

# Mock Test 5

## Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension VARC Set-5

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### Question 1/24

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

**Sentence:** *As he saw in the camps, those who found meaning even in the most horrendous circumstances were far more resilient to suffering than those who did not.*

**Paragraph:**

In September 1942, Viktor Frankl, a prominent Jewish psychiatrist and neurologist in Vienna, was arrested and transported to a Nazi concentration camp with his wife and parents. Three years later, when his camp was liberated, most of his family, including his pregnant wife, had perished -- but he, prisoner number 119104, had lived. **(1)** In his bestselling 1946 book, *Man's Search for Meaning*, which he wrote in nine days about his experiences in the camps, Frankl concluded that the difference between those who had lived and those who had died came down to one thing: Meaning, an insight he came to early in life. **(2)** When he was a high school student, one of his science teachers declared to the class, "Life is nothing more than a combustion process, a process of oxidation." Frankl jumped out of his chair and responded, "Sir, if this is so, then what can be the meaning of life?" **(3)** "Everything can be taken from a man but one thing," Frankl wrote in *Man's Search for Meaning*, **(4)** "the last of the human freedoms -- to choose one's attitude in any given set of circumstances, to choose one's own way."

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### Question 2/24

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

**Sentence:** *The financial districts of New York, London, and Tokyo, linked by thousands of wires, are much closer to each other than, say, the Bronx is to Manhattan.*

**Paragraph:**

Information moves, or we move to it. Moving to it has rarely been popular and is growing unfashionable; nowadays we demand that the information come to us. This can be accomplished in three basic ways: moving physical media around, broadcasting radiation through space, and sending signals through wires. **(1)** This article is about what will, for a short time anyway, be the biggest and best wire ever made. **(2)** Wires warp cyberspace in the same way wormholes warp physical space: the two points at opposite ends of a wire are, for informational purposes, the same point, even if they are on opposite sides of the planet. **(3)** The cyberspace-warping power of wires, therefore, changes the geometry of the world of commerce and politics and ideas that we live in. **(4)**

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### Question 3/24

The passage given below is followed by four summaries. Choose the option that best captures the author's position:

The idea of race took on the patina of a scientific enterprise primarily in the early to mid-1800s, as part of what is largely known as the European Enlightenment. Scientists at that time, particularly in biology and botany, were earnest in classifying the diversity of life on Earth, and part of this classification included the human species. Perhaps because of ethnocentrism, the classification of human beings included a rank ordering with Europeans at the top of the scale and Africans at the bottom.

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## Options:

- (a) Delving into the past of racism enlightens us about the fact that classification of human beings took place in the period of European Enlightenment and led to the creation of rank ordering, wherein the Europeans were at the top and Africans at the bottom.
  - (b) Started during the period of European Enlightenment, racism took its birth as an act of classification practiced by the scientists who were interested in studying the diversity of life on Earth and ranked Europeans at the top and Africans at the bottom.
  - (c) Racism took its birth during the period of European Enlightenment, as an act of diversification practiced by the scientists, who ranked Europeans at the top and Africans at the bottom.
  - (d) Ethnocentrism, a part of diversification practiced by the scientists during European Enlightenment, led to the birth of racism, in which Europeans were ranked at the top, while the Africans at the bottom.
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## Question 4/24

The passage given below is followed by four summaries. Choose the option that best captures the author's position:

It is necessary that we bring up our children religiously and intellectually, so that we may present them worthy of their vocation, vocation to up bring the next generation. It is necessary that reverent education and educated religion exist side by side, for these two things are the only sure provisions for travelling in this life, provisions that are able to help a man in manifold ways. A one-sided upbringing is reprehensible and leads to the following two unseemly things: either to superstition or to contempt for the things of God. A plight such as these is the natural consequence and direct result of the kind of education that has been given.

