VARC

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow:

The Aztec historians, creators of a genre called the xiuhpohualli (SHOO-po-WA-lee), developed a highly effective way of keeping satisfying memories alive. The pictographic texts that Itzcoatl burned were only a part of the Aztec way of keeping history. The glyphs served as mnemonic devices designed to elicit volumes of speech. The image of smoke billowing from a burning temple reminded the speaker to describe a certain group's defeat. A winding sheet over a chief's head sparked the story of his death.

How can we know the details of exactly what they said? Their narrations, counterintuitively in some ways, have been preserved because of the Spanish conquest. The Spaniards aimed to produce a local elite who would help them rule, so they educated many boys and young men in the Roman alphabet. It was the priests who taught them so they could study the Bible. The Indigenous people studied scripture with the friars and, inevitably, they took the sound transcription system home with them. There, they asked elders to tell them old histories, as they used to say them aloud. And then the young scholars wrote down their elders' stories, listening to the sounds of the words in Nahuatl, their own language, and transcribing them onto paper in their best handwriting, in the alphabet taught them by the friars.

For many years, however, scholars read them with scepticism. The histories weren't like the books, such as 'The Florentine Codex' that the Aztecs wrote working side by side with the friars, answering the Spaniards' questions, and drawing pictures of a specific plant or god. These were wide-ranging, confusing histories about mysterious, pre-conquest political dramas, often without any apparent narrative or context. They did not even proceed in chronological order. In fact, they frequently covered the same ground multiple times.

Recently, it has become clear to those who study these Aztec annals that repetition is a feature, not a quirk or bug. The reason is that whenever they came to a period of contention or a place where things could have turned out quite differently, the historian turned into a sort of director, bringing a series of speakers to the fore in order to speak.

For the Aztecs, history did not require textbook-like consensus. In their understanding, the truth was not singular and could accommodate different perspectives. This pattern had almost certainly been part of their social practice for many generations, as they sat around campfires, talking and telling stories, trying to build common cause with the friends they'd made along their route. Now they turned it into an art form, a

formalised way of keeping history that literally depended on multiple speakers standing up at different moments.

Yet, this relativism did not mean that the Aztecs believed that there was no truth. Their historians never gave up on the idea that there is a truth that transcends differences in perspective. Their histories reminded listeners that, together, they had trekked a long way, over rough terrain and through painful events, to come to the present moment. They weren't now about to give up everything with a shrug of the shoulders and an implicit conclusion that no one could ever know what happened or why.

1. The primary purpose of the passage is to:
A. document the specific process by which young Aztec scholars transcribed their elders' oral histories into the Roman alphabet.
B. contrast the "Florentine Codex" with the xiuhpohualli to argue for the unreliability of native-driven historical texts.
C. explain how Itzcoatl's burning of pictographic texts led directly to the development of a more complex, speech-based history.
D. re-evaluate the nature of Aztec historical narratives, moving from seeing them as flawed to understanding their multi-perspectival and purposeful structure.

2. The passage suggests it is counterintuitive that the Aztec narrations were preserved because:
A. the Spanish conquerors, whose goal was cultural assimilation, inadvertently provided the very tools used to record pre-conquest histories.
B. the Roman alphabet was poorly suited to the phonetics of the Nahuatl language, making transcription nearly impossible.
C. the pictographic texts that would have provided context for the oral histories had already been burned by Itzcoatl.
D. the xiuhpohualli were designed to be spoken aloud, not to be written down on paper.

3. It can be inferred from the passage that the repetition in Aztec annals most likely occurred when the historians were documenting:
A. foundational myths and sacred origin stories.
B. the genealogies of chiefs and noble bloodlines.
C. events that were politically sensitive or open to multiple interpretations.
D. religious rituals that had to be repeated verbatim for spiritual efficacy.

4. Which of the following modern scenarios best illustrates the historical method of the xiuhpohualli as described in paragraphs 4 and 5?
A. A university textbook that provides a single, consensus-based narrative of a major political revolution.

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B. A television documentary about a controversial battle that splices together interviews with a general from one side, a foot-soldier from the other, and a civilian refugee.

C. A government-commissioned "official history" of a recent war that is based solely on classified state archives.

D. A "Florentine Codex" equivalent: A newspaper article where a reporter interviews a native community with a set list of questions.

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: That can make present-day action feel futile: our best collective efforts seem to have little effect on the direction of the ship.

Paragraph: In this mismatch of time frames, the depopulation problem bears a striking resemblance to the other great global challenge of our time: climate change. ____(1)____. Many of the effects of climate change are going to play out whatever we do now. ____(2)____. Even if we achieved net zero tomorrow the world would still get warmer for decades to come. ____(3)____. And though the problem is global, its consequences are experienced unequally. Some places suffer while others enjoy the benefits. ____(4)____.

