

VARC

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow:

Few foods can compete with olive oil. Its salubrious properties have turned it into one of the most recognisable symbols of healthy living as well as a sign of tacit resistance to the industrialisation of food and loss of authentic flavours. Its rich history, stretching back to the Greeks, Egyptians and Babylonians, plays an enormous part in its ongoing symbolic associations. Across a range of Mediterranean cultures, olive oil has been an inordinately versatile and useful product, even regarded as a means of connecting with the divine. Today, it sells in pricy green bottles that promise a 'Mediterranean' lifestyle. And yet, the distinctive flavour of extra virgin olive oil is a modern invention. The trail of its peppery note leads straight to the core of the Industrial Revolution and the reinvention of olive oil as a global commodity.

Homer calls Odysseus *polytropos*, a man of many ways, who can transform himself and adapt to any situation. Olive oil is often involved in these transformations, as when, on his return to Ithaca, Odysseus relies on olive oil – and Athena's intervention – to become younger, stronger and more beautiful. He also carved his wedding bed in an olive tree that had grown deeply into the ground. These references are not incidental: the olive tree and the juice of its fruit are ancient symbols of vitality and rootedness. In Mediterranean cultures they signify adaptation, gnarly endurance and endless transformative possibilities.

First domesticated somewhere in the Fertile Crescent, the tree was cultivated by Babylonians, and by the 18th century BCE the Code of Hammurabi regulated the trade in olive oil. The tree steadily inched west, with its main centres of diffusion in Palestine, Syria and Crete. By the 5th century BCE, Thucydides felt he knew what separated civilisation from barbarism: the ability to graft the olive tree. The mythical foundation of Athens begins with the goddess Athena gifting the olive tree to the Greeks. Planting an olive grove was thus a sacred act. Especially revered were those trees whose oil served as prizes for the winners of the Panathenaic Games. In the 4th century BCE, cutting down or uprooting one of those trees could be punished with exile and confiscation of property. To this day in Italy, spilling oil on the table is viewed as a bad omen.

The Romans, too, loved their olive oil, which they consumed in mindboggling amounts. Monte Testaccio in Rome looks like a natural hill, but it's an immense pile of broken oil amphoras, which were used only once to prevent rancidness. During the imperial age, more than 1 million people lived in Rome, each one consuming an average of two litres of oil per month. How was it even possible? They appreciated oil as food, but

they used it mainly for other purposes, such as lighting their houses and anointing their bodies. 'Wine inside and oil outside,' sums up Pliny the Elder, who considered olive oil 'an absolute necessity' of human life.

1. The central argument of the passage is to:

- A. detail the various mythological and religious roles of the olive tree in ancient civilizations.
- B. trace the historical cultivation and trade of the olive tree from the Fertile Crescent to Rome.
- C. critique the commercialisation of the "Mediterranean lifestyle" through products like olive oil.
- D. contrast the ancient, versatile significance of olive oil with the modern reinvention of its flavor and image.

2. It can be inferred that the olive oil consumed by the ancient Romans and Greeks:

- A. was primarily used for religious ceremonies rather than consumption.
- B. was likely less flavourful and peppery than the high-quality oils sold today.
- C. was considered a luxury item available only to the elite.
- D. had a flavour profile identical to that of oils from the Fertile Crescent.

3. The author's claim that the "distinctive flavour of extra virgin olive oil is a modern invention" would be most seriously weakened if which of the following were discovered?

- A. Ancient Roman texts describing in detail a preference for a sharp, peppery taste in their finest olive oils, a taste they achieved through specific pressing techniques.
- B. Evidence that the Industrial Revolution led to a decline in the overall quality and variety of olive oils available.
- C. A chemical analysis showing that ancient amphoras absorbed the oil, making any flavor analysis of residue impossible.
- D. Records indicating that Thucydides and Pliny the Elder had financial interests in the olive oil trade.

4. The tone of the passage can best be described as:

- A. Didactic
- B. Perfunctory
- C. Laudatory
- D. Sardonic

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

Sentence: I began to notice this wasn't just his gift; it was cultural.