## Options:

- (a) Children should be acquainted with both religion and education simultaneously, without sacrificing any one of the two.
  - (b) In order to not call upon unseemly things like superstition or the contempt of God, acquaintance with both religion and education is important.
  - (c) To acquaint children with the responsibility of bringing up the next generation, they should be brought up both religiously and intellectually, for the lack of one can either lead to superstition or contempt for things of God.
  - (d) Children should be brought up both religiously and intellectually so as to acquaint them with the responsibility of bringing up the next generation, without having to compromise either of the former aspect.
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## Passage for Questions 5 to 8

### Passage 1 :

The standard argument for a market-based economy is that it generates the means of material well-being much more abundantly and reliably than any alternative economic system. In the broad sweep of history, the market-based economies of industrial capitalism have experienced a higher level of material well-being than has been achieved by any alternative economic system. In the 1980s, in Western economies, market forces were encouraged to develop in areas where they had been previously given less scope; a decline in trade union power was managed as part of a move to more 'flexible' labour markets, and additional market pressures were introduced in the provision of government services. Since the 1990s, however, political debate has also centred on the limits to the market. It has been argued that, despite problems of recent stagnation, Japan and Germany have demonstrated the benefits of government intervention in the market, by successfully coordinating relationships between financial institutions and companies. In Western economies, deep unease has been expressed about the inequalities and the inefficiencies of market-based capitalism, as evidenced in the UK by the contrast between the huge remuneration packages given to the 'fat cats' running the privatized utilities and the shockingly large number of children living in poverty. In economics the dominant framework for exploring the structure of market economies is provided by the neoclassical school of thought. These theories show that under certain assumptions, markets provide an efficient allocation of scarce resources in response to the demands

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of insatiable consumers. The starting point for neoclassical theory is the assumption that the individual units, i.e., households and firms, in circumstances not entirely of their own choosing, independently make rational decisions in their own self-interest. 'Rational' here means choosing the best means to pursue whatever goal a decision-maker has in mind. Households make rational choices of what labour services to sell and which consumer goods to buy to best satisfy their preferences in pursuit of utility maximization; whereas firms pursue profit maximization by choosing what to produce and what inputs to use to do so in the most cost-effective way. The results of these choices independently made by individual units throughout the economy are then aggregated by the market to determine what happens in the economy as a whole. However, individuals do not behave as independent entities in the economy. Individuals make economic decisions in the context of a variety of institutional structures. The behaviour of other consumers and the marketing strategies of firms influence the consumption decisions of households. Individual firms are influenced by the behaviour of other firms both in the working practices they adopt and in their production decisions. Neoclassical economics models only one sort of influence that goes through the market by demand and supply affecting the prices at which individuals can trade. However, there is a wealth of evidence to suggest that many other types of interactions between individuals are prevalent in a market economy. A neoclassical economist does not necessarily deny that this is the case but considers that methodologically it is preferable to build up a picture of the economy by starting with the behaviour of individuals.

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## Question 5/24

Which of the following statements best describes the change in attitude towards market-based capitalism in the Western economies since the 1980s?

### Options:

- (a) While western economies allowed market-based capitalism to flourish in the 1980s, they have come to realise its shortcomings only since the 1990s.
  - (b) Western economies increased the scope of the influence of markets since the 1990s, as compared to 1980s, because they realised the various benefits of a market-based capitalism.
  - (c) During the 1980s, western economies considered market-based capitalism to be the most reliable among all other economic systems, but since the 1990s they realised that it was not the most reliable.
  - (d) Market-based capitalism was allowed a free hand without any external interference in the 1980s but in the 1990s, the benefits of government intervention were also realized.
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## Question 6/24

According to neoclassical theory, the efficiency of the markets in allocating scarce resources is best prompted when individuals in an economy:

### Options:

- (a) avail a service primarily because other individuals are making use of the service.
  - (b) purchase the product that best suits their needs.
  - (c) purchase a product after being influenced by its advertisement.
  - (d) let their culture influence their decisions to buy and sell.
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## Question 7/24

Which of the following can be inferred to be the role of the market according to neoclassical theory?

### Options:

- (a) Aggregating various influences that affect an individual or a firm.
- (b) Reflecting the network of relations between individuals and firms.

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- (c) Cumulating individual preferences to influence the overall outcomes of the economy.
  - (d) Unconditionally allocating scarce resources among consumers depending on the demand.
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## Question 8/24

Which of the following will a neoclassical economist most likely overlook?

