, London to Cardiff, Wales in 1999. At the time, Welsh education was set up in a broadly similar way to that in England. But, in 2001, a Labour-Liberal Democrat coalition scrapped school league tables. They placed an unnecessary burden on schools, the education minister explained. And, in 2004, a Labour government abolished national tests for 11- and 14-year-olds. Standards duly plummeted. Getting rid of league tables alone cost the average pupil two grades at GCSE, the exams taken at 16, according to research by Simon Burgess of the University of Bristol. Yet it was not until Wales entered the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) in 2006 that the extent of the decline became clear. The results of Welsh 15-year-olds were similar to those of their peers in Latvia and the Czech Republic, and far below those in England, Scotland and Northern Ireland. Few disagree that Welsh schools are in serious need of improvement. Much of the past ten years has been spent trying to catch up with the rest of Britain. ... In 2013, new literacy and numeracy tests began. In 2015, a school-categorisation system vaguely akin to league tables was brought back. What next? A new Labour-Liberal Democrat government in Wales, formed last year, has grand plans. First, it hopes to improve the quality of teaching. A recent report by Estyn, the Welsh schools inspectorate, drily noted that "teaching is one of the weakest aspects of [education] provision." The government wants trainee teachers to spend more time in the classroom and less in the lecture hall, and will introduce new professional standards that emphasize their duty to keep improving once they gain accreditation. ... Second, a new curriculum will be introduced in 2022. It will seek to break down subject boundaries, free teachers to teach how they see fit and subject schools to lighter monitoring. Kirsty Williams, the Lib Dem education secretary, flags the example of Finland which does not idolize highly stressful school systems and Canada, which, like Wales, has a bilingual education system, and runs excellent schools. Yet there is another, less promising forerunner. Scotland recently adopted a more open-ended curriculum, with little success. Although it once had one of the best education systems in the world, Scotland's PISA results have been on a downward trend, which accelerated in the most recent round. Many blame its "Curriculum for Excellence", which was phased in from 2010, and on which the proposed new Welsh curriculum is based. Despite supposedly having been given more freedom, teachers in Scotland complain that they are overwhelmed by the number of outcomes they must show they are meeting and complain that they have little time to spend on the basics. Ms Williams argues that Wales already has a strong focus on

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basic standards, and that it will develop an assessment system that is careful not to overwork teachers. But Scotland provides a lesson worth heeding.

Question 21:

Which of the following is not a reason that the author ascribes to the less than stellar situation of Welsh education between 2000 and 2006?

- a) The elimination of school league tables and certain national tests for school kids.
- b) Transfer or delegation of political power to a lower level.
- c) The entry of Wales in the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment.
- d) A shift in the control of all education policy bar teachers' pay from Westminster to Cardiff.

Question 22:

Which of the following does not figure in the grand plans of the new Labour-Liberal Democrat government to improve the education system in Wales?

- a) Stress on the teachers' need for self-improvement and make them spend more time in the classroom.
- b) Combine high professional standards with less stringent oversight.
- c) Provide teachers more freedom to experiment with curriculum content and classroom delivery.
- d) Delay selection of students to enable slow starters to catch up and idolize less stressful school systems.

Question 23:

According to the passage, how did the removal of the school league tables in 2001 affect the average Welsh student?

- a) The move led to the creation of a parallel school-categorisation system throughout Wales that was popular among students and not burdensome on schools.
- b) The academic standards of students across Wales declined as was evident in the fall in their grades at GCSE.
- c) The performance of students in top Welsh schools plummeted while students in less popular schools began to shine academically as was evident in their results at GCSE.
- d) The performance of Welsh students in GCSE equalled that of their peers in Latvia and the Czech Republic in the same for the first time.

Question 24:

"Yet, there is another, less promising forerunner." (para 6). What prompts the use of 'less promising'?

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- a) Increasing teachers\' responsibilities without having focussed on basic teaching elements is a risky approach.
- b) Welsh schools will not make up for the \'lost decade\' to climb in the PISA league.
- c) Unlike Scotland, Wales already focuses on basic standards and hence it would be futile for Wales to implement Scotland\'s "Curriculum for Excellence" in her schools.
- d) Welsh and Scottish schools are wrestling with the conundrum of whether they should consider not using PISA as the litmus test for academic success.

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Answer Key

1. (B) The widening divisiveness of the politics in America and Britain reinforce the validity of Aristotle's criticism of democracy.
2. (BCDA) The correct logical sequence of sentences.
3. (C) The terms 'structuralist' and 'post-structuralist' are labels imposed for a heterogeneous array of often conflicting or divergent theoretical positions.
4. (3241) The correct logical sequence of sentences.
5. (C) Conservatives, in the 20th century, try to protect their belief from radical threats by legal controls and a strict moral code.
6. (Option 3) Sentence fits best after: "I offered a real date."
7. (24315) The correct logical sequence of sentences.
8. (Option 2) Sentence fits best after: "New government guidelines demand a wider use of generic drugs..."
9. (Only I and II) These are not assumptions made by the author in the last paragraph.
10. (D) To indicate that more economic advancement has taken place during recent times than in all the time before that.
11. (C) How does the three-step formula of differentiate, select and amplify help create wealth?
12. (D) Any comparison between economic and biological systems which cannot be classified as good science.
13. (Option 1) Sentence fits best after: "...heritage campaigners have said, as they called for the city's distinctive architecture to be preserved."
14. (B) The referendum sparked an interest in the people who were out-of-touch with the issue of Scotland's independence.
15. (C) Only I, II and IV
16. (B) Minority groups may exercise disproportional influence through referendums to further their interests.
17. (C) The author does not question the first claim, considers the second claim difficult to reject and the third claim difficult to accept.
18. (B) Holes are immaterial objects but they are imaginary.
19. (C) Claim (3)
20. (D) It is difficult to reasonably decide the thickness of the lining of the hole, which constitutes the material aspect of the hole.
21. (C) The entry of Wales in the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment.
22. (D) Delay selection of students to enable slow starters to catch up and idolize less stressful school systems.
23. (B) The academic standards of students across Wales declined as was evident in the fall in their grades at GCSE.
24. (A) Increasing teachers' responsibilities without having focussed on basic teaching elements is a risky approach.