Paragraph: My grandfather, an unassuming church elder and community mediator, rarely gave advice or resolved conflict without invoking a proverb. ____ (1) _____. Whether calming tensions between feuding neighbours or offering a sermon on a quiet Sunday, he always reached for one. ____ (2) _____. And there was always one – perfectly timed, profoundly apt. ____ (3) _____. In weddings, funerals, markets and disputes, proverbs were deployed with grace and gravitas – to heal, to teach, to persuade. ____ (4) _____. They distilled complexity into clarity.

- A. Option 1
- B. Option 2
- C. Option 3
- D. Option 4

6. Five jumbled-up sentences (labelled 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5), related to a topic, are given below. Four of them can be put together to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the odd sentence and key in the number of that sentence as your answer.

1. A 2021 survey found that up to 82% of people have experienced what's become known as impostor syndrome.
2. The term "impostor phenomenon" was coined in 1978 by American psychologists Pauline Clance and Suzanne Imes, who noticed their female students and therapy patients were full of doubt about their abilities.
3. It seems to be worse among high-achieving, very competent people who are outwardly very successful and experienced.
4. But what happens when you've "made it" but still feel like a total fraud?
5. Fake it till you make it, the saying goes.

7. The four sentences (labelled 1, 2, 3 and 4) given below, when properly sequenced, would yield a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper sequencing of the order of the sentences and key in the sequence of the four numbers as your answer.

1. In 1913, the value of exported goods made up 14 per cent of the world economy.
2. Both moments of peak globalisation came crashing down, in epochal, generation-defining ways.
3. By 1933, shattered by World War I and the Great Depression, it had slumped to 6 per cent, and it did not recover until the 1970s.
4. The backlash propelled the rise of right-wing authoritarian and fascist movements that promised to reverse or seize control of the forces of globalism.

8. The passage given below is followed by four alternate summaries. Choose the option that best captures the essence of the passage.

What is referred to as the American (or Second) Industrial Revolution started in the second-half of the 19th century, as the country was rebuilding following the Civil War, its bloodiest conflict to date. At the

same time, waves of immigrants from Europe started arriving in America in search of jobs—a large proportion of which were in factories in industrial cities. “After the Civil War, the United States gradually transformed from a largely rural agrarian society to one dominated by cities where large factories replaced small shop production,” says Alan Singer, a historian at Hofstra University in Hempstead, New York, and the author of New York’s Grand Emancipation Jubilee. “Cities grew because industrial factories required large workforces and workers and their families needed places to live near their jobs. Factories and cities attracted millions of immigrants looking for work and a better life in the United States.”

A. The Second Industrial Revolution in the U.S. was largely driven by technological innovation and the expansion of agriculture, which encouraged immigrants to settle in rural communities.

B. After the Civil War, the United States witnessed a surge in factory jobs and urban population, though agriculture remained the country’s dominant economic force for decades.

C. The influx of immigrants after the Civil War led to the rise of industrial cities in the U.S., while most Americans continued to live and work in rural areas.

D. The American Industrial Revolution marked a shift from a rural, agrarian economy to an urban, industrial one, as factories grew and attracted large numbers of immigrants seeking employment and better lives.

9. Five jumbled-up sentences (labelled 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5), related to a topic, are given below. Four of them can be put together to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the odd sentence and key in the number of that sentence as your answer.

1. One of the things he hasn’t changed his mind about is “the belief that literature is the best system we have of understanding the world”.

2. Barnes is an esteemed British novelist, not a social scientist.

3. Research in recent decades shows that we are prone to “confirmation bias,” systematically interpreting new information in ways that favour our existing views and cherry-picking reasons to uphold them.

4. Where Barnes has changed his mind, he attributes the shift to quirks of experience or feeling, not rational thought.

5. But his shift in perspective resonates with a host of troubling results in social psychology.

10. The four sentences (labelled 1, 2, 3 and 4) given below, when properly sequenced, would yield a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper sequencing of the order of the sentences and key in the sequence of the four numbers as your answer.

1. Over the past two centuries, nearly every society has reallocated land ownership and property rights.

2. It's helped some countries become more egalitarian and productive, whereas for others it has embedded racial hierarchies, deep inequalities and economic stagnation.
3. And because of the power that land confers to those who hold it, this reshuffling has set societies on distinct trajectories of development.
4. Today, we are in the middle of a 'great reshuffle' of land.