### Options:

- (a) The approaches adopted by firms as they attempt to maximize their profits.
  - (b) The price at which individuals would choose to buy a product.
  - (c) The influence of the institutional structures in the economy on the market.
  - (d) The influence of the demand for a product on its price.
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## Passage 2: (For Questions 9–12)

Did the ancient Athenians invent democracy? Or did bugs have it way earlier than the Greeks? Cornell entomologist Tom Seeley knows which option he's voting for. Honeybees regularly split from their mother colony. Seeley wondered, with tens of thousands of bees in a swarm, how do they reach agreement? His answer: simple-majority democracy. In his 2010 book *Honeybee Democracy*, Seeley described how bees intending to strike out on their own first send scouts in all directions to collect information. On their return, these early scouts buzz and twirl to recruit more scouts. Some gain fans whereas others lose them. Newly deciding scouts go out to look for themselves. After the majority of scouts (which number in the hundreds) have converged on one opinion, the entire swarm takes off for its promised land.

Democracy in collective decision-making has also been observed in African buffaloes, red deer, baboons, and pigeons. Even single-celled bacteria make collective decisions based on a democratic process known as quorum sensing. Their genes control some aspect of their behavior, like how mobile or virulent they should become, based on how many of their bacterial comrades are already engaging in that behavior.

Apparently, the "lofty" principles of our democracy may have a straightforward biological origin and can emerge without any elaborate design. Simple-majority democracy can safeguard the will of the majority, and, at least judging by the frequency with which it's found in nature, seems to be one of the best ways of resolving conflicting interests among individuals who have to stick together – whether it's a swarm of bees or a band of monkeys.

This remarkable fact is more than a curiosity – it can also be a useful model. It offers the opportunity to evaluate how robust democracy is against deviations from simple-majority rules. Not all voters are well-informed. Some may be ignorant, incompetent, or uninterested in the common good. How can a simple majority work in this case? It's an issue that has concerned thinkers ancient and modern, including Plato, Thomas Hobbes, and John Stuart Mill. Plato decried democracy as nothing more than mob rule and preferred instead an aristocracy led by a wise "philosopher king." Concerns like this led to the practice of voter literacy tests, which were only ditched in the United States in 1975. But will ignorant voters really jeopardize simple-majority democracy? By looking at animals, we get the hint of an answer.

Iain Couzin and colleagues at Princeton University used food to train two groups of golden shiners (a small fish) to swim from one end of a tank to either a yellow or a blue target located on the other end. They then released the two groups of trained fish into a group of naïve fish. The naïve fish tended to follow whichever informed group had more members – the majority. If there were more informed fish pursuing the yellow (or blue) target, the naïve fish also pursued it. What's more, the more naïve fish there were, the stronger the trend became. So, the presence of the ignorant not only failed to undermine the voting of the informed majority, it actually fortified it.

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**Q9. The purpose of this passage is to:**

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- (a) discuss the pros and cons of a simple-majority democracy.
  - (b) prove that human beings aren't the only species to follow democracy.
  - (c) discuss democracy as more than an anthropogenic way of reaching a consensus.
  - (d) evaluate the robustness of a simple-majority democracy when dealing with deviations.
- 

**Q10. The author's conclusion in 'at least judging by the frequency with which it's found in nature, seems to be one of the best ways of resolving conflicting interests among individuals who have to stick together' is based on which of the following assumptions?**

- (a) A mechanism is not trustworthy unless there are other instances of it happening in nature.
  - (b) Simple majority is the best way of ending conflicts between individuals.
  - (c) A good solution to any conflict must always work in nature.
  - (d) A frequently iterated event in nature offers reliable lessons.
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**Q11. Which of the following, if proven right, will most weaken the conclusions of Couzin's golden shiner experiment in the simple-majority argument made by the author?**

- (a) The golden shiner cannot differentiate between colours.
  - (b) Golden shiners cannot differentiate between groups of unequal number.
  - (c) The golden shiners don't really have a mechanism to find out which ones amongst them are informed.
  - (d) Iain Couzin's past experiments with golden shiners have yielded inconsistent results.
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**Q12. Which of the following assumptions, if proven wrong, would most strengthen the case for ditching voter literacy tests?**

- (a) A graduate degree is a good sign of how rational an individual's decisions are.
  - (b) The literates will ensure that a mob rule comes to power.
  - (c) An ignorant person is likely to follow the rest of the herd to make decisions.
  - (d) An illiterate person is more likely to make an irrational decision.
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## **Passage 3: (For Questions 13–16)**