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

6. 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: He said he was a safari guide from Zimbabwe, working odd jobs in California in the off-season.

Paragraph: Thirty years later, I struck up a conversation with the guy who was fixing my fence in Berkeley. ____(1)____. That night, I took him to the Hotsy Totsy bar in El Cerrito. ____(2)____. He told me that in 1979 he had served as a paratrooper in the Rhodesian air force; his unit surrounded ZANU camps at night, shot flares, and machine-gunned the men, mostly very young boys, crawling out of tents. ____(3)____. Once, after several minutes of ceaseless slaughter, he turned to his buddy and said: "We can't keep doing this. We can't possibly kill them all." ____(4)____. His buddy went on shooting.

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

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

For more than a half-century, America has been a world leader in space, from the space race of the 1960s to the shuttle to numerous deep space probes. But this leadership has often been reluctant — and in tension with a public that has been at best ambivalent and at worst outright opposed to endeavours to explore the universe. This lack of public support may be why America hasn't returned to the Moon since the Apollo 17 astronauts lifted off from it in 1972. So, the U.S. space program has yet to achieve its full potential.

A. Public opposition to space travel has caused the United States to abandon most of its ambitious missions in favour of cheaper alternatives.

B. America's lack of technological capability, rather than public opinion, has kept it from returning to the Moon since 1972.

C. The U.S. space program reached its peak during the Apollo era and has declined ever since due to shifting scientific priorities.

D. Despite its historic achievements in space, America's progress has been constrained by a public that has shown limited enthusiasm for further exploration.

8. 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. Mass extinctions become examples of winners and losers.

3. For more than a century, the decimation of the 'ruling reptiles' has been taken as a cautionary tale of what could happen to us.

2. The narrative becomes one of power, influence and longevity, one group of organisms above all others deciding the course of entire ecosystems over the span of millions of years.

4. The entire reason we so often fixate on the supposed dominance of the dinosaurs is because we now see ourselves in that position.

5. No species could have prepared for what was to come, even if they had somehow been granted foreknowledge of the calamity.

9. Sentences given in the questions below, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. The first and last sentences are A and F, and the four in between are labeled 1, 2, 3, and 4. Choose the most logical order of these four sentences.

A. As historian Maria Rentetzi writes, "the cardboard box — the waste of our commercial world — is recycled in such a way as to make visible the disorder in our societies, the faults of capitalism."

1. And for many of us, the cardboard box is our closest touchpoint to globalized trade, structuring our relations with people in distant places.

2. Its very existence in our homes, Marshall McLuhan would say, is the message.

3. The magnificently ripped metal freight container may get the Economist cover shot, but the plain brown box delivers messages to our homes.

4. It is an abject object that touches all parts of the city, from the granite kitchen island to the sewer grate.

F. The cardboard box, therefore, is not merely packaging, but a pervasive symbol of our interconnected and often chaotic modern world.

10. Sentences given in the questions below, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. The first and last sentences are A and F, and the four in between are labeled 1, 2, 3, and 4. Choose the most logical order of these four sentences.

A. As two scholars described it recently in the Annual Review of Anthropology, disappointment is "the messy, friction-filled, and unsatisfying gap between lived experiences and expectations that have not come to pass."

1. Because of this distinction, psychologists writing in the journal Cognition and Emotion find that regret more often leads to self-reproach, in contrast with the usual unhappiness associated with disappointment, which comes from a sense of powerlessness.

2. But whereas regret involves wishing you had done something differently, disappointment does not necessarily involve your decision-making agency.

3. The feeling is similar to regret, in that it involves a past event that didn't turn out the way you had hoped.

4. For example, you might vote for a candidate and regret it (that is, reproach yourself for doing so).

F. But if the candidate for whom you voted loses, that can also give you a sense that you have no say over how you are governed—that's where the powerlessness comes in.

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DILR

There are 3 popular cafes in a city: Flamingo, Robin, and Woodpecker. A teacher asked students of a class which of these cafes had they visited. 10 students had not visited any of these cafes. Also, no student had visited all these cafes. The table gives the number of students who are yet to visit these cafes:

Café	Students who have not visited the cafe
Flamingo	20
Robin	30
Woodpecker	40

11. What can be the minimum number of students in the class?
A. 40
B. 50
C. 60
D. 70

12. What can be the maximum number of students in the class?
A. 40
B. 50
C. 60
D. 70

13. How many students have visited only Flamingo if the number of students in the class is the minimum?
A. 10
B. 15
C. 20
D. 25

14. If the number of students who have visited only Flamingo, only Robin, and only Woodpecker is in the ratio 1:2:3, at least how many students have not visited only Woodpecker?