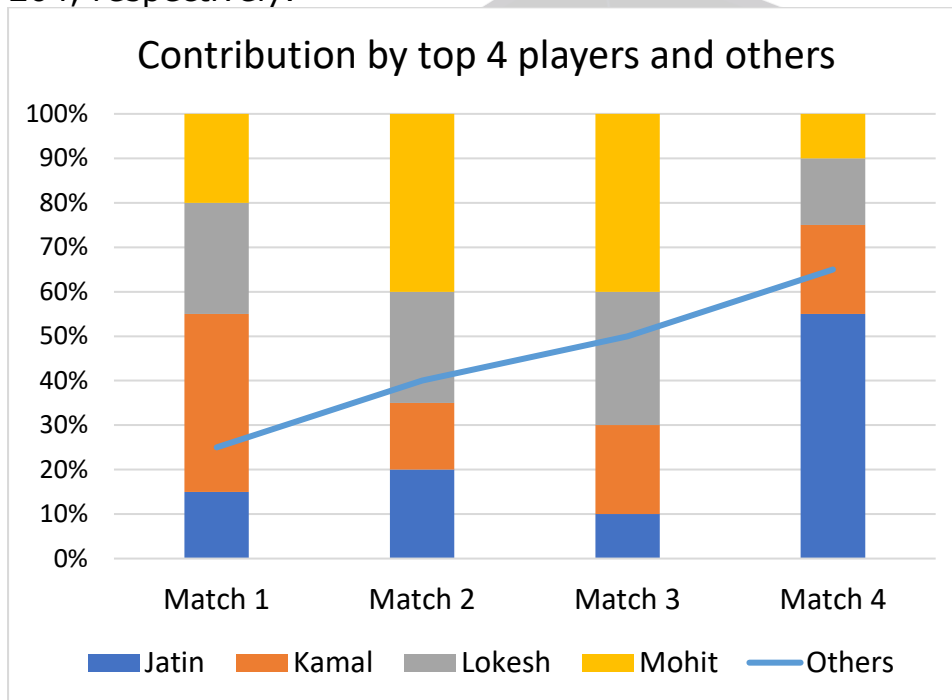


DILR

A cricket team played four matches in a series. The top 4 batsmen for the team were Jatin, Kamal, Lokesh and Mohit. The stack graph below gives the contribution of these batsmen as a percentage of runs scored by the top 4 batsmen in that match. The line graph shows the runs scored by other batsmen as a percentage of runs scored by the top 4 batsmen in that match.

For example, in Match 1, Mohit scored 20% of the runs scored by the top 4 batsmen and the remaining team scored 25% of the runs scored by the top 4 batsmen.

Total runs by the team in matches 1, 2, 3 and 4 are 275, 252, 255 and 264, respectively.



11. Who scored the maximum number of runs in the series?

- A. Lokesh
- B. Kamal
- C. Mohit
- D. Jatin

12. In which match did Lokesh achieve his highest score in the series?

- A. Match 1
- B. Match 2
- C. Match 3
- D. Match 4

13. In the match in which the contribution by Mohit was equal to the contribution by other players, runs scored by Kamal were what percentage of the total runs?

- A. 8.89%
- B. 10.71%
- C. 12.12%
- D. 13.33%

14. Which of the following statements is correct?

- A. Mohit scored his best in match 3
- B. Lokesh's score in all matches was a multiple of 5
- C. Kamal scored more than half of his total runs in the series in match 1 itself
- D. Jatin scored $\frac{1}{3}$ of the total runs in match 4

15. What is the difference between the total runs scored by Kamal and Lokesh in the series?

Seven teachers of an international B-school, Jen, Adam, Nina, Umar, Ava, Robin and Yana, belong to different countries, namely Brazil, Cuba, Egypt, Fiji, India, Spain and the UK. Each of these teachers teaches a different subject and has a different age (years): 43, 45, 48, 49, 53, 54 and 56.

The teacher from Fiji is five years older than Adam. Only two teachers are younger than the one who teaches HRM. The teacher who teaches Economics is three years older than the one from Spain. The teacher from India is at least 7 years older than the one who teaches Branding. The teacher who teaches Supply Chain is from Brazil and is the youngest. The difference between the ages of the teachers from India and Fiji is at most 5 years. The teacher from the UK is younger than the one from Cuba, who is not older than the teacher from Egypt. Umar is from Cuba. The 49-year-old teacher doesn't teach Branding. Jen is at least four years younger than Umar. Ava is younger than Robin and Nina. The teacher who teaches Finance is neither 53 nor 54 years old. The teacher who teaches International Management is younger than the one who teaches Business Ethics. Ava doesn't teach Branding. Robin is not from Fiji.