The neologisms 'emic' and 'etic' derive from analogy with the terms 'phonemic' and 'phonetic.' They were coined by the American linguistic anthropologist Kenneth Pike (1954), who suggested that there are two approaches to the study of a society's cultural system, just as there are two approaches to the study of a language's sound system. In both cases, the analyst can take the point of view of either the insider or the outsider. As Pike puts it, the emic approach focuses on cultural distinctions meaningful to the members of a given society (for example, whether their culture distinguishes between the natural world and the supernatural realm). Only the native members of a culture can judge the validity of an emic description, just as only the native speakers of a language can judge the accuracy of a phonemic identification. The etic approach, again as Pike defines it, examines the extrinsic concepts and categories meaningful to scientific observers (for example, per capita energy consumption). Only scientists can judge the validity of an etic account, just as only linguists can judge the accuracy of a phonetic transcription.

British anthropology's etic perspective, developed between 1850 and 1870 by Lewis H. Morgan, Edward B. Taylor and then James G. Frazer, was based on the so-called 'comparative method.' Criticisms were brought against this cognitive style – which opened the way for participant observation (in which a culture is studied from the perspective of a native) – in Britain by Radcliffe-Brown and Malinowski, and in America by the German ethnologist Franz Boas (1858–1942), who had emigrated to the United States. Boas, the founder of cultural anthropology, criticized the work of Frazer on the



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grounds that it focused only on certain aspects of the societies studied, atomizing them and separating them from the global context.

Boas' ethnographic fieldwork conducted after 1880, first among the Kwakiutl Indians of Vancouver Island in the Pacific Ocean and then among the Eskimos, profoundly influenced Robert E. Park and the early period of the Chicago School. Outstanding representatives of the new methodological climate brought about by the ethnographic 'turn' were two American anthropologists of a psychological bent who had received their training from Boas: Margaret Mead (1901–78) and Ruth Benedict (1887–1948). In contrast to the atomistic approach of their British colleagues – who still adhered to a colonial perspective and sought to analyse the function performed by a particular cultural element (a custom, a belief, a ritual or a myth, for example) within a society – Mead and Benedict adopted a holistic approach which conceived a culture as a complex and integrated system constructed around a dominant theme which characterized and distinguished one society from another.

Today most cultural anthropologists agree that anthropological research should gather both emic and etic knowledge. Emic knowledge is essential for the intuitive and empathic understanding of a culture, and also for conducting effective ethnographic fieldwork. Moreover, emic knowledge is often a valuable source of etic hypotheses. Etic knowledge, on the other hand, is essential for cross-cultural comparison. It is indispensable for ethnology, because comparison necessarily requires standard units and categories.

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**Q13. Which of the following statements aptly describes the role of emic and etic approaches in anthropological research?**

- (a) Emic approach is primarily used to understand the function of cultural elements within a local society, whereas etic approach is primarily used to understand the impact of a society's cultural elements on other societies.
- (b) Emic approach is used to understand advanced cultural systems, whereas etic approach is used to compare different but relatively primitive cultures using extrinsic categories.
- (c) Emic approach provides information which acts as a source of etic hypothesis and such information has little value without an etic approach.
- (d) Emic approach is used to observe and understand a culture from within the culture itself where everything is in context and etic approach describes cultural elements in constructs that apply across cultures.

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**Q14. The "ethnographic 'turn'" mentioned in the passage most likely refers to:**

- (a) the ethnographic fieldwork conducted by Franz Boas among Kwakiutl Indians and Eskimos.
- (b) the emic approach gaining prominence in anthropological research.
- (c) the increase in criticism of the comparative method.
- (d) the approach involving the compartmentalization of various cultures.

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**Q15. Which of the following studies could most likely have used an etic approach?**

- (a) Testing the Effect of Risk on Intertemporal Choice in the Chinese Cultural Context.
- (b) The importance of cattle in the Swazi culture.
- (c) The Variation in the Development of a Distinctive Identity across Chinese, Japanese and European cultures.
- (d) Constructing Maternal Knowledge Framework in the Nahua tribe.