15. If 26 students have visited exactly two of the cafes, at least how many students have visited both Flamingo and Woodpecker but not Robin?

In a quiz, a participant is asked 4 questions successively, and then followed by the next participant. When all have finished one such round, the process is repeated. It is mandatory to answer all questions. If a question is answered correctly, 10 points are given to that participant but if the answer is wrong, 5 points each are given to the other participants. The first participant who gets 200 points wins the quiz. Three participants,

Jacob, Kane, and Liam, participated in the quiz. Jacob got 200 points, Kane got 155 points, and Liam got 175 points. Out of the questions asked, a total of 24 questions were answered incorrectly.

16. Who was asked the first question in the quiz?
A. Jacob
B. Kane
C. Liam
D. Cannot be determined

17. Who answered the maximum number of questions incorrectly?
A. Jacob
B. Kane
C. Liam
D. Cannot be determined

18. How many questions did Liam answer correctly?

19. If Jacob was asked the first question, how many correct answers did Kane give?
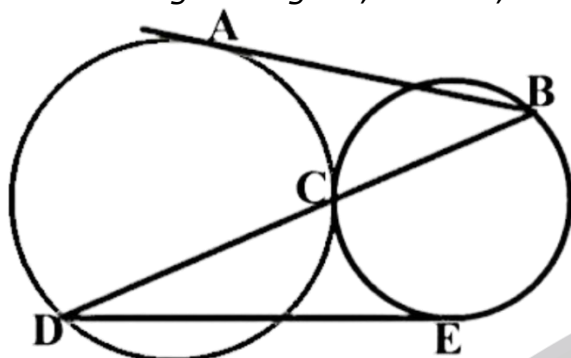A. 8
B. 9
C. 10
D. 11

20. If Jacob gave the least number of incorrect responses, how many incorrect answers did Kane give?
A. 8
B. 9
C. 10
D. 11

QA

21. In the given figure, AB = 8, DE = 15. Find the length of BD.

A. $2\sqrt{120}$
B. $\sqrt{161}$
C. 17
D. 23

22. There are two tanks, A and B, having kerosene and petrol in the ratios 4:9 and 3:8, respectively. The initial quantity of kerosene in both tanks was the same. When 30 litres of petrol is added to tank A, the ratio of kerosene to petrol becomes the same in both tanks. How much kerosene must be added to tank A such that the concentration of kerosene in A becomes equal to the initial concentration of kerosene in A?
A. 11/2 litres
B. 40/3 litres
C. 33/4 litres
D. 12 litres

23. Find the number of real roots of the equation $x^8 - x^5 + x^2 - x + 1 = 0$

24. The surface area of the sphere is 256π sq cm. It is cut by a horizontal plane at a distance of 4 cm from its centre such that the ratio of the curved surface area of the bigger part to that of the smaller part is 3:1. Find the total surface area of the bigger part.
A. 240π sq cm
B. 288π sq cm
C. 300π sq cm
D. 324π sq cm

25. If f(a+b) = f(a) + f(b) – ab + 4, find f(3) + f(-3).
A. -5
B. -9
C. -13
D. -17

26. Find the remainder when the number 82^{97} is divided by 12.

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27. In an arithmetic progression, the sum of the 24th and the 48th term is equal to its 64th term. If the first term and the common difference of the arithmetic progression are integers, then which of the following can be the sum of the first 12 terms of the arithmetic progression?
A. 800
B. 650
C. 700
D. None of the above

28. A contractor employed three labourers (A, B, and C) for some work. A, B, and C can individually complete the work in 16, n, and 5 days, respectively. The work can be completed in $5\frac{31}{42}$ days if A is assisted by B, and C on alternate days starting with B. Calculate the value of n.

29. An electronic shop deals only in two items: TVs and refrigerators. The shop owner has the budget of Rs. 38 lakhs to buy 150 units altogether. The cost of a TV unit and that of a refrigerator is Rs. 30000 and Rs. x, respectively. He earns a profit of 20% and 25%, respectively, on TVs and refrigerators and an approximate overall profit of 21.8421%. Find the selling price of a refrigerator.
A. Rs. 23000
B. Rs. 25000
C. Rs. 28000
D. Rs. 30000

30. What's the area of the quadrilateral included inside the points: (-1, 2), (-1, 4), (7, 2), (7, 4)?
A. 12 units
B. 14 units
C. 16 units
D. 18 units

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