16. Which country does the oldest teacher belong to?

- A. Spain
- B. Fiji
- C. Egypt
- D. India

17. Who is from the UK?

- A. Jen
- B. Yana
- C. Ava
- D. Adam

18. What is Nina's age (in years)?

19. Which subject does Ava teach?

- A. Economics
- B. Business Ethics
- C. International Management
- D. Finance

20. Who teaches Economics?

- A. Robin
- B. Yana
- C. Ava
- D. Nina



QA

21. If the roots of equation $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ are $\frac{k+1}{k}$ and $\frac{k+2}{k+1}$, then the value of $(a + b + c)^2$ is

- A. $b^2 - 4ac$
- B. $b^2 + 4ac$
- C. $b^2 - ac$
- D. $b^2 + ac$

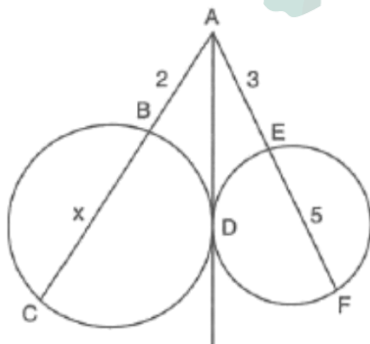
22. Out of a total of 120 musicians in a club, 5% can play all three instruments — guitar, violin and flute. Each musician plays at least one instrument. The ratio of the number of musicians who can play different combinations of exactly two of the above instruments is 1:2:3. The number of musicians who can play the guitar alone is 40. Which of the following cannot be the ratio of those who can play violin alone and the flute alone?

- A. 8:11
- B. 7:10
- C. 4:7
- D. 4:5

23. After paying 30 out of 40 instalments of a debt of Rs 360000, one-third of the debt is unpaid. If the instalments form an arithmetic series, then what is the first instalment?

24. A CAT aspirant appears for a certain number of tests. His average score increases by 1 if the first 10 tests are not considered, and decreases by 1 if the last 10 tests are not considered. If his average scores for the first 10 and the last 10 tests are 20 and 30, respectively, then the total number of tests taken by him is

25. In the given figure, AD is a common tangent to the two circles. $AB = 2$, $AE = 3$, $BC = x$ and $EF = 5$. Find the value of x .



- A. 12
- B. 10
- C. 9
- D. 7.5

26. When they work alone, B needs 25% more time to finish a job than A does. Both of them finish the job in 13 days in the following manner: A works alone till half the job is done, then A and B work together for four days, and finally B works alone to complete the remaining 5% of the job. In how many days can B alone finish the entire job?

- A. 15
- B. 25
- C. 20
- D. 22.5

27. In a triangle ABC, medians AD and BE are perpendicular to each other, and have lengths 15 cm and 16 cm, respectively. Then, the area of triangle ABC, in sq cm, is

- A. 80
- B. 120
- C. 160
- D. 240

28. A two-digit number, represented by the digits xy (where x is the tens digit and y is the units digit), is multiplied by another two-digit number ab . The product is a three-digit number pqr , where $r = 2y$, $q = 2(x + y)$ and $p = 2x$, where $x, y < 5$, $q \neq 0$. What is the number 'ab'?

29. If a , b , and c are non-zero real numbers, how many values are present in the set of the expression $\frac{a}{|a|} + \frac{b}{|b|} + \frac{c}{|c|} + \frac{abc}{|abc|}$?

- A. 3
- B. 4
- C. 7
- D. 9

30. Nethra can row a boat on still water at a speed of 5 km/hr. However, on a given river, it takes her 1 hour more to row the boat 12 km upstream than downstream. One day, Nethra rows the boat on this river from X to Y, which is N km upstream from X. Then she rows back to X immediately. If she takes at least 2 hours to complete this round trip, what is the minimum possible value of N ?

- A. 2.4
- B. 5
- C. 4.8
- D. 3.6