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**Q16. Who among the following most likely would not have been influenced by the emic approach promoted by the founder of cultural anthropology?**

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- (a) Robert E. Park
- (b) Margaret Mead
- (c) Ruth Benedict
- (d) Malinowski

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## Passage 4: (For Questions 17–20)

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

On 14th September 2015, on a small planet orbiting a yellow sun, at facilities known as the Advanced Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory (LIGO), the faintest slice of gravitational waves was caught. That slice, called GW150914 by LIGO's masters, is the first gravitational wave to be detected directly. The idea of gravitational waves emerged from the general theory of relativity, Albert Einstein's fundamental exposition of gravity, unveiled 100 years before GW150914's discovery. Mass, Einstein realised, deforms the space and time around itself. Gravity is the effect of this, the behaviour of objects dutifully moving along the curves of mass-warped spacetime. It is a simple idea, but the equations that give it mathematical heft are hard to solve. One approximation led Einstein to an odd prediction: any accelerating mass should make ripples in spacetime. Einstein would argue for such waves and then, after redoing the sums, against them. But, while many stretched and squeezed the maths, experimentalists set about trying to catch the putative waves in the act of stretching and squeezing matter. Indirect proof of gravitational waves' existence has been found, most notably by measuring radio emissions from pairs of dead stars called pulsars that are orbiting one another, and deducing from this how the distance between them is shrinking as they broadcast gravitational waves into the cosmos. But the waves themselves proved elusive until the construction of LIGO. ... To make absolutely certain that what is seen really is a gravitational wave requires taking great care. First, LIGO is actually two facilities, one in Louisiana and the other in Washington. The tiny shifts in the length of their arms are continually compared and significant patterns which appear to arise synchronously are followed up to determine whether a gravitational wave may have been detected or if some other cause was responsible. ... For gravitational astronomy, this is just the beginning. Soon, LIGO will not be alone but it will be accompanied by four other observatories. Together, by forming a telescope that will permit astronomers to pinpoint whence the waves come, these devices will open a new vista on the universe. As technology improves, waves of lower frequency – corresponding to events involving larger masses – will become detectable. Eventually, astronomers should be able to peer at the first 380,000 years after the Big Bang, an epoch of history that remains inaccessible to every other kind of telescope yet designed. The real prize, though, lies in proving Einstein wrong. For all its prescience, the theory of relativity is inconsistent with the theory of quantum mechanics. Many physicists suspect that it is in places with extreme conditions – like those which launch gravitational waves – that the first chinks in relativity's armour may be found, and with them a glimpse of a more all-embracing theory leading to the unseating of Einstein's theory of relativity.

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**Q17:**

**What has been mentioned in the passage as a notable, though indirect, proof of the existence of gravitational waves?**

Options:

- (a) Einstein's prediction that any accelerating mass should make ripples in spacetime.
- (b) The observation of X-rays and gamma rays in the universe.
- (c) The measurement of radio emissions from pairs of pulsars that are orbiting one another.
- (d) The merging of stars which are part of binary star system.

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**Q18:**

**The author begins the last paragraph with the comment “The real prize, though, lies in proving Einstein wrong.” Which of the following can be inferred from the last para of the passage?**

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Options:

- (a) Einstein's theory of relativity predicted gravitational waves, and in doing so it points to its own inadequacy and may be overtaken by another suitable theory.
  - (b) Gravitational waves may yield a peek at the Big Bang, an event Einstein knew his theory was inadequate to describe.
  - (c) The theory of quantum mechanics will be superseded by another all-embracing theory in physics.
  - (d) Einstein's theory of relativity predicted gravitational waves, and in doing so, it may have paved the way for its own demise.
- 

**Q19:**

**Which of the following can be inferred from the statements "... the equations that give it mathematical heft are hard to solve. ... ripples in space time." (para 2)?**

Options:

- (a) Gravity is a simple idea but the mathematical equations that fuse the three dimensions of space and the concept of time in a four-dimensional continuum are unnecessarily complicated.
  - (b) The equations that strengthen the fledgling concept of gravitational waves cannot be solved under any circumstance.
  - (c) The equations that explain the relationship between gravity and spacetime deformation by mass are difficult to solve but certain approximations can help make predictions.
  - (d) The equations governing the behaviour of objects accelerating along the curves of mass-warped spacetime can be solved only by making certain approximations.
- 

**Q20:**

**"Soon, LIGO will not be alone." (para 5) The collaborative effort of the observatories may serve to achieve all of the following EXCEPT?**

Options:

- (a) A new window onto the universe will be opened in terms of understanding astronomical events.
  - (b) Researchers will get a means to peer at hitherto inaccessible happenings, perhaps as far back in time as the Big Bang.
  - (c) Gravitational waves of lower frequency will be discovered.
  - (d) Einstein's theory of relativity will no longer be a subject of study.
- 

**Q21:**

**Five sentences related to a topic are given in each question below. Four of them can be put together to form a meaningful and coherent short paragraph. Identify the odd one out. Choose its number as your answer and key it in.**

1. William Shakespeare was throughout his life greatly indebted to the patronage and support of royal and noble personages; his royal patrons were Queen Elizabeth and King James I, both of whom greatly loved the drama.
2. Shakespeare lived during a remarkable period of English history, a time of relative political stability that followed and preceded eras of extensive upheaval.
3. Shakespeare was ardently attracted to Elizabeth and her Court, and proved a faithful servant to his royal mistress.
4. The virgin queen devoted herself to the study of the ancient classical period, translating some of the tragedies of Euripides from the original Greek for her amusement, using her influence in the progress of the English drama, and fostering the inimitable genius of Shakespeare.



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5. The first evidence of this is in his fine eulogy of the virgin queen as "a fair vestal throned by the west" in that most sweetly poetical early drama, *A Midsummer-Night's Dream*.
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**Q22:**

**Five sentences related to a topic are given in each question below. Four of them can be put together to form a meaningful and coherent short paragraph. Identify the odd one out. Choose its number as your answer and key it in.**

1. Much that now strikes us as incomprehensible would be far less so if we took a fresh look at the racing rate of change that makes reality seem, sometimes, like a kaleidoscope, run wild.
  2. Instant celebrities are vicarious products who burst upon the consciousness of millions like an image-bomb.
  3. In a society in which instant food, instant education and even instant cities are everyday phenomena, no product is more swiftly fabricated or more ruthlessly destroyed than the instant celebrity.
  4. Nations advancing toward super-industrialism sharply step up their output of these "psycho-economic" products.
  5. This is exactly what they are.
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**Q23:**

**The sentences given in the question, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labelled with a number. Decide on the proper order for the four sentences and key in the sequence of four numbers as your answer.**

1. At the very end of America's industrial boom, a black single mother from Ohio with many problems but a strong work ethic got a job assembling car parts for General Motors.
  2. With each passing year, she gained in wages, benefits, holidays and pension rights.
  3. Thanks to agreements between her employer and the local chapter of the Electrical Workers Union, she received 80% of her pay even when doing nothing in quiet months.
  4. The year was 1988, and Tammy Thomas became one of the last Americans to know the security of a post-war, union-crafted factory contract.
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**Q24:**

**The sentences given in the question, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labelled with a number. Decide on the proper order for the four sentences and key in the sequence of four numbers as your answer.**

1. To handle this, climatologists use four greenhouse gas concentration trajectories called RCPs, each of which describes a different possible climate future, depending on how much greenhouse gases are emitted in the years to come.
2. It now seems that RCP8.5 may have underestimated the emissions that would result if we follow the economic path it describes.
3. How much the climate will change depends on how much greenhouse gas we emit, which in turn depends on the choices we make as a society – including how the global economy behaves.

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4. The RCP8.5 scenario is the worst for the climate and it assumes rapid, unfettered economic growth and rampant burning of fossil fuels.
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My College Route

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## Answer Key

1. (c) 3
2. (d) 4
3. (c) 3
4. (a) 2
5. (b) 1, 4, 3, 2
6. (a) P, R, S, Q
7. (b) Q, P, S, R
8. (c) S, Q, P, R
9. (d) R, P, Q, S
10. (a) Q, S, R, P
11. (b) They are looking for more sustainable and meaningful work lives.
12. (c) Overwhelmed with too many work commitments
13. (a) The concept of hustle culture and its changing relevance
14. (c) It contributes to burnout and overlooks other meaningful aspects of life.
15. (b) 3
16. (d) 4
17. (c) The measurement of radio emissions from pairs of pulsars that are orbiting one another.
18. (a) Einstein's theory of relativity predicted gravitational waves, and in doing so it points to its own inadequacy and may be overtaken by another suitable theory.
19. (c) The equations that explain the relationship between gravity and spacetime deformation by mass are difficult to solve but certain approximations can help make predictions.
20. (d) Einstein's theory of relativity will no longer be a subject of study.
21. 2
22. 1
23. 1432
24. 3142